

ful operation in his knee and is likely to be a cripple for life. The doctor says Bro Ervine himself is in the last stages of consumption. May our Heavenly Father care for this afflicted home.

If any others think of contributing to their help kindly send in amounts at once, as I wish to remit by August 1st the total offerings.

W. E. MCINTYRE.

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Why I Attend Church in Warm Weather.

I attend church in warm weather because:

The Lord has said we should not neglect the assembling of ourselves together. (Heb. 10: 25).

The Lord has promised "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matt. 18: 20).

I expect my pastor to be there and should be surprised if he were to stay away on account of warm weather.

My presence is more needed in the services when there are but few than when the house is crowded.

No matter what station I hold, my example if I stay away from the services others may be influenced to do so.

If I have important business warm weather does not keep me from attending to it; and church attendance is, in God's sight, very important.

If warm weather does not stop the pleasure seekers, it should not stop me in seeking the glory of God and the highest good of my soul.

If I attend in warm weather I show my loyalty to Christ and the church.

If it is not too warm for the pastor to preach it is not too warm for me to sit still and listen.

If it is right to have services during warm weather, it is right for me to help sustain them.

I hope to receive good and do good.—*The Standard.*

Building a Christian

By Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D.D.

"I never let fools or bairns see my work until it is done," said a famous Scotch painter; he knew that no production of human art could be rightly judged until it was completed. I remember that when I first saw Cologne Cathedral fifty years ago, it had a stumpy and unimpressive appearance, for it was towerless. The next time I saw the edifice it was disfigured by scaffolding on which workmen were busy. But when, in the summer of 1894, I beheld the completed towers in their flashing splendor, I felt that it was a mighty and magnificent poem written in marble.

That illustrates the way in which the Master builds a true Christian. The Bible declares that the Christian is "Christ's workmanship created anew unto good works." Anyone who looked at a company of church members in a prayer meeting or at a sacramental table might say that some of them were quite imperfect specimens of workmanship, as he could testify from intimate acquaintance. Very true; but if that same person wished to purchase a melodeon he would not go into the manufactory where the different parts were being fashioned; he would go into the sales-room and inspect the completed instrument. This world is the great workshop in which Jesus Christ by His Spirit constructs Christian character. "Ye are God's building," wrote the Apostle Paul to his brethren at Corinth. Of himself he wrote at another time, "Not as though I have already attained, either one already perfect." He was still in the hands of his divine and loving Architect. The scaffolding were not yet taken down and the work of grace was not yet completed.

It is easy to discover some flaws in even the best men and women; but the critic must consider what materials our Master has to work with in frail and fallen human nature, so often disfigured and defaced by innate depravity. Napoleon used to say that "he had to make his marshals out of mud." Certain, no power less than that of the Holy Spirit could have constructed such a conscientious and effective Christian as John Newton out of so hardened and desperate a sinner.

A very eloquent and spiritual-minded minister once said to me, "before I was converted I wonder how any one could live in the house with me." During my forty-four years of pastorate, when I received converts into the church, I often recognized the fact that one candidate for membership had been reared in a frivolous and worldly family—and another had a naturally violent temper—and another was constitutionally timid and irresolute—and still another had to contend with hereditary sensualities of temperament or practice. Some of the overhasty and headlong had to be held back and tested, and some depending doubtless had to be encouraged. A study of the experience of our blessed Lord in building twelve disciples out of the material that came to his hand is full of solemn suggestion, and one of those twelve tumbled into ruin under the very eyes of the Master Builder.

Character building is like cathedral building—a gradual process. No Christian is born full grown, else there would be no sense in the divine injunctions to "grow in grace" and to "press towards the goal of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The corner-stone of every truly regenerated character is the Lord Jesus; other foundation can no one build on without risking a wreck in this world and eternal ruin in the next world. The first act of saving faith is the joining of the new convert to the atoning Saviour. Then upon that solid foundation must be added the courage, the meekness, the patience, the conscientiousness, the honesty, the loving kindness and the other graces that make for godliness. Let no young beginner be disheartened. Oaks do not grow like hollyhocks. A solid Christian character cannot be reared in one day—nor is it to be done simply by Sabbath services or by sacraments. Some poor pinnacled stone has to be thrown out, and not a little bad timber rejected in spite of the varnish on it.

The Bible is the only plumb-line to build by; and it must be used constantly. All the showy ornamentation that a man can put on his edifice amounts to nothing if his walls are not perpendicular. Sometimes we see a flimsy structure whose bulging walls are shored up by props and skids to keep them from tumbling into the street. I am afraid that there are thousands of reputations in trade, in politics, in social life, and even in church life that are shored up by various devices. No Christian can defy God's inexorable law of gravitation. It is a mere question of time how soon every character will "fall in," if it is not based on the rock, and built according to Jesus Christ's plumb-line. It may go down in this it is sure to go down in the next. Let every one, therefore, take heed how he or she buildeth; for the last great day will test the work, of what sort it is.

