

THE Children's Presbyterian.

THE BEST FOR GOD.

For the Children:

A heathen mother in India who had daughters but no son prayed earnestly to the gods that her reproach might be taken from her. One day there was rejoicing in her house for a boy and girl were born to her. The girl was blind from birth.

Let me tell you what the poor mother did. There came a festal day and a child was to be sacrificed to a heathen god. You at once say what a cruel practice. How little love these heathen have. Paul you know tells us in the Epistle to the Romans that they are without natural affection.

This poor mother however though ignorant of the plan of salvation yet in her conduct teaches us an important lesson. She did not sacrifice her blind girl but her beloved boy. She put him to death by offering him as a sacrifice.

One day a missionary was passing the house and saw signs of grief in the home. He asked why they were sad and when told said why did you not give the blind girl baby if either must be sacrificed. Is that the way she replied you give to your God. I thought the best was to be given to the gods. O, if I had only known that your God would have been pleased with my blind girl I might have spared my boy.

What a keen rebuke this heathen mother gives to us. There is a voice in her cry which ought to reach us. From her conduct we may learn a lesson.

You look at the teaching God gave the Jew. He was to bestow the best upon God. The best of the oil the wine the wheat and of the first fruits were to be offered unto the Lord, and surely with more light greater privileges and blessings more is expected of us.

God then children wants from you the best service you can give him. Not the smallest contributions least love and work and zeal we can afford but the great-

est. This we cannot render until our hearts change and then our service becomes whole hearted.

In the history of the boy Samuel there was a time when he did not know the Lord. Though he knew of him yet he was not fitted for his service. One night a change took place God made himself known to him. He intended that he should be a great man do a great work in the world and bring forth much fruit in his life. This he never could have done unless he had learned to know the Lord. From the night that he heard the voice calling him he commenced performing good deeds.

Then children when you have sought and found Jesus you will feel that you cannot do too much for him. The best for God will then be your motto. His service will be to you a happy service. You will try to please him in your lives and conduct and glorify him on earth. When done with earth you will enjoy him for ever.

THE DEVIL'S WAY.

The devil never opposes a good movement or a good man squarely and as a whole. It is always by detail. If it is temperance, "O yes, he is a warm friend of temperance; not, perhaps, an ardent friend, but a sincere friend; only, is this the best way?" If it is proposed to shut up the liquor stores at 8 of Saturday evening, "Well they ought to be closed; but is it of vital importance to close them at 7.50; or even at 8.10. Just 8 o'clock is either too early or too late." He will always find some little matter of detail to make a fight over and to divide the people upon. He never says: "The minister is all wrong in urging us to be just and humane and Christlike." O no. But "a good man, I suppose; and I am not prepared to deny the truth of what he has said; but what a voice! and how badly his hair is cut! and he gave the wrong intonation in the hymns." He is a very shrewd devil. — *National Baptist*.