

GOOD NEWS.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CAKES FOR NOTHING!



THOUGHT it was too good to be true, for the world is not generally so liberal as to give its Christmas and New-Year cakes on such terms. The huge placard hung in a grocer's window at Christmas time. I read it from the opposite side of the street, but suspecting there was some trick in the matter, I crossed over to inspect it more closely, when lo! I perceived, in smaller type underneath, it was announced, that the cakes would be given "for nothing" to every purchaser of so many pounds of tea. Now I thought the "news" may be good enough to those who have money in their pockets to invest in the tea, but the news is simply mockery to yon poor hungry boy, without a farthing in his pocket, whose teeth are set on edge by the large type letters at the top of the placard. The grocer's "good news" consists in this, you must "buy" in order to get the gift—you must "give" before you could "receive."

The "good news" sent down from heaven to sinners is exactly the opposite of this. It is "good tidings of great joy to all people"—to those who have "nothing to pay." "The gift of God," which is "eternal life," is for sinners who, like the prodigal, have "spent all," and are "in want." You do not require to give anything in order to receive it, not even prayers or tears. The Word of God says, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." It is "without money, and without price."

Reader, have you received the gift of God! Have you accepted eternal life?
—Selected.

THE STORY OF THE CROSS



ANATIVE of Madras was asked what led to his conversion? He replied, "it was the story of the cross. When I read in the Gospel the story of the cross, I sat down and wept three days.

Who of us has been so affected by this story of the cross as to shed tears

over it? Our familiarity with the old, old story, makes us so indifferent to its power and beauty. People listen to the account with untouched hearts and unblanched faces.

"Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow."—Lam. i. 12.

AN INFIDEL'S HOPE.



AN eloquent infidel lecturer lately said that human life ever seemed to him like "a short passage between two dark nights; all was cold, dark, and gloomy; we came out of darkness and we got lost in darkness." Though eloquent and argumentative, the poor lecturer knew not that "the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Without the Bible, life is indeed a mystery, but with it comes light, for it reveals the blessed truth that "our Saviour Jesus Christ hath brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel." The believer can thank God for creation, preservation, and the hope of glory; he can, by faith, look through the darkness, and say, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall we also appear with Him in glory."

"A man of subtle reasoning asked
A peasant if he knew
Where was the internal evidence
That proved his Bible true?
The terms of disputative art
Had never reached his ear,
He laid his hand upon his heart
And only answered—*here.*"

Remember

THE

EVANGELISTIC BIBLE CLASS

HELD

Every Sunday Afternoon,

AT 3 O'CLOCK, FOR ONE HOUR.

All are invited.