

mercies green when the Lord would have them ripe."

4. *Death is but a sleep to the christian.* Our word "cemetery" means "a sleeping place," for "we believe that if Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." We can speak of falling asleep in Jesus because he has robbed dying of all its horror, and transformed it into a quiet sinking into repose after the toils of life. After sleep comes awakening with refreshed vigor to welcome a new day. But we can apply this gracious term to the christian's death only. Only when sin is pardoned can the soul meet sin's curse with calmness. Only when Jesus holds the hand can we enter without tremor the valley of the shadow. Only when the awakening is to life eternal can we welcome death as repose.

5. *Jesus is the resurrection and the life.* We have no absolute certainty of immortality outside of direct revelation. All men have some vague expectation that death does not end all, but no one could speak with certainty of a life beyond the grave who had not learned it from the Bible. Job speaks with triumphant assurance. The psalmists reiterate the doctrine. The prophets marshal the dead, small and great, before the throne of eternal justice. But Jesus has given us practical proof by his

resurrection and ascension that because he lives we shall live also. So vital is the union between Christ and the believer that he could say "he that liveth and believeth on me shall never die." The spiritual life which he imparts is indestructible by death, and is the ground on which the believer receives eternal life in all its fullness.

ADDED POINTS.

1. No physician can cure without God's blessing upon his treatment.
2. The feeblest faith, if real, is accepted by Christ.
3. One may be a church adherent without being an adherent of Christ.
4. Saving power goes forth from Christ without fail to all who approach him in faith.
5. The best faith is imperfect, but Jesus will not break the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax.
6. We need never fear that Jesus will be "troubled" with our wants.
7. Faith is the condition of receiving any blessing.
8. Excessive grief is unchristian.
9. It is foolish to ridicule what goes beyond our own experience.
10. Jesus is still the Lord and Giver of life.

BETWEEN THE LESSONS.

When John the Baptist heard of the miracles of Jesus what did he do? (Luke 7: 19). What answer did Jesus give? What testimony did he bear to John? (Matt. 7: 11). Why were the cities of Galilee more guilty than Nineveh? (Matt. 11: 20-30). On what occasion was a box of ointment poured on our Saviour's feet? (Luke 7: 36-39). How did the pharisees attempt to explain Christ's power of casting out demons? (Matt. 12: 24). Of what awful sin did he say they were guilty? What comparison and contrast does Christ draw between the Jews of his day and the Ninevites? (Matt. 12: 38-42). What plain words does Jesus speak to the pharisees and lawyers? (Luke 11: 37-54). Read Luke 12. How does Jesus distinguish between calamities and judgments? (Luke 13: 1-5). Read the parables of the Sower (Mark 4: 3-21); the Tares (Matt. 13: 24-30; 37: 43); the Seed (Mark 4: 26-29); the Mustard Seed (Matt. 13: 31-36); the Leaven; the Pearl of great price; the Net (Matt. 13: 44-53). How does Jesus describe his homelessness? (Matt. 8: 20). What miracle shews Jesus' command over nature? (Mark 4: 36-41). What notable miracle did Jesus work at Gergesa? (Mark 5: 1-21). What murmurs did the pharisees now raise against Jesus and his disciples? (Matt. 9: 10-17; Mark 2: 18-20).

THE BLACKBOARD.

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN.

TOUCH
TRUST
ELL OF

HIM

|

DOUBT
WEEP
FEAR

NOT

"Because I live ye shall live also."