

## Our Sunday Hour

It is wise will render these things

"Brethren, you may depend upon it that you cannot be Christians by mere tradition or mere respectability. You will have to choose to be Christians. Let the figure of Christ, our Master, personal and living as of old, be before your eyes. He lays upon you a claim of service: varying as His vocations are various, as your faculties are various; but upon all of you He lays the same claim of service, of purity, of sacrifice, of brotherhood. He will make His yoke easy and His burden light, in manifold ways, as His consolations are manifold, but in proportion as you take His yoke and accept His burden with thorough loyalty. If you will to be His disciple, He will enrich your life, He will purge it of its pollution, He will conquer your lusts, He will enlighten your mind, He will deepen in you all that is generous and rich and brotherly and true and just. He will make your life worth having, yea, increasingly worth having, as you gain in experience of His power and His love, even to the end. He will touch your sufferings and your labours with the glory of His sympathy; He will deepen your hopes for yourselves and others with the security of an eternal prospect. At the last He will purify and perfect and welcome you. Only do not make the fatal mistake of imagining that your life is Christian anyhow, or that it can be Christian by any other process than by your deliberate and courageous acceptance of the law of Christ, because you desire to be His disciple." *Bishop Gore, "Bampton Lectures," 1891.*

"Faith in God in the modern world depends on believing in Christ. 'He that hath the Son hath the Life; he that hath not the Son hath not the Life.' In ancient times, narrow local conceptions of Deity rendered it comparatively easy for the pious warriors of Palestine to trust in the Lord. They were troubled with few habits because they had but

little knowledge. But now the veil has been lifted up. Man knows the whole world, and his views are extended into the infinity around him. The idea of God has been growing from age to age, until now it is so great that man's heart is losing its hold on the Divine personality and providence. The uniformity of the laws of force has weakened the belief in a Living God working in the creation, and the disorder of events in the moral system has completed the scepticism which physical science had begun. Between the order of nature and the disorder of the human world men are bewildered, and find God to be a shadow that escapes them in the all-surrounding darkness. It is for these last days that Heaven has reserved the Incarnation of the Word. In Jesus Christ we 'see the Father' once more. We regain our hold on that Power which wields the energies of creation, and 'manages our mean affairs.' Full of grace and truth, He reveals God as a Person, as a present Providence, as a redeeming Mercy, as the Most Righteous Judge Eternal; and we return to sit at His feet, after all our hard lessons in science and history, crying out as we look up into His God-lit countenance, 'LORD, TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? THOU HAST THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE.'"  
*Edward White, "Life in Christ."*

"The real point which concerns us all, is not whether our sin be of one kind or of another, more or less venial, or more or less mischievous in man's judgment, and to our worldly interests; but whether we struggle against all sin because it is sin; whether we have or have not placed ourselves consciously under the banner of our Lord Jesus Christ, trusting in Him, cleaving to Him, feeding on Him by faith daily, and so resolved, and continually renewing our resolution, to be His faithful soldiers and servants to our lives' end."  
*Extract from last sermon preached by Dr. Arnold at Kuzby*