

[For OUR MISSION.]

Truth in a Nut Shell.

By HAROLD F. SAYLES, Evangelist.

4.—BECAUSE GOD LOVES YOU.

MANY seem to think that their chances for salvation depend upon the measure of their love for God—that He will love them in just the proportion that they love Him—and if their love is weak, they fear they cannot be saved.

Satan knows that as long as he can have us occupied with ourselves and our cold love for Christ, just so long will we have our eyes off of Christ, and we will be in the dark.

When Mary and Martha sent unto Jesus, their message was not "Lord, he who lovest Thee," but, Lord, he whom *Thou* lovest is sick."

It is not our imperfect love for Him that should occupy our hearts and minds, but His *perfect love* for us.

"Herein is love, *not* that we loved God, but that *He loved us*, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4: 10.)

Notice, it is not our love for Him, but *His love* for us.

"Hereby perceive we *the love of God*, because *He laid down His life for us*." (1 John 3: 16.)

"*In this was manifested the love of God* toward us, because that God *sent His only begotten Son* into the world that we might live through Him." (1 John 4: 9.)

"*For God SO loved the world*, that He *gave His only begotten Son*, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3: 16)

If an angel were to come from heaven and tell us how God loves us, he would be unable to find words which would more fully picture God's love than do the words of this verse. How much there is in the little word "*so*."

As one has said, "We cannot love Him by *trying* to love Him, but by *dwelling* upon *His love for us*."

"*Behold, what manner of love* the Father *hath bestowed upon us*, that we should be called the sons of God." (1 John 3: 1.)

Will you not "*behold*" it, and *dwell* upon it? Will you not *believe* and *accept* it?

"*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*" (Rom. 8: 35.)

This is the question the Apostle Paul asks of the "beloved of God." Satan is trying to *separate you* from it. He is blinding your mind that you may not believe it, because he knows that if you do, you will be saved.

"Oh! who can conceive it,
Oh, who can believe it,
Oh, who will receive it,
This love so free?"

[For OUR MISSION.]

The Five-fold Outcome of Faith.

REV. J. A. R. DICKSON, B.D.

4.—SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

NOT only have we forgiveness of sin, peace with God, and sonship, when we believe on Christ Jesus, we have also the sealing of the Holy Spirit. That is spoken of in this way: "In whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance, until the repentance of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory" Eph. 1: 13, 14, The Spirit was promised by Jesus, Jno. 14: 16-26 &c., and came as his resurrection gift. He came to dwell in His disciples, and to separate them to be God's inheritance, (1 Kings 8: 53) and to carry on the work of grace in their hearts. The Spirit in the believer is our Lord's seal set upon Him, marking Him out as His. "Now, if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." Rom. 8: 9. "Hereby we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." 1 John 3: 24. This indwelling of the Spirit therefore, is something of which we are conscious. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." Rom. 8: 16. There is another state of feeling in the heart toward all that is of God than there was before. The winter has gone, and the summer has come, and birds sing in the branches of trees. The enmity against God has given place to regard and love and worship. All that is the work of the Holy Spirit. He makes all things new. He begins His sanctifying processes as soon as He enters the soul, and transforms it from whatever it was before, a nest of unclean birds, a house of merchandise, a vile habitation, into the Temple of the Lord. He cleanses it and consecrates it. He gladdens it and glorifies it. This regenerating work can not be effected without the subject of it becoming aware of it. This is the reason why John says so confidently, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." 1 Jno. 3: 14.

Sealed! Sealed! Sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. Had the sheet of paper one grain of life and feeling on which the covenant of man is written, would it not know when the heated, burning wax fell upon it and sealed it, making it a sacred thing? Certainly! And shall we receive the principle of a new life and remain in ignorance of it? Never! Far easier would it be to remain unconscious of the balmy breezes of the spring-tide after the trying severities of a Canadian winter, than to continue living without the clear knowledge of the fact that we are possessors of a new Spirit—a new life. A life whose every affinity is for God, and all that is good and true and holy.

God in forgiving our sins, and in speaking peace and making us nigh is acting judicially, as a judge who sees in the righteousness of another a sufficient