

SOON FORGOTTEN.

By Rev. L. M. Zimmerman, D.D.

The greatest possible compliment that could be paid man was given to Moses, when sacred history linked his name with that of the Lamb of God. It is said that the redeemed of God in heaven sing "the song of Moses and the Lamb." Moses was the "Grand old man of Israel" in his day and generation. He had proven himself for Israel a friend, a leader, a great statesman, a man sent of God. And yet, great as he was, it is written concerning him that when he died "the children of Israel wept for Moses thirty days."

Of course we all know too well that we cannot live with the dead. The king dies and as the new one steps upon the throne the people cry out "Long live the king!" The army needs a live general, and the nation needs a live ruler. And yet, there is a bit of sadness at the thought that even the greatest are soon forgotten.

There is the new generation which "knew not Joseph," and even with the present generation, "thirty days" is too often about the limit for the remembrance of the dead, and many are scarcely remembered that length of time. It is not an uncommon thing for children themselves to forget a departed parent, so far as any thought of the departed is concerned, after "thirty days," and the same is true in a greater degree of the public at large as regards the departure of those who at one time served the nation most efficiently.

This suggests two thoughts. The one is, Seek the true hidings of greatness as they are found in God. No other greatness can take the place of that which comes from God, and as men are great with God will their greatness be lasting. God never forgets those who are truly great, and for all such he has a place on his throne in glory above. Many of those who in the sight of men are small, are in God's sight great, and some day will be kings and princes. Kingdoms and empires may pass away, but those who are great in God will live forever not only through their influence, but with their Father in the Father's house of many mansions.

The second thought worthy of consideration is, Remember the living and don't be afraid to give them a word of cheer. Eulogies for the dead do not amount to much. That which is far better is to give more eulogies for the living. We get in the habit of fault-finding, and are often too suspicious of others' doings. Give your praises, your flowers, your smiles to the living, for when they are dead it will be too late. Alas, with some people, sympathy, praises, tears for the dead are but mockery, for in life they knew only censure, criticism, condemnation and fault-finding in general.—Lutheran Observer.

A Christian man may pray for what he desires. But if he never does more, he remains upon the lowest level of prayer. The heights are for the Christian who prays that he may be delivered from all desires except those which please God. Deliverance from self—there lies the path upward.

Our business is, not to build quickly, but to build upon a right foundation and in the right spirit. Life is more than a mere competition as between man and man; it is not who can be done first, but who can work best; not who can rise highest, but who is working most patiently and lovingly in accordance with the designs of God.—Joseph Parker.

CONCERNING SALT.

Christ said to His disciples, "Ye are the salt of the earth." Christianity is the great antiseptic of society. A little salt sprinkled on fresh meat will keep it from spoiling. Ten, only ten, godly men would have saved Sodom. But they could not be found. The city was whelmed in awful ruin. One godly man is worth more than ten ordinary millionaires to a town. The ship in the gloom of the billows and darkness and winds of the Mediterranean storm was never in the danger doubtless felt by the mariners. Paul was a voyager. He must preach the gospel in prison and chains at Rome, the most strategic place in the world.

Salt keeps things sweet and pleasant to the palate. What without salt, would be agreeable to the taste? Conserving things pleasant, peaceful and joyful is what Christians are set to do and supposed to do. Whenever things are not sweet and pure and delightful in the home and in the church there is something wrong with the salt. Drummond said, "It is not more Christians we need, but a better brand." As we said not long ago, if the pure food law was adopted by the church and the "salt" label put only on such as could stand a critical inspection, it might sometimes be found that the salt of thousands, so to speak, would be necessary to salt a sparrow.

Then salt is indispensable. Its healing properties are known to all. It melts ice. It kills weeds. We could get along without gold, but not without salt. The Christian is sent to do what must be done or the corruption in the world is unto death. He only can do the work. The gospel only can arrest it, and the gospel must be distributed by the Christian. The world may be cold, but the Christian warmth of sympathy can melt the most frozen heart. There are choking and destroying weeds of vice among men, the saloon, gambling dens, and a thousand others, the mission of the Christian is to destroy. He has destroyed thousands of them and will destroy many more.

Let us stop and meditate upon the high privileges, the exalted prerogatives, the glorious mission, and the solemn responsibilities of the disciple of Christ.

The lack of intentness, the abounding of apathy, one sees in many of our professors necessitates the conclusion that there are, alas, too many who are falling short of their professions. By their fruits ye shall know them.

THE CITY ETERNAL.

I sing of a city whose greatness hath won me—  
Where poverty, peril and pain are unknown;  
The trance of its wonderful splendor is on me—  
I dream of its king and the grace of his throne.

City eternal! How great is thy glory!  
The wealth of the universe centers in thee!

The Lamb is thy light and salvation thy story;  
My spirit breaks through in desire to be free.

I would that our children were often-  
er told to honor all toilers, and to show  
most respect to the most unfortunate  
among them. I would they knew that  
to do nothing is disgraceful. We too  
often seek for our children a path of  
joyous ease and unearned happiness, but  
we should change all that—we who are  
Christians; our Master followed other  
paths. Do you wish your boys to be-  
come in reality men? Then let them ar-  
rive at a competence only through labor,  
and at honor only through obedience  
and discipline.—Charles Wagner.

CHURCH WORKERS.\*

Some Bible Hints.

The Christian Endeavor society is the gathering of many witnesses; it is the large body of many coils which makes a great fire (2 Tim. 2:2).

A good thing is good to a man only as he is eager to pass it on to some other man (2 Tim. 2:2).

A Christian is well trained when he can train other church workers (2 Tim. 2:2).

It is quite impossible for one to be taught in the Christian Endeavor society to be faithful, bold to testify, zealous in service, and then to be otherwise when he enters the older church work (Prov. 22:6).

Suggestive Thoughts.

The young people's society is the only organization which is definitely training church workers. This is its special field, which was formerly left to chance.

If the church wishes to develop certain sorts of workers, it should oversee its young people's society.

Every society should so move its members through the committees and offices as to develop them, and fulfil its function of a training school.

The society members should enter the church work gradually and as soon as possible, not all at one plunge.

A Few Illustrations.

Every business has its technical school; why not our Father's business? By the fine old plan of apprenticeships, each older worker turned out many younger workers. Why not establish the plan in the churches?

An army keeps recruiting sergeants all the time at work. Why should not the church have recruiting sergeants in the Endeavor society?

Good children are a credit to their parents; so a good Endeavor society testifies to a good church.

To Think About.

Am I ambitious to do church work?

Am I entering upon my church work?

Am I becoming all the time stronger to do church work?

A Cluster of Quotations.

Christian Endeavor finds a task for the least as well as the greatest, for the youngest and most diffident as well as for the few natural-born leaders.—Francis E. Clark.

At it, and all at it, and always at it.—John Wesley.

"Young Christians may make mistake in working for Christ, but they make a greater mistake in not working for Him. No failure in making the attempt is so bad as to fail to make it."

The whole bent and trend of the Christian life for fifty years are often determined in the first fifty days after conversion.—Francis E. Clark.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

M., Sept. 14.—Relieving distress. Mark 9:38-41.

T., Sept. 15.—Messengers of the churches. 2 Cor. 8:21-24.

W., Sept. 16.—With our purses. Matt. 19:16-22.

T., Sept. 17.—Teaching. Matt. 19:16-22.

F., Sept. 18.—Co-operating. 1 Thess. 5:11-13.

S., Sept. 19.—Exhorting. Acts 4:8-13.

Sun., Sept. 20.—Topic: Commending our Society. II. By supplying church workers. 2 Tim. 2:1, 2; Prov. 22:6.

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