

Parish and Home.

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FOOLISH men imagine that because judgment for an evil thing is delayed, there is no justice but an accidental one here below. Judgment for an evil thing is many times delayed a day or two, a century or two; but it is sure as life, it is sure as death. In the centre of the whirlwind, verily now, as in the oldest days, dwells and speaks a God. The great soul of the world is just.—*The Gleaner*.

LOVE is an atmosphere rather than an emotion, the atmosphere of God's very nature; and as we inbreathe that atmosphere we gain in spiritual vitality and spiritual vigor, and in clearness of spiritual vision. "God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God abideth in him." "How blue God's heavens are when we love, and know that He loves, and how pleasant all hours and weathers and seasons are when we dwell in love, and so in God!"—*S.S. Times*.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury told the following story in Croydon parish church on New Year's day:

"One of our missionary bishops, traveling through a desolate tract of country, was asked by some good people if he would go round by a certain distant station where there lived a strange man almost by himself, who kept a sort of little inn. They told the bishop this man was an atheist, and thought it would be a great blessing if he would go out of his way to talk to him. The bishop found him out, and one evening had a long conversation with him. At its close the man said, 'Bishop, I see you are laboring under a mistake; a man can't live here in the wilderness with God all day and all night and think there isn't

a God. You must go to the towns if you want to find a man who doesn't think there's a God.'

QUICK work is not necessarily hurried work. It is hurry, not haste, that "makes waste" in the affairs of life. To catch a ball "on the fly" requires quickness, but not hurry nor flurry. A man needs a cool head as well as a quick hand for it. A surgeon's work in taking up a severed artery is quick work, but not hurried. It is the same with the work of a counsel, or in any professional sphere. He may speak or act quickly, and with haste without hurry, giving instant advice that is timely and well considered. An accomplishment to be desired and to be striven for is the writing of what one wants to write, or the expression of thoughts that one wants to preserve, in haste, but not in a hurry. Without haste in action at a time that requires haste, thought and knowledge may be worse than useless. Slowness makes waste as often as quickness.—*S.S. Times*.

MUSIC contains suggestion of forms and powers of utterance which may not find their perfect development in this life. It is noteworthy that the glimpses men have had beyond the veil, from Isaiah's vision to John's, are so much associated with song and harp. The heavenly hosts do not speak when they can help it. Singing is their natural utterance. They stop it for a moment to suit their utterance to our duller ears, and then fall back into song again, as on the plains of Bethlehem. So our efforts to sing God's praise are our poor attempts to rise toward that angelic life in which song is more natural than speech. It is to share, as Dean Hook says, in "the unearthly work of praising God." It is our effort to bring into use those still rudimentary powers and functions of utterance which will be in ceaseless use in the life beyond death, and which are foreshadowed to us in the musical utterances of the greatest composers, such as Handel and Beethoven, who "cleave our spirits to depths within depths" by their strains.—*S.S. Times*.

BIBLE FIRST.

ABOUT forty years ago a Christian man sat at his fireside in Philadelphia. Near by, playing on the floor, was his only child, a beautiful little boy. It was early in the morning, the day's work had not yet begun; and waiting for his breakfast, it may be. The father took up the daily paper to read.

The boy at once climbed into his lap and snatched away the paper, exclaiming, "No, no, papa! Bible first—Bible first, papa!"

That lesson taught by a little child was probably a turning point in the life of that man. Death soon came and tore away the sweet little preacher, but his morning sermon never was forgotten. The business man, in his loneliness and sorrow, went forth to do his work for Christ. "Bible first, papa!" was ever ringing in his ears.

It became the motto of his life. He was exceedingly prosperous in business, wealth accumulated, business increased, friends multiplied, but uppermost in that man's heart was the precious Word of God. He read and studied it; as teacher and superintendent of the Sunday-school, he taught it; he did more than this—he practised its precepts.

The gentleman referred to was the well-known locomotive and engine builder, Matthias W. Baldwin, of Philadelphia. Would not the child's "Bible first!" be an excellent motto for us all?—*Selected*.

THE DAILY AIM.

"For me to live is Christ."—Phil. i. 21.

THERE is but one resting place for the heart of man—the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Let me give you two words of counsel which may help you to make this Rest your daily aim.

(1) Live on Christ. Make Him your all. Trust in His precious blood for the forgiveness of sins. Look to Him as your "Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification, and Redemption." Lean upon Him continually as the faithful Redeemer who will never leave you. Depend upon Him day by day to fill you out of His fulness, and to aid you by His quickening Spirit. In pain and suffering, look to Him to sustain you. In temptation, look to Him to uphold you. In sorrow and loss and trouble of every kind, look to Him to cheer you by His abiding presence. If you have turned aside from the narrow path, look to Him to restore you and keep you steadfast to the end.

(2) Seek to live for Christ. Regard Him as your King, your Lord, your Captain, your Master, whom you desire to honor and please above all. Let Him be your great end and object in life. Aim, through the grace of His Spirit, to put on the fair raiment of meekness, holiness, patience, love, and self-denial. Aim to plant your feet in the footprints He has left behind in