

left us His word. Take the 25th chapter of Matthew as an example. Compare Matt. 19 : 29. (3) Christ has risen from the dead and ascended into that better country Himself, and has become the first-fruits. (4) Christians experience a foretaste of the rest in this world, and are convinced that these promises are absolutely sure.

"Come thou with us," v. 29. Does this not remind us that we also are expected to be agents in enlarging the kingdom of Jesus? We are to seek recruits for that great army that is marching Zionward. Christ's last order in Matt. 28 : 19 was not confined to the twelve, but was meant for the church as a whole. Only when we all feel the responsibility of personal work on behalf of those who are not in Christ's way, shall the ideal of the Kingdom be fulfilled.

We will do thee good, v. 29. The Christian church is the most profitable and hospitable place into which any one can enter. The people of God are on the whole a more generous and affectionate people than those who never go to church, and there is no life that can be nearly so happy as the genuine Christian life. Christ came that His joy might remain in us and that our joy might be full (John 15 : 11), and all true Christians have felt this joy in some form. It is related of John, the fisherman, that he went into a

religious meeting, and before it was over the Holy Spirit converted his heart. Before retiring that night, he said to his wife and son, "We must pray." So, kneeling down, he did not know what to say, for he had never prayed before in all his life. But he remembered how he expressed his joy in worldly matters, and cried out, "Hurrah for Jesus." This he did three times, and they rose from their knees. Rude and uncultivated as John was, both in the words and form of his prayer, who would say that this was not prayer?

I will not go, v. 30. The sad refusal. How often men refused the offer of Christ! The rich ruler went away sorrowful because he refused the Gospel of Jesus, Luke 18 : 23. Why do people still say that they will not go with Christ?

1. Some are sinful, and do not want to put away their sin.

2. Some are afraid that the life of Christ is too difficult.

3. Some do not believe in His Gospel.

4. Some do not understand.

5. Some are not encouraged enough.

6. Some are kept back by the bad example of Christians. It is the duty of teachers to know what is the case of each pupil in the class, and to offer wise and loving advice. The joy of winning a soul will be his reward.

POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS

Those who follow God walk in a safe path. v. 11.

Two things at least in a journey are important, its way and its destination. v. 12.

A drifting vessel is not likely to make a safe port. v. 13.

There is no generosity like the generosity of God. v. 29.

The church has a joyful message for the world. v. 29.

A wrong decision should never be a final decision. v. 30.

There is use for all our talents in the church. v. 31.

The Lord will not remain our debtor for service rendered. v. 32.

Our true rest is that to which the Lord leads us. v. 33.

Obedience to God secures the presence of God. v. 34.

We need not fear our enemies, if they are God's enemies. v. 35.

If the day has been spent in God's service, the night will be passed under God's protection. v. 36.

"Hobab—Moses' father-in-law," v. 29. In the Exposition it is as here. In the Bible Dictionary, p. 300, written by another hand, it is Moses' brother-in-law. The explanation is that "the Hebrew word here translated 'father-in-law' means any relation by marriage, so that Hobab may have been Moses' brother-in-law, being brother to Zipporah, Moses' wife."