

to relax a little. "Try to please Ahab," they said. But mark the answer.

"And Micaiah said, As the Lord liveth, even what my God saith, that will I speak."—2 Chron. 18 : 13.

And remember it should be just so with us. Say what God says. It would have been of no service to Ahab to hear Micaiah speak otherwise. Micaiah's word was nothing; it was God's word he needed. And if Micaiah had spoken to please Ahab, he would have gained nothing, for the same chapter tells of the death of Ahab. And so it is with the Christian witness. We may speak as softly as we like to the world, but that won't save the world, for God has condemned it. It may make a friend of the world, but that is worth nothing.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."—1 John 2 : 15, 16, 17.

There is no stability in the world. It must pass away—its friendships cease. Its love is not worth having.

(To be Continued.)

[For OUR MISSION.]

"Purely Physical."

BY "NESSIE."

WEARLY, tired and burdened child of God, writing bitter things against thyself, pause and listen. Sometimes is thy heart so sore and thy faith so weak that thou dost almost doubt whether or not thou art a child at all? And is thy path so clouded that the very love of the Father seems shrouded and even doubted? Yes drooping soul! all this and much more of turmoil in that secret heart of thine than thou wouldst dare utter even to thyself.

Yet, through it all has there not been a deep yearning and stretching out for more of that love which brought such peace and happiness when first thou didst believe? And in the *silent moments* has not the "new man" within thee whispered its *Christward* aspirations and its enmity to the world? O doubting child! take courage! There is naught but *love* in that Father's heart for thee. He has found his rest in *Jesus*, not in *us*. and thy life is hid in Christ. So, "ye are complete in Him." God views thee in His dear Son and is *satisfied*. nay, more, He is *pleased* and *delighted*. Marvellous but true that Christ should be able to "set you before the presence of His glory *without blemish*, in exceeding joy" (Jude 24, R.V.), and that "when He shall appear we shall be like Him" (1 John 3 : 2).

'Then for all these shortcomings and bitter thoughts of self, they arise from "*purely physical*" causes. The "old man" has still power over the flesh; and through the "oft infirmities," the world, etc., will still assail us; but the "new man" is safe in Christ. Through physical weakness and overwrought nerves the eye of faith may become dim, and the tired heart may forget that there is no path so rugged or narrow but there is room for Jesus by our side (though perhaps for none other but Him), the weary eye may droop from "looking unto Jesus," and the soul life lose its present enjoyment and its personal contact with a living God.

Poor sad heart! Thy Saviour still holds thee firmly in those loving arms. His human heart of sympathy beats against thy own—not a word of reproach, only the gentle "I will give you rest." Look off from self unto Him, and see "this same Jesus" on the throne of the Father. Sit, like Mary, at the Master's feet. Trust Him, and consecrate to Him the moments with all they bring—"The secret of a happy day,"

"Make a little fence of trust

Around to-day,

Fill the space with loving work,
And therein stay.

Look not through the sheltering bars

Upon to-morrow:

God will help thee bear what comes
Of joy or sorrow."

Then the "purely physical" will but draw us ever nearer to the great source of strength, "who is able to guard us from stumbling;" and we will "rejoice evermore" in that perfect salvation—the blood that cleanseth from all sin.

This life is but a speck of time in all the cycles and ages of eternity; and the "purely physicals" are but the loving hand of God preparing us to reign as kings and priests in the millennial glory.

[For OUR MISSION.]

"Whosoever."

WHILE I was reading John 3 : 15 and 16, the other night, I took those two words "the world" and "whosoever" and wrote them down on a sheet of paper, and tried to get outside them. I could not do it, for I do believe in Jesus; and I saw that *nobody* could get outside the first one: the fact remains for ever, "God so loved the *world*." No limitation to that; but the second is limited: it is "Whosoever believeth," or, as it puts it in another place, "Whosoever will"; no limitation as regards the person who *may* believe—that is, "*whosoever*" in its simplicity: no limitation to those who *do* believe. The result is sure and certain: for each one shall, as it says, "not perish, but *have* everlasting life."