

The Gospel and Our Expectations.

REV. A. B. STILLWELL.

"The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation." Rom. 1: 16.

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel unto every creature." Mark 16: 15.

"I pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." 1 Cor. 1: 21.

Man lives in hope, and has a new year with new expectations. Without expectations man would be restless, and the Christian world be, of all men, most miserable.

We ground every expectation on the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ—a gospel that is just as new, just as good tidings, just as much needed to-day, as when Jesus Christ lived.

The early centuries the fathers held the case by appealing to results, saying that the drunkard forsook his cups, the reviler his scolding, the prodigal character his ways, and became peaceable and God-like men.

Do we not feel that our work is moving forward on every side, and do we not find it impossible to keep ourselves from looking for some great break? Why should it not come? Is the Master less concerned than we? Is He alone forgetful of His part?

Christ's Silent Testimony as to a Future Life. BY REV. THOMAS ARMSTRONG, D. D., LL. D.

"In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you."—John xiv: 2.

No feeling of the human soul is deeper, more universal, or changeless, than its native aspiration to immortality.

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heard are hearing, and to those sitting in darkness a light is springing up.

III. I now come to speak of our expectations which ought to be large and unbounded.

The present state of the church is an expectant one. Christian workers look for large things, and let not our expectations fall behind any.

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I. The perfect establishment of his own character as a Teacher. At a first glance, it seems somewhat uncommon, if not un-

accountable, that our Lord should make such a forceful assertion in a negative form, as the words, "I had never been suspected even of complicity with untruth, much less of equivocation or prevarication."

He had said to us, "I am the light of life." He had said to us, "I am the life of the world." He had said to us, "I am the resurrection and the life."

He had said to us, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." He had said to us, "I am the bread of life."

He had said to us, "I am the true vine." He had said to us, "I am the door." He had said to us, "I am the true light."

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shadows break into a smile, and all its dusts are blown into a smile. I need not say that for a moment to you, but that Christ's silence in not disavowing a glorious future state, forms the most positive testimony for its existence?

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Yet, crosses, crosses, losses, the neglect of kindred, and the neglect of others, all sorts of difficulties and troubles, may be pressed before the Lord, and cast upon him.

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