

THIRTEEN SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL DECLINE.

When you are averse to religious conversation, or the company of Heavenly-minded Christians.

2. When, without necessity, you absent yourself from religious services.

3. When you are more concerned about pacifying conscience than of honoring Christ in performing duty.

4. When you are more afraid of being counted over-strict than of dishonoring Christ.

5. When you trifle with temptation, or think lightly of sin.

6. When the faults of others are more a matter of censorious conversation than of secret grief and prayer.

7. When you are impatient and unforbearing toward others.

8. When you confess, but do not forsake sin; and when you acknowledge, but still neglect duty.

9. When your cheerfulness has more of the levity of the unregenerate than the holy joy of the children of God.

10. When you shrink from self-examination.

11. When the sorrows and cares of the world follow you further into the Sabbath than the savour and sanctity of the Sabbath follow you into the week.

12. When you are easily prevailed upon to let your duty as a Christian yield to your worldly interest or the opinions of your neighbors.

13. When you associate with men of the world without solicitude of doing good or fear of having your own spiritual life injured.

Plain, straightforward morality and every-day righteousness are better than all emotion and dogmatism, and all churchism, says the world, and Christianity says much the same; but plain, straightforward righteousness and every-day morality come most surely when a man is keeping close to Christ.—*McLaren*.

If a crooked stick is before you, says Spurgeon, you need not explain how crooked it is. Lay a straight one down by the side of it, and the work is well done. Preach the truth, and error will stand abashed in its presence.

France has had sudden and bloody revolutions, and sudden revolutions without blood, but there is one quietly going on now which will we trust prove more sure and lasting than any that have hitherto taken place. The McAll mission is fulfilling the parable of the leaven, perhaps as truly as was even done before.

Pastor Lorrieux, one of the secretaries, writes in a brief summary contained in a recent letter:

"That solitary hall, so modest, located in the depth of Belleville, has become in Paris and suburbs, thirty-six. It has radiated through the provinces, has even overleapt the Mediterranean. The Mission has 100 stations, with a budget of 340,000 francs, and a *personnel* of at least 150 collaborators to direct. Of one of these (*salles*) where for eight years, with scarcely the interruption of a single day, the Gospel had been preached, we learn, also, that between 600,000 and 700,000 persons had heard the Gospel, and 300 friendly faces were seen there every night, while at the same time another crowded meeting was being held under the auspices of the same Mission, at a distance of only ten minutes walk."

The first anti-slavery meeting ever held in Morocco, took place in Tangier, a few months ago. The meeting pledged itself to help in every way possible to put down the traffic in human beings.

In Madagascar the first revision of the Malagasy Bible has been completed. Since 1873, when the work began, the revision committee have held 771 sittings of three hours each.

A treaty has been signed at Johanna, ceding to France the entire group of islands and islets forming the territory known as the Comoro Isles, and situated in the Mozambique Channel.

"Be reconciled to God." That gracious Saviour's heart is the same to-day as when he hung upon that cross. He says still, "Come unto me." Reject not this offer of mercy; it may be your last.

Thirty-five years ago the possession of a Bible was prohibited in Italy. Now Bible depots are established in every Italian city.