

GOD'S STANDARD IS PERFECTION

Christian Must Develop a Character-Likeness to Christ.

IS CREATED IN THE AGE OF GOD

The Desire For Harmony With God a Part of Man's Original Perfection—Some Naturally Drawn to God—Faith the First Step—Consecration the Second Step—Then Growth in Grace and Knowledge—Lessons in the School of Christ—Justice the Foundation of Character—Love the Superstructure—The Great Test of Character.

March 23.—Pastor Russell preached a very interesting discourse to-day on Holiness. His text was: "As He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation." (1 Peter 1:15). He said in part: "The Scriptures explicitly declare that our great Creator made man in His own image and likeness, and pronounced His creature very good. But when sin entered the world, through the disobedience of Adam, he was cut off from fellowship with his Creator—as a part of the penalty of sin. This alienation from God must have been one of man's most grievous trials. He must have hungered and thirsted to draw near to God once more, to have the Divine protection, the Divine love; otherwise he could not have been created in the perfect image of God.

But as centuries rolled on Adam's posterity became more and more depraved and demoralized; the original character-likeness to God became blurred, faint, indistinct. So while the desire for God still remains, in some it is more pronounced than in others. In some it is so feeble that they care little for their Creator and are easily satisfied by the pleasures of the world or by the sensualities of life.

Many are separated from God through ignorance, superstition and the doctrines of demons, as the Bible declares. Misunderstanding our gracious Creator, they are thus driven away from Him. Whatever of natural inclination they have had the adversary seeks to thwart. As St. Paul declares, "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." (2 Corinthians 4:4). This darkness and blindness should scatter the darkness and make known to them the true character of God; and thus they should be drawn to Him.

But with some of the race desire for God and righteousness is preserved above the overpowering influence of the world, the flesh and the Devil. This class are drawn by the natural inclination of their minds Godward—desiring to be in harmony with their Creator. While those who were not born of religious parents have had a large experience with sin and alienation from God, others, born in a measure of justification, have had a measure of fellowship with God always, as children of believers. This class are in a favorable condition to be drawn of God, and to hear His voice speaking peace to them and pointing them to Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

As these come to appreciate our Lord's beautiful character and His loyalty to the Father, and to understand that He came into the world to die for Adam's sin, their hearts respond with increasing gratitude to the Redeemer and to the Heavenly Father, whose Plan our Lord was carrying out. More and more do they long to draw closer to God, and to be recognized of Him as members of His family. Through the Word the Master instructs them that who ever will walk in His steps shall eventually see God in the fullness of Heavenly glory.

Still further study of the Scriptures informs this class that the first step to be taken is one of faith. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Those who take this step must recognize that they are sinners, under the Adamic sentence, from which no one can be freed except in God's appointed way—Jesus. Then, by faith they must accept Jesus as the Redeemer of Adam and his posterity. They must perceive that His death on Calvary was a sacrificial one; and that the grand outcome of this Ransom sacrifice will be that the Kingdom of God will be established in the earth for the purpose of uplifting mankind out of sin and death conditions—back to the full image of God in the flesh.

Those who take this first step may know what is the second step; and if they have sufficient faith to take this step, their sins will be forgiven and they will be granted a new nature. This second step is to accept God's invitation to "present their bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, their reasonable service." Those who accept this invitation are thus privileged to sacrifice their all of earthly time, talent, wealth, etc. When they have so done, our Lord imputes to them individually His merit, and thus makes them holy and acceptable unto God; who immediately accepts them and begets them of His Holy Spirit.

