

## B. Y. P. U.

B. Y. P. U. PRAYER MEETING TOPIC.  
(Helps by G. R. White.)

For the week beginning Feb. 7th. John x: 22-30. Subject, "Shall never perish."

This is the great "Shepherd" chapter, from which we had a lesson last month. It is ever full of interest. Whether our scripture is a continuation of the same discourse as vs. 1-21, or at another time and place, may not be so easy to determine. But it would seem like a new encounter between Christ and the Jewish leaders, wherein the Master uses the same telling metaphor of the Shepherd and His sheep, and deals heavy blows at their unfaithfulness. We have time, place and season all given: "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the Dedication, and it was winter." There Jewish leaders were demanding more signs. "If thou be the Christ tell us plainly," Jesus said, "I told you, and ye believe not." Not because they had not light and knowledge sufficient, because they were like many in our day—they did not care to know. But they claimed to be the true leaders themselves, and demanded that Jesus follow their lead. This called up again the test of true leadership. And Jesus drew an object lesson from the good Shepherd and his sheep, and left them to decide as to the true leader. Their condemnation was so clear, that they "took up stones again to stone him."

We are not able fully to appreciate the beauty of this metaphor, as we are not familiar with the calling of an Oriental Shepherd. But we have read of the patience and devotion of a good Shepherd, that he will even lay down his life in defense of his sheep. Hence the words of Christ, "I am the good Shepherd, the good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." This he did on the cross.

Further, note some characteristics of the good Shepherd and His sheep.

I. The good Shepherd knows His sheep, "I know them" v. 27.

(a) Personally.—He knows each alone, knows each one as an individual, "who loved me and gave himself for me."

(b) By name.—"And he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out," v. 3.

How close Christ comes to us in this parable. Just as father and mother knows each child in the family by name, and to speak that name, calls up the disposition of that one which is like none other, so God knows each one of His dear children by names, and disposition too. Are you not glad that your heavenly Father knows you by name? "I know them," yea, by all that he has suffered on their behalf.

II. The sheep know the good Shepherd, "am known of mine," v. 14.

(a) "My sheep hear my voice."—"They know not the voice of strangers." A traveller in the East dressed himself in the Shepherd's clothes, and took His rod and went out and called the sheep by name, but while they looked up, they ran from him. They knew not the voice of the stranger. Have you never heard the voice of God calling you? Go to him and ask Him for pardon and peace, and you too will hear a voice in your soul saying, "Come unto me and ye shall find rest."

(b) "And they follow me."—This can only be done in obedience to His commands. Look up some of them—"Come unto me" etc. "Deny thyself," "Seek ye the Lord" etc. Follow *thou* me. "He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved."

III. Note the safety of God's sheep, "They shall never perish."—They shall never be left to starve on the mountains

wild and bare. He will lead them into the green pastures and beside the still waters, they shall safely reach the fold, not one shall perish. Neither man nor devil can take them from His grasp. "My Father which gave them to me is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." Here is eternal safety for the Lord's own. Some sheep, true sheep, wander from the Shepherd, and from the flock. They cause the good Shepherd sorrow and pain.

God's wandering ones shall suffer, but shall never perish. Most gracious words—"SHALL NEVER PERISH."

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## Second Cambridge, N. B.

The young people of this church have organized a Young People's Union in connection with the church. The officers for the year are E. G. MacLean, president; Miss Gertrude Robinson, vice president; C. B. Wilson, sec'y-treas. We have chosen Christ as our leader, pray for our young Union.

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## Main Street.

A very successful Missionary meeting was held Wednesday evening in Main street church under the auspices of the B. Y. P. U. The programme was as follows: Scripture reading and prayer by the president, Dr. Roberts; reading, Medical Missions in India, Mrs. Haines; duet, by Miss Jennie Gallop and Miss Minnie Chase; reading, Results of Missions, Miss Iva Thorne; solo, Miss Jennie Kemp; W. C. Cross, the well known Mission worker of this city gave a most interesting address on New York Missions.

LILY M. ROBERTS, Cor. Sec'y.

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## Dartmouth, N. S.

Last Oct. we organized a B. Y. P. U., since then it has grown in numbers and enthusiasm. Our young people seem interested and eager for work. We are taking the Bible Reader's Course and the Sacred Literature Course. So far the first part of our Friday evening meeting has been of a devotional or Bible reading nature and the last part the Sacred Literature lesson conducted by our pastor Dr. Kempton. We do not confine ourselves to the Missionary Conquest Course as found in the "Union." The Missionary committee prepares a programme for the Conquest meeting. We have had two very interesting ones. Subject of the December meeting: "Our own denominational work," of the January meeting (held last Friday evening): "The Pagan of the Dominion." We also meet for prayers at 10.30 every Sunday morning. This meeting is not confined to the young people for some of the very oldest members of our church come, but the Union is responsible for leaders and our young people come out splendidly to it. We all find it a helpful preparation for the Sabbath day.

MINNIE H. JACKSON, Sec'y.

January 30th.

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## Alumni Accounts.

The following accounts have been received from June 1st to December 31st, 1896.

ENDOWMENT.—H. H. Bligh, \$200; Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, \$20.

EQUIPMENT.—Athenaeum Society, \$40.

GENERAL EXPENSES.—Balance on hand June 1st, 1896, \$106.84. W. F. Parker, \$21; R. G. Haley, \$20; H. H. Bligh, \$15; Hon. H. R. Emmerson, Hon. J. P. Chipman, \$11 each; Rev. E. E. Gates, J. E. Bars, \$10 each; D. H. McQuarrie, \$7; Rev. G. P. Raymond, Rev. S. Mc. Elack, E. D. King, Q. C. Hon. E. Young, Dr. D. F. Higgins, Rev. Z. L. Fash, Rev. W. V. Higgins, Rev. D. G. Macdonald, Rev. W. N. Hutchins, Dr. S. B. Kempton, \$6 each; S. J. Case, Rev. W. C. Goucher, J. Parsons, Rev. J. W. Bancroft, Louis Dimock, Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, E. L. Gates, Colin Roscoe, Rev. G. J. C. White, Rev. R. Trotter, W. W. Clarke, Miss C. Clarke, Rev. J. H. Hughes, Dr. M. S. Read, Dr. J. S. Morse, \$5 each; Rev. M. P. Freeman, \$4; H. G. Harris, Dr. D. A. Steele, Dr. C. F. Margeson, Rev. E. N. Archibald, E. J. Morse, Rev. A. H. Lavers, Dr. R. V. Jones, T. M. Shaw, \$3 each; Rev. W. L. Archibald, O. N. Chipman, Rev. Isaiah Wallace, J. F. Herban, N. A. Rhodes, Rev. A. Martell, A. P. Shaud, Rev. J. A. Gordon, W. T. Read, C. R. H. Starr, \$2 each; J. H. Bars, Rev. W. H. Warren, J. S. Morse, J. B. Calkin, Dr. Bars, Rev. H. V. Corey, Rev. J. W. Erown, Rev. D. H. Simpson, Rev. A. Colborn, Rev. A. F. Baker, W. R. Parsons, Prof. A. E. Caldwell, L. S. Morse, Rev. F. M. Young, Rev. W. H. McNeil, Dr. E. H. Payzant,



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WM. R. PARSONS, Sec. Treas.

Will members and friends kindly remit your subscriptions and donations as soon as possible and not delay till the month of May, so the executive can better tell how matters stand and act accordingly. Wm. R. P. Halifax, Jan. 14.

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