

cause of the paucity of conversions, is that the "outsiders" (for want of a better word) discover so little of Christ in the characters and conduct of many professed Christians whom they associate with. Every follower of Jesus should live so as to make others say "where did you find this? I want it too." It cannot be repeated too often that the Christian is the world's Bible. If Christ be not in my daily life, I am only a walking Apocrypha. What aim can we set before ourselves so high, so useful, so glorious, so productive of eternal blessings, as to live every day so as to help men to see *Jesus*?

### THE HOPE OF LIFE EVERLASTING.

No human speculation regarding the future, however bright and pleasing may be its notions, can kindle real hope in the soul. We cannot be warmed with painted fire. There is an unspeakable sadness between the words of Renan's apostrophe to the spirit of his dead sister, since he confessed that he had no assurance from the earth or sky that her spirit was not forever as unconscious as her grave-dust. John Stuart Mill went to die by the grave of his wife, that the sentiment of the spot, the interweaving of the memories of the past might soothe his pulse when it fluttered with the last of life's "fitful fever;" but the memories could evolve no radiant form to beckon him through the death-shades which were falling about him. Cicero indulged in splendid arguments for the mortality of the soul, but when he was bereaved his friends did not think of reminding him of these arguments, for they knew that a soul sinking with the heavy load of sorrow needs something more than the speculations of its untroubled hours to buoy it up. The Emperor Hadrian, familiar with all that men had invented regarding future existence, talked to his soul as if it were a dying child so helplessly returning into the vortex of time which had evolved the spectre of its being. But since he who died and lived again has spoken, strength to hope has been given the souls of men. They have fed not upon inane conceits, but upon the "Bread of Life" indeed.

A prominent physician, knowing from the progress of disease in his own body that he could not live until morning, having taken a little nourishment, asked some one to repeat a few words of Jesus, and

said, "I have feasted well to-night. Let me sleep for awhile; I shall see you again in—the grand morning," and closed his eyes as quietly as he ever did in the fullness of bodily vigor. Rowland Taylor's soul had been nourished well by the living Bread, and when they led him out to execution he said playfully, "I have only two stiles to get over to reach my Father's house—one the steps up the scaffold, the other the ladder let down from heaven."  
—Rev. H. C. Hayden, D. D.

### TRUST—NOT SIGHT.

"Under His wings shalt thou trust!" Not "shalt thou see!" If a little eaglet wanted to see for itself what was going on, and thought it could take care of itself for a little, and hopped from under the shadow of the wings, it would neither be safe nor warm. The sharp wind would chill it, and the cruel hand might seize it then. So you are to trust, rest quietly and peacefully "under His wings;" stay there, not be peeping out and wondering whether God really is taking care of you. You may be always safe and happy there. Safe, for "in the shadow of Thy wings will I take my refuge." Happy "in the shadow of Thy wings will I rejoice." Remember, too, that it is a command as well as a promise; it is what you are to do to-day, all day long. "Under His wings shalt thou trust."—F. R. Havergal.

### THE RIGHT KIND OF CHURCH DEBT.

BY THE REV. C. S. ROBINSON, D. D., NEW YORK.

Sometimes you notice on the corner of the street a fine edifice springing up. You are told it is a new church coming into being. Once a pastor was asked, as he stood unrecognized upon the walls, "When will the building be completed?" He easily gave the time. "Will the congregation be in debt?" continued the stranger. "Oh yes, awfully," answered the thoughtful man; "sometimes it frightens me to think of it!" Then came the question, "Why did you begin when you had not the money?" Then the minister of God answered, "Oh, we have money enough: we shall have no such debt as that, but think, think how much a church like this is going to owe the community and the world! How they will look to us for man's love and God's grace!"