

Christian Life and Work.

Nothing satisfies Satan like the saint who is satisfied with himself.

"A Christianity without a dying, atoning Christ, is a dying Christianity."

A heart is like a nut in that we seldom find out what is in it until it is broken.

No preparation for Bible study is worth anything if we approach the Book without reverence.

Satan always keeps a whitewash brush handy for the man who dreads the trouble of being washed white.

"Prepared programmes are desirable," said a speaker at a recent English Christian Endeavor convention, "but prepared hearts and minds are better still."

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday.—*Pope*.

If the Church in America should go into the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians and live there six months, this country would be revolutionized for Christ.—*D. L. Moody*.

Our safety is in having lofty ideals and in constant labor to secure their realization. Let the getting of money be a man's ideal, and he will of necessity grow toward the dust.—*Joseph Parker*.

The Bible is a book for the needy. If we go to it with a well defined want, we will have little difficulty in getting at its treasure. If we go to it for nothing in particular, we will get what we go for.

A hint for the furnishing of one's home is contained in the following:—"I have pinned up on the wall, where my eyes rest upon them frequently, seven C's to grow fat on—Calmness, Confidence, Contentment, Courage, Cheerfulness, Consistency, Concentration."

We may read the Bible in course, cursorily, to familiarize ourselves with its contents as a whole. But with reference to our growth in grace there must be another kind of reading, characterized by expectation, interrogation, concentration, inference, comparison, faith, apprehension, application, and obedience.

Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the world will never know.—*Charles Kingsley*.

In committing passages of Scripture to memory it is of the first importance to be absolutely accurate. We should fix in our minds the exact words of the book. If we attempt to get the idea in our own language, we may get what is not contained in the text. If we commit the words as they stand we have the basis of an accurate knowledge of the truth which the passage contains.—*Ex*.

Gold is gold, whether there be a wedge of it, or only a grain; and water is water, whether it be the mighty ocean, or an atom of vapor condensed upon a glass. There is no word or deed of life so small that it may not be filled with the spirit of Christ, and be Christian, just as truly as the crowned life of Paul. When the high heavens can be mirrored in a drop of dew, why may not the smallest deed of life mirror the whole spirit of Christianity?

Dr. Horatius Bonar dreamed that the angels took his zeal and weighed it, and told him that it was excellent, for it weighed exactly 100, which was all that could be asked. He was greatly gratified at the result. Next they wished to analyze it. They put it in a crucible and tested it in various ways, with this result: 14 parts were selfishness, 15 parts sectarianism, 22 ambition, 23 love to man, and 26 love to God. He awoke humbled, and determined on a new consecration.

Religion and politics are not to be divorced. Voting is a patriotic duty, and should be performed conscientiously. Our country's calls are not to be neglected. Christians should take active part in the conduct of political affairs, and act according to the principles of right and equity, rather than according to those of expediency and partisanship. When moral considerations are brought into play in party contests, a new order of politics will arise, and an improved municipal and state administration will be the result.—*Pres*.

CLEANSED AS SHE WENT.

B. Fay Mills tells an interesting story of a young lady's conversion. One of the commonest obstacles to successful seeking is the lack of a brave and earnest purpose:

"A young lady was deeply concerned about her spiritual interest, and, after a severe struggle, started to visit her pastor, to ask him to show her the way of life. As she entered the horse-car, in carrying out her purpose, she saw seated there several of her friends, who asked where she was going. The tempter immediately said: 'Don't tell them where you are going, but answer them in some evasive way.' At the same time the Spirit whispered to her: 'Be brave and conscientious about this. Tell them of your purpose, and ask them to go with you.' She obeyed the latter voice. Her friends declined to accompany her, and she went on alone. When she came to the minister's house, he came to the door to meet her. She paused from embarrassment for an instant, and then said: 'Doctor, I started to come to ask you to lead me to Christ, but now that I am here I have come to tell you I have found Christ.' 'As they went they were cleansed.'"

GOD'S CONSTANT PROVIDENCE.

Providence has no Sabbath. No night suspends it; and from its labors God never rests. If I may compare small things with great, it is like the motion of the heart. Beating our march to the grave, since the day we began to live, the heart has never ceased to beat. Our limbs may grow weary, not it. We sleep; it never sleeps. Needing no period of repose to recruit its strength, by night and day it throbs in every pulse; and constantly supplying nourishment to the meanest as well as the noblest organs of our frame, with measured, steady, untired stroke it drives the blood along the bounding arteries, without any exercise of will on our part, and even when the consciousness of our own existence is lost in dreamless slumbers.

If this be a just view of Divine providence, may we not rest securely? Shall we not bid our troubled spirits be quiet? "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord," says the inspired volume. There is an unslumbering eye upon us—there is a heart of infinite love beating responsive to every need of our earthly life—there are arms of omnipotence underneath and around us. Let us be still—quiet as an infant in its mother's arms. Let us commit all our interests to the keeping of our heavenly Father.—*Dr. Guthrie*.