

Progressive Theology.

BY REV. C. H. SPURGEON.

In this age of progress, religious opinions move at railway speed. Within the last few weeks many have made an open advance for a long time lauded as the most liberal...

But what if earnest protest accomplish nothing, because of the invincible resolve of the infatuated to abide in fellowship with the inventors of false doctrine? Well, we shall at least have done our duty...

The ideas of a progressive gospel seems to have fascinated many. To us that are old in the faith, it is a sort of cross between nonsense and blasphemy. After the gospel has been found effectual in the eternal salvation of untold multitudes, it seems rather late in the day to alter it...

Nor is this all; for our "improvers" have pretty early obliterated the hope of such a heaven as we have all expected. Of course, the reward of the righteous is to be of no longer continuance than the punishment of the wicked...

We shall, on the supposition of an ever-developing theology, owe a great deal to the wisdom of men. God may override the marble; but it is man who will carve the statue. It will no longer be true that God has hidden these things from the wise and prudent...

regulate by religious principles as honorably as his species. It is in the fine points of character, chiefly, that real life imperils Christian faith. This is a rough, unpolished marble, intensely coarse-grained and full of marbles.

In this point of honor often appears the auxiliary force of a liberal education to a good conscience. A cultivated sense of honor has a fineness of vision and a wily tenacity which are often the very aids which conscience needs to enlighten its judgments and make its authority supreme.

For some time I have been suffering. The price of perfection in this world is suffering. The forms of suffering that may be endured are infinite in number and diversity.

Not long ago, when our vision has been purified by suffering, we learn that pain also is good and that pleasure is often evil. When we are wise enough we give God thanks for the lessons he has taught us through hardship and loss and bereavement and disappointment and pain and poverty.

There is positive gain in many kinds of loss. The solid block of fine marble loses certain portions of its mass, and a statue stands forth, multiplying the value of the original mass a thousand-fold. The jewel is set in its setting, and its value is multiplied a hundred times.

What is needed most by those passing through these ordeals is patience. Patience, under the oil of the great Master, under the point of the graver, is steady clinging to the right, unbending tenacity of his purpose, and a fidelity to trust even unto death. — Chris. Advocate.

to be brought back to the fold of Christ. There was weak and halting ones to whom a word of encouragement may be a benediction. No Christian can grow in faith and holiness who neglects the work which God calls him to do.

Stopping the Leak. By Kate W. Hamilton. Jimmy sat out in front of the cottage, where the sunlight fell around him, his slow brown fingers carefully mending the net that was one of his few treasured possessions.

She needs no pain, and 'fixin' up generally, but luck has been too hard this last year. 'Not so many fish as there used to be,' said the boy, curiously.

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You have enlisted as a soldier of Christ. Every soldier needs to be trained and armed. Lord with your sword and shield, ready for instruction in the truth, but to receive a spiritual life and strength for the practical duties of life. There are battles to fight, hence you must be armed with the whole armor of God. There is work to be done, you must be strong in the Lord and in the power of his mighty word.

It is to be taught that God himself is the totality of mankind, and that our Lord Jesus only differed from us in being one of the first-born to God out of us being one of the last-born to God out of that, which, in its solidarity, is divine. It is taught to be more bigotry to profess to be a man than to be a man as we are.

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"A man stood near me, leaning against a tree. He attracted my attention, because his clothes were of fine quality, though worn and ragged. There was something about his air, something so noble, which bestowed keen breeding. He turned and saw me looking at him, and, apparently following a sudden impulse, came up and asked me for work. I was not frightened, for his manner was perfectly respectful, but I was angry at being annoyed by a stranger.

Next morning my father read from the paper: 'The body of a man was found last night in the river above the dam. It proved to be a Virginian, whose name was said to be struggling with poverty and ill health in the city for months. He had been starving the day before, had applied for work to every man he met.' His last appeal was to me. A kind word from me would have saved him. It was a terrible lesson.

It is a condition which causes great anxiety to one who is deeply earnest to be good. Ob, for an oracle which could plainly indicate the path! Superstition and fanaticism shall not be gratified by either vision or dream, but yet, 'The way of the righteous shall be made plain.' Brother, when you do not know your way, ask your Guide. Stand still and pray. If you cannot find the way upon the stars, commit yourself to the true guidance by prayer.

He who is on the King's highway will come to a good end, for the King has completed that way, so that it does not fall through the bush in the wilderness; whose builder and maker is God. Ob, to be right with God, yes, to be right with Him in our daily life and private walk! Let that be the case and our way shall be judged of by the Lord as his own royal highway, and upon it the light of his love shall shine, and it shall become brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. — C. H. Spurgeon.

alone With God. In every instance the man who prevails in prayer is the man who is alone as he prays with God. Abraham leaves Sarah behind when he pleads with Him for Sodom; and if he fails, it is because he ceases to ask before God pleases to grant. Moses is by himself in the bush in the wilderness; and he is alone when Christ comes up to him as an armed man. Gideon and Jephthah are by themselves when commissioned to save Israel.

A Gentle, Gracious old lady of seventy lately told the following incident to her grandchildren. We give, as nearly as possible, her own words: 'I drove out one day, when I was a young girl, to the park. Some birds had occurred to irritate me, so I drove rapidly, probably about a dress or hat. I left the carriage, and bidding the coachman drive on, (at dawn on a bench near the river) some children were playing under a tree. As I sat there, I noticed a young man looking on. I remembered that he was named Mr. ... I tried to control my own ill humor. But I thought, why should I not be ill-humored if I chose? I was alone; it could harm nobody.

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Last winter I suffered greatly from a troublesome humor on my face. In spite of every effort to cure this eruption, it increased until the flesh became entirely raw. I was troubled with the same issue, with indigestion, and distressing pains in my bowels.

By the advice of a friend I began taking Ayer's Pills. In a short time I was free from pain, my food digested properly, the sores on my body commenced healing, and in less than one month I was cured.

My wife and little girl were taken with Dysentery a few days ago, and I at once began giving them small doses of Ayer's Pills, thinking I would call a doctor if the disease became any worse. In a short time the bloody discharges stopped, all pain went away, and health was restored.

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