Thenceforth they are New Creatures—"old things" have passed away and all things become new." They are now counted as members of His glorious Church. Their sins that are past are all cleansed; and the New Creature has no defilement of itself. But attaching to the flesh are certain imperfections, which from time to time crop out. The New Creature

is to be prompt to notice these; for the New Creature is the new will, which henceforth regulates the mortal body. Apparently some of God's dear people have not realized what a contract they have on hand. Some are inclined to be careless about watching the very things which they have been told to watch. It is for all the consecrated to remember that their first obligation is in respect to their own flesh, not that of others. We may give each other valuable suggestions, but the responsibility for the body rests with each as a New Creature. And here we have the task of our lives; for in our flesh, as the Apostle says, dwells no perfection. Some have one degree of imperfection and some another; some are more imperfect and blemished in one way and others in another. But as the Scriptures continually assure us, there is none righteous, none perfect, no not one. We all come short, and need to recognize our shortcomings; and we are to fight the good fight against them.

Whoever would be of the class to which God has called us must necessarily be developed; therefore whoever God has called, accepted and begotten of the Holy Spirit are in the School of Christ. Then begin the lessons which they must learn—they must grow in grace, in knowledge and in love. As the Apostle explains, they must be transformed, be forgotten, or if they are not thus transformed, they will not be ready for the Kingdom to which they are called. This transforming is not a work in the flesh, although it will affect the flesh to some extent. It is the renewing of the mind—their minds must become new. Thereafter matters are to be decided, not according to their preferences—justice and love. The New Creature, in Christ, have a set of new rules, altogether different from what they had before they became New Creatures.

The world has no such rules and regulations as those which are applicable to the New Creatures in Christ. Everything done by those who are in the School of Christ must be squared by the Rule of Justice. They dare not do anything that would be unjust to a neighbor, to a brother or to anybody. To the full extent of their ability the New Creatures must render justice. Many of the Lord's people apparently have not fully realized this fact—that obedience to the rules governing the new nature means absolutely the Golden Rule on their part toward all others. They must not do to others what they would not have others do to them.

Because of failure on the part of some to recognize this principle, the way of the Lord is spoken of as a crooked one. If a Christian fails to pay his debts, or if he is careless as to how he involves himself in debt, it is because this principle of justice does not stand out prominently before his mind. As an old rule, the habit of ignoring the lines of justice and of sliding along as he may be able and of leaving others in the lurch. This will not do for the New Creature; for he has come under a new set of new rules, and no matter how much the old creature may seek to shrink, the New Creature's duty is to bring the body into subjection and to see that justice rules in every act and word, and so far as possible in every thought.

To whatever extent the principles of justice control our minds, to that extent we have character-likeness to God. The cultivation of these principles in all our actions and dealings, in all our words and thoughts, must be our daily concern. It may be comparatively easy to be just so far as money is concerned, to say, I would pay to the very last penny, and would live on the plainest of food rather than be in debt; but it is not so easy to be thoroughly just in our words and thoughts. The New Creature is to sit in judgment on every word which his mouth may utter. It is no wonder that St. James says that if any man would not with his tongue the name is a perfect man. The New Creature is to be on guard that he may be developed along this line, and must thoroughly show the Lord that he has no sympathy with injustice.

One must be just in his thoughts before he can be properly just in his dealings. The man who thinks unjustly will act unjustly, in spite of himself; therefore the New Creature must be disciplined even to the control of any one except with an unprejudiced mind, a calm judgment, seeking to give others the benefit of the doubt, if there is any doubt whatever. Additionally, he must heed the Lord's counsel that he should exercise great mercy, and that He would rather have us err in the sense of being too lenient than have us be merely just.

But beyond justice comes love, the very highest of God's attributes. God is just; but He is Love, also, which is higher, in the sense that it implies something more than mere justice. Not only will God do full justice to everybody, but He will do a little more. He will do something of love with mankind. God was only just when He condemned the race of Adam as unfit for everlasting life; and He would still have been just if He had never provided redemption or any other opportunity for the world whatever.

God is more than just, however, and so in due time He provided the Redeemer. This was Grace, this was Mercy, this was Love. And Love has been working all through His great Plan of the Ages, providing first the Saviour, then making provision for the Church, that through His mercy we might come from the ranks of sinners up to the ranks of glory. To accomplish this, He has forgiven the sins of the Church, has encouraged them by assurances of His love and favor all the way and has made all things work together for their good.

