

## The Upward Look

### Love Thy Brother

Therefore, if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way: first be reconciled to thy brother and then come and offer thy gift.—St. Matthew 5:23, 24.

Does your brother aught against you? If so, have you done anything in your power to remove the cause of disagreement, in order that you may be reconciled with him or her. If not, do you realize that your neglect so to do is sufficient to be a stumbling block between you and your God?

The reason why more of our churches are not greater forces for righteousness is because in the hearts of too many of their members there is unconfessed sin in one form or another, or there are thoughts of bitterness or dislike toward the other, or even towards some who are outside the church. The Christian who knowingly harbors such thoughts cannot acceptably worship God. The Christian, also, who has ever done anything that a Christian should not have done, and knows that others know it, and yet does not confess his fault, and yet does not he can to remedy it, places a stumbling block in their path, and hinders their worship of God. We are our brother's keeper. If, therefore, we profess to love and serve God while knowingly doing that which is displeasing in His sight, we degrade our high calling, we set a false example before others, and thereby become responsible for all the consequences that may result from our action.

God needs our hearts. We may deceive ourselves, but we cannot deceive Him. Our pride, which is meretricious, Satan in one of his many disguises, may whisper to us that the more we feel that we have committed sin, the smaller to be well-remembered about, and that perhaps it isn't a sin at all, that anyway we wouldn't have done it if it hadn't been for the actions of some other person or persons, that when they do what is right we will be willing to do so also, and so on. Such reasoning, however, is only an admission of unconfessed sin on our part, and unconfessed sin is always sure to rise up between us and God. First be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Sometimes Satan tempts us to believe that if we are very humble about other things, and if we will give liberally to God, He will realize our request, accept our offering, and forgive us. This is not true. God does not want our gifts, be they humble or great, until they are offered from hearts that are full of love and obedience towards Him, and He has commanded that we must first be reconciled to our brother. Then, and only then, will we be free to offer Him our gifts acceptably. That is the Divine order of worship and we have no power to reverse or change it.

Well did David recognize this truth, and he said in his heart, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." (Psalms 66:18.) If, therefore, when we pray, or while we are in the house, something that we have done that we ought not to have done, or something that we have left undone that we ought to have done, steps coming up before us, let us realize that it is God that is speaking to us, and that He is calling upon us to obey His will. Great will be the joy and peace of soul when we pay heed thereto and do as He directs.—J.H.N.

When cutting bread and butter very thin, or cake with soft icing, dip the knife occasionally in very hot water.

### The Cellar of the Home

The cellar is an important though often neglected part of the home. It is often allowed to become very dirty, and old clothes, ashes and other filth are allowed to intermingle with food—probably more through thoughtlessness than actual intent, but nevertheless such is the case. One invariably finds that a clean cellar means a clean house, and a dirty cellar a dirty house.

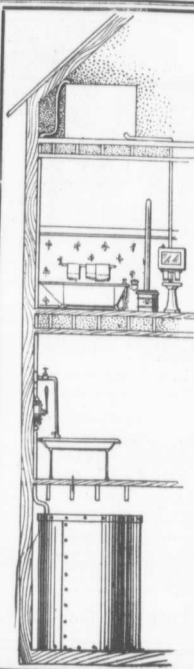
The walls and floors of the cellar should be of impervious material and well drained. There should be an abundance of light and fresh air, and the means of entrance should be easy of access. It should not be less than seven feet in height, and the height of the ceiling above the ground line outside the building should not be less than half the full height of the basement. In this rigorous climate an important factor in the construction of the cellar should be the rendering of the same frost-proof.

Too much care cannot be taken with the construction of a cellar, for with a dark, damp and dirty cellar one cannot have a healthy home. All the latest improvements upstairs will not compensate for a defective and insanitary basement, and very often the health of a family can be traced to this cause. The damp and vitiated air of a cellar predisposes one to bronchitis, whooping cough, pneumonia, etc.

### Laundering Soiled Towels

Often the towels become gray and dingy looking. Treat them in this manner and they will become white again:

Place them in a kettle and cover with cold water. Add shavings of pure white soap and the juice of a lemon. Place on the back of the stove and allow the water to gradually come to a boil. If very much soiled, the process may have to be repeated. Rinse in tepid water, then in a slightly blue water and hang in the sun to dry.



**Positive Proof** That John baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. See page 12, box 12, Clinton, S. C. MAHAFFEY CO.

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