

repeat the victory of the first. The nineteenth century demonstrated that our faith can conquer heathenism. We must now prove that it is as efficient vertically as horizontally. The power which has penetrated the forests, crossed the seas, and threaded the trackless deserts, must force its way into the cellars and garrets of our cities. The grace which has subdued the savagery of nations can master the more brutal barbarism of our narrow streets.

The holy city—is it possible? John saw it in his great dream, and if we will, we may see it realized. Nothing but the Gospel can save the city. Babel, built from the ground to conquer Heaven, is doomed to confusion and destruction. Science, culture, and even fair philanthropy, are helpless to redeem. The holy city must come down from Heaven. Nothing but a new Pentecost, the "Power from on High," can cleanse the corruption and cure the confusion of these Babels of vice and misery, and create that City of God, "wherein dwelleth righteousness."

Would that the vision splendid of



BISHOP E. R. HENDRIX.

The M. E. Church South is reasonably proud of this scholarly man. When but 20 he was made President of Central College, Fayette, Mo. After eight years of service in that capacity he became Bishop. He has had wide influence in the church enterprises and founded the Korean mission of his church. He is "every inch a gentleman."

John's Apocalypse might fall as a radiant inspiration upon the Church of our time!

"Catching gleams of temple spires,  
Hearing notes of angel choirs,  
Where, as yet unseen of them,  
Comes the new Jerusalem!

Like the seer of Patmos, gazing  
On the glory downward blazing,  
Till upon Earth's grateful sod  
Rests the City of our God."

The enemies of foreign missions have spoken tauntingly of the slowness of the work, and of its great and disproportionate cost, and we have too exclusively consoled ourselves and answered the criticism by the suggestion that with God a thousand years are as one day. We should not lose sight of the other side of that truth—one day with Him is as a thousand years. God has not set a uniform pace for Himself in the work of bringing in the kingdom of His Son. He will hasten it in His day. The stride of His Church shall be so quickened that commerce will be the laggard. Love shall outrun greed.—Benjamin Harrison.

### The Blessings of a Thankful Heart

Devotional Topic for November 21.

In the scripture lesson (Lev. 8 : 8-12) assigned for study this week, there are evidences of general gladness among the people. This may be easily understood if their circumstances are clearly seen. But among all the reasons for joyous mirth there is one great outstanding cause for their great gladness. That is the fact of the restored book of the law, in other words, the people rejoiced because they had found the Bible. There are thousands of hearts in the world to-day that are not conscious of a true or abounding joy because they have not the most precious of all possessions, an open and understood Bible, the greatest boon that could come to multitudes would be to find the book of God. Not that there is a lack of bound volumes, for the Bible as a book is the best seller in the universal world of books. Many families have Bibles and are impoverished for lack of them. To find the Bible is more than an ornament, something better than a religious fetish; it must be a book of use for seven days in the week.

The same principle is true nationally. As a man cannot know truth, abounding joy apart from an experience of its blessed effects in intellect and on character, so the nation must enshrine it in its life. Apart from it there can be no real prosperity. Many a nation of the past has actually been the poorest when it has seemed to be the most wealthy. Values are not determined by externals, but by internals, and only the person or the community that has imbued the Word of God in the innermost heart of purpose that it may control the outward actions, is either rich or strong. "The joy of the Lord is your strength," said Solomon to the people. And that joy is not mere sentiment, but the result of conscious union with and obedience to the Supreme Will of God. There is no magical process by which joy can be easily gained. The secret of blessedness is obedience. The spirit of obedience must be loyalty to God's commands. The reward what God asks of us is in His Word. To know we must read. To understand, we must think. To obey, we must act. And the results of such action are blessings from God, not because He is partial to some or arbitrary to others; but because in His laws are comprehended all the fulness and fruitage of life. Whoever has these laws in intellect, whoever walks according to them in conduct, honors the very principle of life, and connects himself with the source and supply of all blessedness. Study this out, and you will see that the greatest loss that can come to anyone is the loss of the Bible, and the richest find is that of the Divine Word.

There are many evident reasons why we should give thanks unto God; but we shall err if we esteem any measure of physical bounty as the chief one. We have had abounding crops, material plenty has been granted us in the good Providence of God; but unless we can say as in Psalm 4 : 7 : "Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time when their corn and their wine increased," we have not learned the secret of joy and gladness that abide. To have God's Word in the heart, to obey it in daily life, to be conscious of increasing strength in spiritual purpose, to rejoice in larger wealth of heavenly possessions, to realize the fact of Divine guidance and control in all life's varied experiences, to be unconcerned about temporal things in the glad assurance of eternal provision—these are some of the blessings of a soul that is truly thankful to God, because obedient, to His Holy Will.



REV. H. M. DU BOSE, D.D.,  
Nashville, Tenn.

This is the genial General Secretary of the Epworth League of the M. E. Church South, as we saw him for a minute or two just outside the Convention Hall. His speeches were eloquently delivered, and his popularity with those who knew him best was very evident. He is sunshine personified.

"Every man bears the mark of ignorance, and sin, of fear and remorse, or of heroism and virtue, of love and integrity. God hates secrecy and has ordained that nature shall publish the secrets of men's lives. Mental brightness and moral integrity make facial illumination. One has said, 'There cannot be a handsome idiot or a beautiful fool.' Thought is the diamond that scratches every surface, the power that directs every action, the agent that moulds every life, inspires to nobility or degrades to moral serfdom, that links a soul to God, or binds the life to moral corruption and fetters its nobler powers. Thought has an omnipotent influence over our lives, hence the importance of guarding it lest it chain us to the ignoble and dwarf our manhood." Rev. J. M. Harrison, Letchbridge.



REV. DR. HERBEN,  
Editor of "The Epworth Herald," Chicago.

As a visitor to the genial Doctor's office, we spent a profitable hour in comparing notes, and left regretting that the windows did not throw as much light on his countenance as the conversation did upon his spirit. He is editor of the best Epworth League paper—in the U.S.