

when one commits it, he sows the wind to reap the whirlwind; he loves death.

God's Word acknowledges that sin is great, because God is great. "If a man sin against his neighbor, the judge shall judge him; but if a man sins against the Lord, who shall entreat for him?"

Francis Spira said: "Man knoweth the beginnings of sin, but who can tell the bounds thereof?"

"Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

"THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH."

### Wake Up!

Dr. Talavage speaks very plainly about church-members. He says: "The church needs a change in quality as well as quantity of membership. One-half of the professed Christians amount to nothing. They go to church. They pay pew rents. They have a kind regard for all religious institutions. But as to any firm grip of the truth, any enthusiastic service for Christ, any cheerful self-denial, any overmastering prayer, any capacity to strike hard blows for God, they are a failure. One of two things these half and half professors ought to do, either withdraw their names from the church-roll, or else go so near the fire as to get warm. Do you not know that your present position is an absurdity? You profess to be living for God and heaven, but all the world knows you are lying. Wake up! Do something before you are dead. Either help pull the Lord's chariot, or get out of the way. We want more old-style holiness, the kind they had before railroads, steamboats, and telegraphs. A consecrated heart is momentum for all Christian work. Your gun is well enough, but the gun-carriage is rickety, and so unfit for the Lord's battery. The Lord give us all a higher life, a deeper life, a broader life. We can not do much toward saving others till we ourselves are more surely saved. We can not pull others out of the surf when our own feet are slipping on the rock. More purity, more faith, more consecration, will be more momentum."

### The Love Of Christ

It was on the Love of Christ that the early church so strongly learned. It is to this love that we find the apostle Paul so continually turning. This was

his soul's true resting place and refuge. It was under the branches of this palm tree that he found a shadow from the heat. This was the deep well out of which he drank his endless consolation. He needed no other. To be "able to comprehend with all the saints the length and breadth, the height and depth" of his love, was his aim; and to "know that love which passeth knowledge," was the sum of his prayers.

This love is our refuge, too—our true, quiet home. The knowledge of his love is perfect peace. We sit down and let this love breathe freely into us, and straightway all his calm. Each storm has gone to rest; each gust has died away. Love beyond on all loves, in greatness, in freshness, in efficacy. Gifted with strange power of healing and comforting! He who has possession of this love, has got hold of a hidden spell mighty to charm away all heaviness of heart, all bitterness of soul. What can withstand it?

In this love all the loves of earth are gathered up and centered. It is a father's love, yet far above the love of an earthly father. It is a brother's love, yet passing far above. It is a bridegroom's love, as the Song of Solomon shows, yet tenderer than the love of mortal bridegroom. It is a husband's love, yet truer and more faithful than the love of the truest and most faithful husband upon earth. It is a love without any intermingling of selfishness, or jealousy, or coldness, or forgetfulness, or weariness—a love without fickleness—a love without decay.

### Pontius Pilate

Pontius Pilate was appointed the Roman governor or procurator of Judea, A. D. 28, and was in office at the time of Christ's trial and some years after. His proper residence was Cesarea; but he went up to Jerusalem at stated periods, and, though his chief duty respected the revenues, he exercised his judicial authority there (John xix. 10) in a palace or government house provided for the purpose. (John viii. 28.) His administration was exceedingly offensive. Profane history tell us that he was accustomed to sell justice, and, for money, to pronounce any sentence that was desired. It mentions his rapines, his injuries, his murders—the torments