Justice; anything less than justice is wrong. But the Lord's people must be more than just; they are to be kindly affectioned one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them. Our Heavenly Father wishes His children to see that quality in His character and to copy it. This is what Jesus meant when He said, "Be ye perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." We cannot bring our mortal body to that degree of perfection where every act would be perfect, every word perfect, but the mind must be in full sympathy and accord with God and His arrangements, and each must strive to the best of his ability to bring the body into harmony with God.

As the Bible teaches, the Church class are in the School of Christ, being taught of God—His workmanship. By His providence and His Word He has been working in us, by our experiences, which He has shaped for us, and by the opportunities which He gives us. All these things are designed by the Lord to bless us and to develop us in His own character-likeness, so that as Jesus said we may be like unto our Father in Heaven, so that we may be holy, even as He is holy—that our intentions, aims, desires, may be of exactly the same kind as His own. If, therefore, any one who professes to be a New Creature in Christ has in his heart a feeling of bitterness, envy or strife, let him beware! Such a condition of heart is dangerous; it is not of the Holy Spirit at all. Those who have such elements of character are not holy. The Heavenly Father is holy. On the contrary, as the Apostle explains, these qualities of character are works of the flesh and of the Devil; and to whatever extent one possesses these they are the result of the spirit of the flesh and of the Devil at work in the heart.

But if, on the contrary, one has holiness and a fulness of desire to know and to do God's will as an increasing power in his heart, then he is indeed being sealed of the Holy Spirit of God. The character-likeness of our Father in Heaven is being impressed upon him. He is more and more coming to see things from God's viewpoint—to see as God sees, to sympathize with the things with which God sympathizes, to be opposed to the things to which God is opposed.

Of our Lord Jesus it was written: "Thou lovest, righteousness and hatest iniquity; therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of joy above Thy fellows" (Psalm 45:7)—above the angels, above the Church, making Him to be Head of all things to the Church and decreasing that all the angels shall worship Him. (Hebrews 1:6-8). In order to copy Him we must see to what extent He loved righteousness and hated iniquity. He so hated wickedness that in every way He avoided injustice, iniquity, unrighteousness, sin; and He so loved righteousness that He preferred to die even the death of the cross rather than to resist the will of God.

This, then, is the great test of character going on with the Lord's Creature; for he has come under a new set of new rules, and no matter how much the old creature may seek to shrink, the New Creature's duty is to bring the body into subjection and to see that justice rules in every act and word, and so far as possible in every thought. To whatever extent the principles of justice control our minds, to that extent we have character-likeness to God. The cultivation of these principles in all our actions and dealings, in all our words and thoughts, must be our daily concern. It may be comparatively easy to be just so far as money is concerned, to say, I would pay to the very last penny, and would live on the plainest of food rather than be in debt; but it is not so easy to be thoroughly just in our words and thoughts. The New Creature is to sit in judgment on every word which his mouth may utter. It is no wonder that St. James says that if any man would not with his tongue the name is a perfect man. The New Creature is to be on guard that he may be developed along this line, and must thoroughly show the Lord that he has no sympathy with injustice.

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BELLEVILLE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Some good scoring took place last night in the shoot for the Dominion championships and the result will be awaited with great interest. On Tuesday evening next a spoon competition takes place under classes A and B. There is also another competition to be held before the winter shooting closes, in which some valuable prizes will be put up. The tie for the club's medal, in which the cards had to be examined by an expert reputed as follows. Possible score 100.

