

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

CHRIST CHANGING US.

Some Bible Hints.

Christ is not hidden treasure (v. 44), and yet we must seek Him; and when we have found Him, we wonder we have not seen Him before!

When one has found Christ, he does not hide Him (v. 44), but is eager to show Him to others. No parable fits truth in all points.

Christ is like a pearl in perfectness, in beauty, in purity, in preciousness (v. 46).

To win Christ we must yield up all that we have (v. 46); but He gives it straightway back again, vastly enriched.

Suggestive Thoughts.

No one has really found himself until he has found Christ.

The discovery of Christ is more to me than the total of all the world's discoveries; it is the discovery of the other world.

One need only start toward Christ, for He comes swiftly the rest of the way.

The reason why Christ cannot enter some lives is because they want Christ to allow them to remain as they are.

A Few Illustrations.

Christ in the life is like the magic lamp placed in the German hut, that by its shining changed it, and all its furniture, to solid silver.

Health cannot come without disease going; nor can Christ come without sin's going.

Frank Beard draws a wintry landscape, cold and dreary, and instantly transforms it into a cheery scene by a dash of red in a window. Such is Christ in a life.

Here is a pot of dead earth. Add a tiny seed: it is lost. Ah; is it? The earth is your heart, and the seed is Christianity!

To Think About.

Has Christ come into my life?

Have I set up any barrier that would shut Christ out of my life?

What changes in my life testify to Christ's presence there?

A Cluster of Quotations.

When a man is born again, his mind is set upon the heavenly places, the upper things, the abiding things.—C. Campbell Morgan.

Keen and intense life's race,

Sharp and severe its strife;

Let I grow faint and slack my pace,

O Christ, be Thou my life

—C. S. Hoyt.

How sweet the peace, how great the bliss,

How undisturbed the rest,

What perfect happiness is his

Who leans on Jesus' breast

—From the German.

I envy not the twelve; nearer to me is

He;

The life He once lived here on earth He

lives again in me.

—Maltbie D. Babcock.

Your Consecration.

When next you go to a Christian Endeavor consecration meeting, determine that it shall mean something definite.

Review your life and see where you are weak. Ask God to show you how you may strengthen yourself in that point.

Form a resolution for one advance step. Write it out. Speak it out. Pray over it.

It may be to do one unselfish act every day. Or to speak at each meeting to some one likely to be neglected. Or to read larger daily portions of the Bible. Or to take a more helpful part in the meetings.

*Y. P. S. Topic for 7th Jan. 1906.

Whatever it is, you will help the other Endeavorers greatly if you tell them of your purpose, and ask them to tell of theirs.

Keep a record, and hold yourself to the accomplishment of your design. Adhere to it till it becomes a habit. Thus will each consecration meeting mark genuine progress in your life.

DAILY READINGS.

M., Jan. 1. How Christ changed Levi. Luke 5: 27-29.
T., Jan. 2. He changed Simon. John 1: 40-42.
W., Jan. 3. He changed Nathanael. John 1: 45-49.
T., Jan. 4. He changed Saul. Acts 9: 1-6.
F., Jan. 5. He changed the jailer. Acts 16: 25-34.
S., Jan. 6. He changed the Ephesians. Acts 19: 15-20.
S., Jan. 7. Topic—How finding Christ changes the life. Matt. 13: 44-46. (Consecration meeting.)

SORROW AND SONG.

"Sorrow and Song" are close of kin. Those who pass through trial and suffering win a mystic power. "Those who suffer most have most to give." They gain in sympathy, fine perception of both the minor and the major key notes of human experience, a sense of the poignancy of life in joy and distress. All this enables them to enter into and interpret compositions written under stress of like emotion, to reproduce the heavings and groppings and anguish-cries that vibrate through the masterpieces. One has often noticed that those who wring or thrill our innermost feelings betray what I may call a scar in their personality, the print of the nails in their personal and work. That penetrating timbre in the voice springs from intensified soul, and is often the compensating outcome of sorrow and Christian devotion. Your work will be all the richer, as well as purer, if you are baptized into Christ and the sense of all human conditions.—R. E. Welsh, M. A., in "Man to Man."

THE GROWTH OF FAITH.

