

## Look not thou upon the wine when it is red.—Prov. xxiii. 31.

discharged with a caution, my name in full figured in the police column, and all thought of ever seeking Mr. R——was crushed for ever, and that gentleman to my knowledge I have never seen. I went straight from the Police Court to the Y. M. C. A. rooms with my letters of recommendation to Mr. S——for I felt then in need of advice and in the frame of mind to receive it. After my letters were read, there was put the home question "Have you found the Lord Jesus?" Such a query had never been put to me before. I had no chance to reply, as my interrogator was called away, and glad of the circumstance, I left the building and never returned. \* \* \* \*

The first step had been taken, others were comparatively easy. Oh be warned in time do not yield to the first temptation—dash down that first glass untasted. I know what it has cost me. The first step had been taken and I, who write these lines, for whom in youth the path of life looked so fair and bright, the only son of godly parents—both now saints in heaven—blessed with a college education—write them within the confines of a prison wall.

It is all very well to argue—"I know when to stop" and "one glass won't hurt." Ere it be to late take the advice of one who has paid such a bitter price for the experience and who by God's help firmly means to adhere to the advice he now gives—"Quit it all together."

### The Service of God.

[The following lines of Bible study formed the programme for the recent Mildmay Conference. We commend it to our readers, and feel assured that a prayerful study of the same will result in much blessing—ED.]

#### 1. THE PRELUDES TO SERVICE.

- Conversion.** "Ye turned to God from idols, to serve the living and true God." 1 Th. i. 9.
- Forgiveness.** "A conscience purged from dead works to serve the living God." Heb. ix. 14.
- Salvation.** "That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear." Luke i. 74.
- Adoption.** "Let my son go, that he may serve Me." Exodus iv. 23. "As a man spareth his own son that serveth him." Mal. iii. 17.
- Separation.** "Let My people go, that they may serve Me." Exodus vii. 16.
- Readiness.** "Speak Lord; for Thy servant heareth." 1 Sam. iii. 9. "Here am I, send me." Isaiah vi. 8

#### 2. THE PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE.

- Love.** "I love my master." Exodus xxi. 5. "By love serve one another." Gal. v. 13.
- Reverence.** "A servant honoureth his master." Mal. i. 6. "The eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters." Psalm cxxiii. 2.
- Obedience.** "His mother saith unto the servants, Whatever he saith unto you, do it." John ii. 5.
- Consecration.** "Sanctified, and meet for the Master's use." 2 Tim. ii. 21.
- Ability.** "Able men and strength for the service." 1 Chron. xxvi. 8.

#### 3. THE PATTERN OF SERVICE.

"BEHOLD MY SERVANT." Isaiah xlii. 1.

"Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God took upon Him the form of a servant." Phil. ii. 5-7. "I must be about my Father's business." Luke ii. 49. " whatsoever things the Father doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise." John v. 19. "As the Father gave Me commandment, even so I do." John xiv. 31. "I am among you as he that serveth." Luke xxii. 27. "He learned obedience by the things which he suffered." Hebrews v. 8. "Obedient unto death." Phil. ii. 8.

#### 4. THE PATHWAY OF SERVICE.

**After Christ.** "If any man serve Me let him follow Me." John xii. 26.

**Upright.** "He that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve Me." Psalm ci. 6.

**Spiritual.** "I serve with my spirit in the Gospel." Romans i. 9.

**Bodily.** "Present your bodies a living sacrifice—which is your reasonable service." Romans xii. 1.

**Constant.** "Thou servest continually." Dan. vi. 16.

**Thorough.** "In every work that he began in the service of the house of God, he did it with all his heart." 2 Chron. xxxi. 21.

**Zealous.** "Fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." Ro. xii. 11.

#### 5. THE PRIVILEGES OF SERVICE.

**Honour.** "If any man serve Me, him will My Father honour." John xii. 26.

**Favour.** "The king's favour is towards a wise servant." Proverbs xiv. 25.

**Protection.** "There stood by me the angel of God, whom I serve." Acts xxvii. 23. "Thou Israel art My servant.... fear thou not." Isa. xli. 8, 10.

**Joy.** "My servants shall sing for joy of heart." Isa. lxxv. 14. "Happy are these thy servants." 1 Kings x. 8.

**Rest.** "Take My yoke upon you—ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew xi. 29.

**Fellowship.** "It is enough for the servant that he be as his lord." Matthew x. 24, 25.

#### 6. THE PROSPECTS OF SERVICE.

**The Presence of Christ.** "Where I am, there shall also My servant be." John xii. 26.

**Conformity to Christ.** "His servants shall serve Him, and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads." Rev. xxii. 3, 4.

**Rejoicing with Christ.** "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. xxv. 21.

**Perfect Service of Christ.** "They serve Him day and night in His temple." Rev. vii. 15.

**Everlasting Rule with Christ.** "His servants shall reign for ever and ever." Rev. xxii. 3-5.

### Daily Hints.

FOR OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST'S SAKE,  
DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN, Eccl. ix. 10.  
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN, Matt. v. 16.  
TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN, Gal. vi. 10.  
IN EVERY PLACE YOU CAN, Acts x. 38.  
AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN, 1 Cor. xv. 58.  
IN THE QUIETEST WAY YOU CAN, Matt. vi. 34.  
AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN, Rev. ii. 10.