Mr. A. Harman	96
Mr. H. Weese	94
Winner of club's medal	94
Last night's scores for Dominion Championships	
R. Weese	96
A. Haggerty	98
W. J. Andrews	97
A. J. Stewart	96
J. Douch	96
B. Parks	95
J. Thompson	95
W. Ridley	95
H. Day	95
J. Gilbey	94
H. McCaskie	94
H. Holton	94
M. Callaghan	94
A. Harman	94
A. P. Allen	92
D. J. Corrigan	92
W. Moore	92
B. Day	92
A. D. Harper	92
E. Doshane	92
G. Ellis	91
D. Gray	90
J. W. Johnson	88
H. Speyd	88
J. F. Crestney	82
J. Woolley	76

CHINESE EGGS REACH MONTREAL

Chinese eggs have come and conquered. Last Friday, there arrived in Montreal, consigned to Gunn, Lanctot and Co., Ltd two cars of new laid Chinese eggs followed next day by a further car. In all 1,500 cases. The eggs arrived packed in the regular thirty dozen cases, similar to the cases containing eggs shipped from the United States. The eggs themselves proved to be quite equal the American output, with the exception that they were a little smaller and that all the eggs were brown.

Only a few years ago, Canadian eggs were exported by thousands of cases every fall to Great Britain and now owing to increased population, over half a million cases of eggs are annually imported into Canada. State of Ohio, city of Toledo, O. Lucas County. Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December, A. D. 1910. A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

FOUND DEAD IN CHAIR

On Thursday evening Constable Linn and Dr. G. A. Hay found Miss Agnes Clegg dead in her chair. It appears that her neighbor, Miss Wood went to Miss Clegg's home to give her the mail, and found the house in darkness and the doors locked. It was known that Miss Clegg was at home early in the week and also that she had been troubled and notified Dr. Hay who called up Constable Linn and on forcing the door opened found Miss Clegg dead sitting in a chair at the table. Her spectacles were on the table before her and a paper on the floor. The fire was out, and it is supposed death occurred early on Wednesday. Miss Clegg was a daughter of the late Henry Clegg and had lived some since her father's death several years ago. She has no relatives here but has an aunt in Picton.

The funeral was held on Sunday, the service being conducted by Rev. A. Govan who was here for a few days. Interment was made in Mount Pleasant cemetery—Campbellford Herald.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
FOR ALL KIDNEY AILS
BRIGANDIA, NEURALGIA, DIABETES, RACHITIS

Mr. A. D. Mcintosh of the department of agriculture, Stirling, is in the city today making arrangements for the live stock judging course which takes place here next week prior to the sale of the Holstein Breeders' club.

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SPECIAL INDO-CEYLON BLACK TEA
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When a business makes a specialty of one or two lines you can look for the best in those lines. Scantlebury's new store specializes on Wall Papers, Decorating and Picture Framing. Our assortment is the largest, our workmanship the best, our prices the lowest, while our March advance sale on wall papers and picture framing makes great saving for our customers.

No matter where you live in Canada send to Scantlebury Wall Paper Company for samples and you will receive same. We deliver our papers free of carriage anywhere in Canada. 312 Front Street, Belleville.

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like to taste things that are good, consequently particulars girls are our regular patrons for choice confectionery.

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CHAS. S. CLAPP



When Men Discuss Shoes

Two men were discussing Shoes in the lobby of a large hotel. One emphatically declared that he had tried all the well known shoes, but had never yet found absolute shoe satisfaction.

His friend asked him if he had ever worn Invictus Shoes. The answer was "No."

"Well," said the friend, "I always wear INVICTUS SHOES"

"To my knowledge they are the best shoes made. I can get the styles I like—they wear splendidly and they are as comfortable as house slippers from the first day. You take my advice and try them."

A true estimate of Invictus Shoes—the logical result of expert shoe-making from the finest leather over nature shaped lasts. The solution of your footwear troubles lie with Invictus Shoes. Try them.

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Your Spring Hat FOR MEN

Smart and Nobby Styles. In the Latest Spring Blocks at Woodley's 273 Front St. Phone 438

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Scientists investigating an epidemic of pellagra in Italy found the outbreak was coincident with the appearance of the full fledged sand fly and are trying to connect the two facts

Advertisement for Waters' Drug Store featuring a woman's face and various text.

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In any kind of plumbing repairs and we will have a man on the job at once. We pay special attention to emergency cases—doing the work thoroughly, quickly and always to the satisfaction of those employing us. Let us give you an estimate on any new work you contemplate. Phone 132

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