



(ORIGINAL.)

## He is Willing.

ES, willing as well as able, and as willing as able, to do for each of us according as His faith shall be. The first and greatest proof of this, is the plan of redemption, made "from the foundation of the world." Rev. xiii. 8, whereby God,

knowing that man through disobedience would fall from the blessed state in which he first was placed "doth yet devise means that His banished be not expelled from Him." 2 Sam. xiv. 14. And when we think of the means, how it cost the Father His only Son, and the Son His life, can we for one moment doubt His willingness to receive us and make us new creatures in Him. But often we forget, so again and again He reminds us that He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" 2 Pet. iii. 9. He "will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Tim. ii. 4. "Say unto them, as I live, saith the Lord, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn ye, turn ye, from your evil ways, for why will ye die, O house of Israel." Ezek. xxxiii. 11.

So now, it rests with us. He came that we "might have life, and have it more abundantly" John x. 10; but "*ye will not come unto Me that ye might have life.*" John v. 40. He mourns over us now as He did long ago over Jerusalem: "How often would I have gathered thy children, as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, but *ye would not.*" Matt. xxiii. 37. What could have been done more for His vineyard that He hath not done it? Nevertheless, in His patience and longsuffering, He spares us yet a little longer, and still the promise is as true as ever, "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out" Jn. vi. 37. "Come unto Me, and I will give you rest" Matt. xi. 28. And we are assured that besides giving us the glorious gift of everlasting life, He is willing also to keep us from sin, and for Himself every day! Speaking of the vineyard, we find "I the Lord do keep it, I will water it every moment, lest any touch it, I will keep it night and day." Isa. xxviii. 4. "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His eye." Zec. ii. 8; also in that wonderful chapter, John xvii, our Saviour prays for His own people with most tender love, "not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil" John xvii. 15; and again, "Holy Father, keep through Thine own name, those whom thou hast given Me" John

xvii. 11; and St. Paul tells us, He "gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world." Gal. i. 4. Still another petition for us, "Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am" John xvii. 24. Think of being with Him, and "we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John iii. 2.

So now we see what the will of the Lord for us is; that we may have everlasting life, that we may be kept by the power of God, the life of Jesus being made manifest in our mortal flesh; and that we may be with Him where He is. This is what *He is willing* to do for us, what He has planned for us, "according to the good pleasure of His will." Eph. i. 5. Can we resist any longer? "Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. i. 18. "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not; remember thy sins." Isa. xliii. 25.

"Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. xxxi. 3.

He is able, *He is willing*, doubt no more.

M. G.

## A Word of Cheer

TO THE WORKERS OF THE TORONTO MISSION UNION.

COMING from one of your meetings, and passing along a street I was not well acquainted with, being alone I felt timid, and hearing footsteps behind me increased the feeling. As they came nearer I could hear a woman's voice humming "Bringing in the Sheaves." I now felt quite safe. When she came up to me she said very pleasantly. "Good evening, Miss." Hadn't we a delightful meeting? I had enjoyed the meeting very much, but I do not think I had received one half the blessing this old lady had, if her happy face was an index of her heart. She then told me the blessing the Bible Class in connection with the Mission had been to her. She and three of her family were converted; "but," she added, "there's more to follow," and she said she could take me to some homes that had been drunken and quarrelsome, but were now homes where God's name is revered. She then walked out with me to my own street, and left me with a hearty shake hands, and God bless you, which touched me very much, and taught me a lesson I shall not soon forget.

Go on with your Christ-like work, bringing souls to Him, and thereby making homes all that God intended they should be.

A FRIEND OF THE MISSION.