Finally, let us all bear in mind that if we are Christ's workmanship, we must let our wise and loving Master take his own way. We must allow him to use his own tools. Oh, how much cutting and chiseling we often need! How keen, too, and sharp is the chisel he sometimes uses! The sound of his hammers is constantly heard; and with it are also heard the wondering cries of some sufferer who exclaims, "Why are you applying to me the file, the saw and the hammers?" Be still and know that whom he loveth he chasteneth! If we are Christ's building, then let him fashion us according to divine ideal of beauty, at whatever cost to our selfishness or pride, or indolence, or vanity. Christ working in us, or upon us—and we working with Christ and for him—that is the process that produces such structures as he will present before his father and the holy angels.

Nothing is too small—and nothing is to great, that involves a Christian's influence before a sharp-eyed world. We are to be his witnesses; Jesus Christ builds Christians to be looked at and to be studied. He rears us to be spiritual lighthouses in a sin-darkened world. Michael Angelo said that he "carved for eternity." In an infinitely higher sense is every blood-redeemed Christian carved and fashioned and upbuilt to be a habitation of God through his Spirit, to his praise, and unto his everlasting glory.

Brooklyn.

Rev. A. T. Dykeman, the energetic and justly esteemed pastor of the Fairville church is taking a short vacation. Bro. Dykeman is a hard worker, and by the help of the Lord he brings things to pass. He has earned his vacation and will be sure to enjoy it.

There is a story of an atheist's child who had learned something about God. The father wished to expunge the thought from her mind and he wrote on a piece of paper: "God is nowhere." He asked the child to read the words and she spelled out: "God is now here." The child's unconscious misreading of the atheist's creed startled him and brought him to the feet of the God whose very existence he had sought to deny. Wherever we are, we are in the presence of God.—*Dr. J. K. Miller.*

If the churches would put forth the same efforts to save souls as they do to get up and give entertainments, suppers, etc., and sell the tickets for the same, they'd gather in those who by their lives, work and financial help would do all necessary, with good work and giving on the part of all the church people, to ever keep the churches in the best spiritual and fruitful condition possible.

Will you mark this: As God always provides for everything that he calls into being, even before He gives it life, so that it may be sustained and grow to fruition, so you'll find that he has provided all the means for the growth, sustenance and fruition of every church He has planted, if the people of these churches will be led by the Holy Spirit to work and give as God helps them. Don't you remember the people of Israel in the wilderness? Did not He go before them and find even the places for them to stay in? Did he not give them manna, and water from the rock?

Oh, but some will say, "How are you to give people pleasure and make them social?" To them I must answer: "Poor souls, if your religion is so poverty stricken, get the right kind, the kind that Jesus gives, for it gives joy and makes men and women the salt of the earth." For me, I want to be a boy all the days of my life, happy every moment that passes by, being as free from anxiety as my little rogue of a boy, who has many a rollicking ride upon his father's back from the study to the dinner table.

May God help the churches to see the wisdom and blessedness of doing His work in His way for His glory.

The sole religious idea of the Hindu mind, and all Orientalists, for that matter, seems to be to reach "Nirvana" and selfishly shirk duty and service and help to the Whole. They seek only their own salvation. This is the Eastern Idea. The Christian is a worker for all. The Christian knows "it is treason to humanity to propose to work out your own salvation in a way that should secure your salvation and nothing else." There can be no selfishness in Christianity and that is the reason Christians are so full of the missionary spirit, and will give up home, future and all earthly ties to spread the grand message of The Master.

Personal.

We regret to note the death of the son of Rev. W. C. Vincent of Winnipeg on the 6th inst. The lad was attempting to board an electric car in motion and fell beneath the wheels. He was fourteen years of age. The many friends of Bro. Vincent will hear of this event with profound sadness.

Rev. J. A. Marple, after a brief visit to his home in Truro is engaged in evangelistic work on the Dooktown field. Rev. C. P. Wilson who has been assisting him at New Salem and other points has been called to take up the work when Bro. M. leaves.

Rev. David Russell of London, England, a pastor for forty years' standing, has been visiting the province. He preached with much acceptance to the Fredericton church on Sabbath of Western Association and on 5th inst., filled the pulpit of Leinster Street, St. John. Those who heard him speak highly of the discourses.

Rev. H. P. Whidden and family are spending some weeks in this vicinity. The Brussels St.