

The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me,—Psalm cxxxviii. 8.

[FOR OUR MISSION.]

"Truth in a Nut Shell."

BY HAROLD F. SAYLES, Evangelist.

1.—PROOF YOU ARE SAVED.

A GREAT many people think it is presumption for them to say they *know* they are saved—that they can only "hope for the best," and will have to wait until the judgment before they know. Paul did not say to the jailor, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and *perhaps you will be saved*, or you will *have a good chance* of being saved, or you may *hope* to be saved." No, but "*thou shalt be saved.*" Acts 16: 31.

"He that believeth on the Son *hath* (not, perhaps will have) everlasting life." (John 3: 36.)

"He that *hath* the Son *hath* life." (1 John 5: 12.)

Let us not stop with this verse, but read the following one, which tells us *why* these things are written.

"*These things have I written* unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, *that ye may know* (not hope, or guess) that ye *have* (not, are going to have) eternal life" (1 John 5: 13.)

"Put that in black and white," says the merchant when a good offer is made him. God has put His offer in black and white—*These things are written.*

Do you say, I don't feel it? *Feeling* is not the evidence, or proof for us to trust in. Your feelings may change, like a thermometer; but God's word never changes. He says, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words *shall not pass away.*" Mark 13: 31. Which would you rather trust, God's *unchanging word*, or your *ever changing feelings*? When God says a thing, it is *so*, whether you *feel* it or not. Just in the proportion that we trust and rest in God's word, just in that proportion will we have peace, and happiness, or feeling.

Do you want the Spirit of God to *bear witness with your spirit*? We are told that this is one of the evidences:

"The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit that we *are* the children of God. (Rom. 8: 16.)

If you want this evidence you must *believe God's word*: if you do not, you are *making God a liar*, and this will prevent the Spirit from working in you.

"He that believeth not God hath *made Him a liar*, because he *believeth not the record* that God gave of His Son." (1 John 5: 10.)

Notice, if you believe not the record that God *has given*, you *make Him a liar*. What is this record that you *don't believe*? Read the next verse and learn.

"And *this is the record* that God *hath given* (not will give) unto us eternal life, and this life is in His Son." (1 John 5: 11.)

The record is, *we are saved* if we trust in Christ, and we may *know* it. Is it presumption to believe

God's word? No! But it is presumption to doubt it. Your *salvation* depends upon Christ's work *for* you; your *assurance* upon God's Word *to* you; your *happiness* on not grieving the Holy Spirit *in* you.

"Jesus Christ the *same* yesterday, and to-day, and *forever.*" (Heb 13: 8.)

"Whatsoever God *doeth* it shall be *forever.*" (Eccles. 3: 14)

"The *Word* of God endureth *forever.*" (1 Pet. 1: 25.)

Trust *Christ*, His *work*, and His *Word*.

[FOR OUR MISSION.]

The Power of the Christian's Position.

BY REV. J. A. R. DICKSON, B. D.

2.—FOR PRAYER.

PRAYER is a supreme joy of the believer's heart when he stands fast in the liberty with which Christ has made him free. When he enters into the truth that he is a Son of God, the natural cry of his soul is, "Father." He realizes his new relation to God. He accepts it, he acts on it, he takes the high vantage ground it gives him, and he is no longer like one knocking at the gate, he is in the immediate presence of the *King*. There is a whole heaven of difference between the without and the within; between doubt as to acceptance, and decisive faith in it. The one is agony, the other is peace. The one is helplessness, the other is power. The believer holding his God-given position—"the grace wherein we stand," Rom. 5: 2; finds that prayer is easy, joyous, powerful and transforming. In doing this, he obeys Christ's teaching, "ASK IN MY NAME"; that is, he stands before God trusting in Christ's merit, clothing himself by faith in Christ's righteousness, taking to himself all that Christ is, and in the strength of that, asking full of the sweet confidence given by His Word, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the father in my name, He will give it you; ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

In this position no obstructions are offered. We may "come with *boldness* to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in the time of need." Heb. 4: 16. We have here *liberty* to pour into the ear of God all that is in our hearts. We are His children and He loves to hear our voices *asking*, they are full of sweetest music to Him, they gladden Him. If a parent delights in expressions of confidence and trust, and joy in himself, on the part of his child, shall not the great Father do the same? God is not a Father in name only, but in nature. He is the fountain of every thing that is best and noblest in human parents, and their feelings are but faint shadows of His. He joys over His people with singing. Zeph. 3: 17; Isa. 65: 19. He evokes the prayers of His people by such invitations and promises as these: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that