

Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you—John xv. 16.

[ORIGINAL.]

The Levite.

By GEO. SOLTAU.



LEVI was the third son of Jacob. When God delivered Israel out of the house of bondage by the destruction of the first-born in Egypt, and the blood of the Pass-over Lamb, He set apart the tribe of Levi for Himself, to be occupied sole-

ly in the work of the ministry of Tabernacle and Temple, and in all holy things. (Numbers iii. and iv.) "The Levites shall be Mine." They consisted of three families, descended from the three sons of Levi, Gershon, Kohath and Merari, and to each section of the tribe was assigned a special department of work in connection with the Tabernacle. They were to be maintained by the free will offerings of the people, as they were debarred from following the ordinary avocations of the nation. They entered on their public service at the age of 30 years, and remained in it till they were 50 years of age. In Numbers xvii. 6, they are spoken of as a gift of the Lord to Aaron the High Priest, for the service of the Tabernacle. How beautifully this illustrates the relation to the Lord Jesus Christ of all His people. God has given them to His Son (John xvii.), because Jesus gave up His life on the Cross, and shed His blood for the redemption of the world. Now, all true believers in Him belong to Him, and their whole lives are to be spent in pleasing Him, and yielding to Him all the powers of mind and body. They are to be a separated, or peculiar people unto the Lord Jesus. He alone is to have control of their time, property, faculties, families, &c., and how anxious He is to make use of them. Nothing is so pleasing to Him as to have the entire disposal of His people. He says, "My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." When the heart of a believer is disentangled from the world and selfish aims, and wholly surrendered to the Lord, he becomes a true Levite,—nay, more, he is raised to the dignity and office of a priest, and can come boldly into the Holiest of all, with his offerings of praise and his acceptable worship. Let us not be slow to render unto the Lord that which is His by right of purchase. He has His rights of property, and must not be denied them. We are His rightful property. He calls us His in-

heritance, and therefore it is His privilege and prerogative to protect and guard His inheritance from the marauding hosts of the adversary of all righteousness.

In the Lord's life on earth, entering His public ministry at the age of 30 years, we have the perfect picture of a Levite. All the ordinary work and speech of the day was consecrated unto God. He lived not for Himself, but to please God in all things. He purified the temple of its unhallowed and worldly surroundings (John ii.) He reproved all ungodliness and sin in the hearts and lives of those who professed to be worshippers. He watched the offerings brought to the Temple, and commended the faith of the widow who brought her two mites. Then acting as a Priest he interceded for His people, offered Himself as the Sacrifice for Sin, and being raised from the dead by the power of God, entered upon the Great High-Priestly work of blessing and presenting His people before God without spot or stain. And now we wait for Him that He may appear again as our Great High Priest "after the order of Melchizedec."

EVANGELISTIC ECHOES.

L. P. ROWLAND has been labouring with much success at Olivet, Mich., and Stanton, Mich.

REV. L. A. THOM, of Arthur, writes that they have had a time of great refreshing, and a number brought to the Lord.

MR GAY's labours at Watford Ont, are being abundantly blessed of God, to the salvation of sinners and the edifying of believers.

THE following is Mr Moody's list of places to be visited during the month of March:—Springfield, Ill.; Peoria, Ill.; Davenport, Ia.; Des Moines, Ia.; Omaha, Neb.; Kansas City, Mo.; Emporia, Kan.;

JOHN CURRIE writes from Brooklyn:—"I am by God's help, doing aggressive work here, and the Lord is showing His hand in the work. I have been several times at Jerry McAuley's Mission in New York. I see they need the word of God, and they eagerly respond as the "Honey is put forth on the end of the rod."

Rev. R. G. PEARSON writes from Waxahachie, Texas, under date Feb. 9th:—The work here goes on gloriously. The Lord be praised. Over 20 souls were converted in the enquiry meeting last night. Bro Pearson's next point of service is Marshall, Texas. He asks prayer that the work in that city may be richly blessed.