

THREE REASONS FOR NOT GOING TO CHURCH.

1. I can worship God without going to church. But do you worship God at home? Do you ever try? Did you ever set apart an hour on the Sabbath for the worship of God at your own fireside? Have not many Sundays come and gone when you have not once opened the Bible? Have there not been many Sabbaths wherein you have never bent your knees in prayer? And do you call this worshipping God at home? As a rule those who do not worship God in the sanctuary do not worship him at all.

2. I work hard all week and I must have Sunday for rest. You must have it you say; but who has given you leave to use such language? Sunday is the "Lord's day," not yours. The fact that you work hard for six days does not give you any right to sin away the seventh. God intends that you should rest on Sunday; and the bodily refreshment which you need will be secured by going to church, morning and evening, better than by loitering away at home all the hours of the holy Sabbath.

3. My clothes are so shabby I am not fit to appear at church. If you are so poor you have the greater need of the gospel to comfort your heart. But many are very poor because they have lived in the neglect of public worship; and if you would get rid of the deep poverty, you must first give up the practice which has brought you to rags. Come to church receive the salvation, which Christ offers; and better habits will bring better clothing. The poor man who gets a new heart will not be long before he gets a new coat.—Matthew vi. 33.

THREE REASONS FOR GOING TO CHURCH.

1. Your head and heart will be improved and you will live longer. There is no book half so rich in interest as the Bible. Its histories are thrilling; its biographies are fresh and life like; its precepts are benevolent; its parables are simple and touching. The man who gives himself to public worship, and throws his heart into the service, cannot but have his affections elevated, his taste refined, his views enlarged, and his intellect quickened. And there can be no doubt that obedience to God's holy commands con-

duces also to health and longevity. Look about amongst your neighbours, and you will find that those who give their Sunday to rest and worship do live longer than such as spend the Sabbath in dissipation, in idleness or in labor.

2. You will have less trouble in training your children. If you keep the fourth Commandment, they will keep the fifth. God has placed these two Commandments side-by-side, and they stand or fall together. In nine cases out of ten, Sabbath breaking parents have unruly and troublesome children. This is natural, and is just what might be expected. Fathers and mothers set at naught the authority of God in breaking the Sabbath; and children trample upon the commands and defy the power of their parents. But, on the other hand, if they see you honor God, they will soon learn to honor you.

3. You may prepare yourself for Heaven. Of course you may attend church services and die unsaved; but if you can go and do not, you are now on the way to hell. The Scriptures will not profit you at home so long as you willingly neglect public worship. Besides it is sheer nonsense to profess any regard for the Bible and live in the neglect of a duty which it plainly commands. Show then your respect for the Word of God by coming to his house; and when in the sanctuary, remember that the "Gospel of Christ" is "the power of God" unto salvation to every one that believeth."—Romans i 16.
—Selected.

WORKING MEN AND SABBATH.

It is a strange fact that until a short time ago the most outspoken advocates of Sunday labor were working-men. These now are amongst the strongest advocates of the Sunday's rest. Experience has taught them that they were only placing burdens on their own backs for the advantage of their employers,—if there is any advantage to any in it,—without any kind of remuneration for their self-sacrifice. To most of them it very soon means simply seven days' work for six days' pay, any lost time to be deducted from their wages. No men should be more anxious to retain their privilege of a complete rest from toil one day in seven, than the workmen, and they are finding by sad experience in cities where this privilege has been lost, that they have sold it for less than nothing.—Sel.