

# SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

BY MR. JAMES A. T. BELL, ST. ENOCH'S S. S., TORONTO, ONT.

There are two ways by which men may be taught, first by example, second by precept. Each of these methods is good in itself, and is powerful in influencing the heart and mind; but used together their individual power is greatly increased. In nothing is the force of this argument so plainly seen as in the case of the Christian.

What the world has asked to see in all ages, and what it asks to see with even greater force today, is a genuine Christianity—a practice that will justify the profession made. This is to be seen nowhere as in the life of the "Practical Christian," whose actions were always a confirmation of his words.

In this lesson both of these methods are exemplified. First, *Teaching by precept*. In the 22nd verse it is stated that "They were astonished at His doctrine (or teaching): for He taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes." That they were astonished at His teaching, and perceived that He spoke with authority, is no wonder, if we compare his teaching to that of the scribes, whose practice it was to retail the old traditions of the rabbis to their hearers. Jesus spoke as one who knew of what he was speaking. It was only He, who created man, who knew the way to heaven, and who was very God Himself, that was able to speak with such authority as Jesus spoke. This very fact is what makes the religion of Jesus Christ to differ from all other religions. Second, *Teaching by example*. Christ confirms His teaching by example. If one desires to influence others, he must be consistent with what he professes. If teachers desire to influence their scholars, or scholars their companions, they must show by their lives that they believe what they profess. Faith without works is dead, and so is profession without practice.

## BLACKBOARD ILLUSTRATION.

Christ Teaching      B Y      Precept Example

"He taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes."

## Ten Minutes Normal Drill

Based on the text-book, "The Sabbath School Teacher's Handbook; or, the Principles and Practice of Teaching, with special reference to the Sabbath School," and prepared by Principal Kirkland of the Toronto Normal School.

### THE ART OF TEACHING. — *Continued.*

*Methods of Teaching must conform to the three following Principles:*

- (1) To the special characteristics of the knowledge we are communicating.
- (2) To the laws of mental growth at different periods of life.
- (3) To the particular purpose of the instruction.

*Advantages of a good Method:*

- (1) The teacher, starting with a fixed purpose, runs less risk of losing sight of it, and missing his way.
- (2) Having carefully reflected on the means at his command, he is more likely to choose the best.
- (3) Since he is sure of the end in view and of the means of attaining it, it depends only on himself to reach it as soon as possible.