Faith grows, for none of us understands or believes all at a flash. The disciples prayed, "Lord, increase our faith." Jesus showed them that faith lies on the line of obedience. As we go on in the good way of the Christian we are cleansed, and as we obey we learn to believe. The reward of obedience is confidence in the one obeyed. Hence to increase faith one must use what he has. He must believe all that he is able to believe. He must cultivate his faith, and should never suffer himself to admit to himself that he has but a weak and uncertain article of faith. The very admission is weakening and may be fatal to what is highest and best in a man. Certainly it is just as meritorious to cultivate faith as to cultivate doubt and much more satisfactory and helpful to what is good. The man who says he doubts is very likely to keep on doubting.

Let it be especially remembered also that faith grows with good works. The more a man puts his convictions into practice and finds them practicable, the stronger those convictions become. There is a law against hiding the talent in a napkin. We must work the works of him who sent us, for the night cometh when we can no longer work or see. God calls us to be workers together with him, asks us to become partakers of his holiness and promises us strength according to our need. If we have but faith as a grain of mustard seed our Lord exhorts us to cultivate even that. It is enough, it is declared, to remove mountains. God does not ask us to use what we have not, but he does insist upon our diligently using what has been entrusted to us. Therefore let us cultivate our faith. Our power as Christians depends upon our faith, in the word of God.—The Lutheran World.

has offered every individual. No man in this age, in the light which philosophy drawn from science and the faith of Christ unite to give, can believe that the human race is going unhindered down a steep slope to an abyss. The possibilities of human freedom open a door downward toward the pit, but they open also doors upward toward the heights.

There is a deep as well as shallow cheerful background of the loving fatherhood of God. To preach them in forgetfulness of God's will to help his people and the vistas of his ripening purpose is to preach them narrowly and crudely. There must be clouds as well as sunshine in our teaching, but let the darkest clouds be shot through and through with the hearts of men. The great preaching is the cheerful preaching, because even its searching power carries the light of God's love into the dark places of experience and the homes of cruel doubt and fear.

HELP THE LITTLE ONES.

The Hospital for Sick Children, on College street, is making a special appeal to the people of the city and of the Province for contributions to the deserving work of mercy and help. There is an average of 133 patients every day in the hospital, and these little ones have to be provided with 115,635 breakfasts, dinners and teas in a year. Good dollars are needed for this performance of good deeds, and the former must be furnished if the latter are to be continued. Wealth given to the hospital means health given to the children, and the resources of this institution are as freely and gladly offered to the child living in the remotest part of Ontario as to the one living on College street, for it is a Provincial, not a civic institution, in which every sick child in Ontario whose parents cannot afford to pay is treated free. To those who are healthy and wealthy no little sufferer should ever appeal in vain, but the many contributions of small amounts from those in moderate circumstances are of more value and assistance than the few gifts of large sums from the rich. The latter are gladly received, but the former are earnestly desired.

Some conception of the work the Sick Children's Hospital is doing may be obtained from the number of patients treated and cured during the last thirty years.

From 1875 to 1905, of 11,262 in-patients 6,655 were able to return home cured. During the year 1905, of 891 in-patients 498 were cured. The joy of five hundred fathers and mothers when their sick or deformed little ones return home in perfect health may well be imagined. During the years from 1875 to 1905 also there were treated as out-patients 54,374 children, of whom 43,500 were cured, the numbers for the last year being respectively 4,484 and 3,872.

Not only are diseases eradicated and sick little ones cured, but every known deformity is corrected, including hare lip, club feet, bow legs, knock knees, short leg, spinal curvature, Pott's disease, broken ankle, awry neck, round shoulders, hip, ankle and knee joint diseases, etc.

Donations are to be sent to J. Ross Robertson, Chairman of the trust, or to Douglas Davidson, Secretary-treasurer, at the Hospital for Sick Children, College street.

There is love in life for one who loves:

There is hate for one who hates.

That is the law which rules us here

A law which our time creates.

But oh! were it love for one who loves,

And love for the one who hates,

We should see the dawn of the Golden

Age,

And the opening of pearly gates.

—Archibald Askew.

A brave man knows no malice; but forgets, in peace, the injuries of war, and gives his direct foe a friend's embrace.—Cowper.