

SIMPLICITY TOWARDS CHRIST.

BY REV. ALEXANDER MACLAREN, D. D.

For text by any means... the simplicity of the Christian life.

The Revised Version, amongst other alterations, reads, "the simplicity that is towards Christ."

It is quite true that the Gospel is simple, but it is not true that it is the simplicity which we have most honestly endeavored to fathom its depth.

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Secondly and briefly, the attitude for its maintenance.

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amongst us as really as it lived then? I think it does; whether in the form of the grosser kind of sacramentalism and ecclesiasticalism which sticks sacraments and a church in front of the Cross.

And we have to be on our guard for ever and for ever against them. Whether they come in organized, systematic, doctrinal form, or whether they are simply the rising in our own hearts of the old Adam of pride and self-trust, they equally destroy the whole work of Christ, because they bring us back to the old Adam of pride and self-trust.

And in like manner He is the sole light and teacher of men as to God, Himself, their duty, their destinies, and prospects.

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draw us away. Who can hear the low voice that speaks peace and wisdom when Niagara is roaring past his ears?

But it is not only things without that draw us away. Our own weakness and waywardness, our strong senses, our passions, our wrongs, our necessities, all these have a contracting force, which needs continual watchfulness in order to be neutralized.

Let us clearly contemplate the possibility of an intimate relationship with our Creator, our Father, our God, our Lord, our Saviour.

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MESSAGE.

The following tender and pathetic lines were found in the desk of a recently deceased lady.

When I am gone, And you remember how the way seemed long, When my tired feet Stumbled and fell, Have I not to be sure, said, It is well For rest is sweet.

When this poor head Lies still pillowed in a dreamless bed, Remember that It aches no more, To God's good will, thank you my loss deplore, Respond, Amen.

In coming years When all forgotten are these bitter tears, My life's closed page, And sometimes, laid the book of quiet days, My name let fall.

And oh, be sure To cast love's tender mantle, white and pure, Over me, my dear, The wayward heart in after blindness makes Ours the last.

God bless thee, dear! Thy faithful love, through the life journey here, Precious and true, Remains as falls death's chilling dew.

To you, my love, Entwined so closely with life's dearest joys, My parting prayer, Would lead from earth to the safe fold above

Sisters, farewell! (Ah, be gone years, how sweet the tale you tell Of happy days) Our father's God, may He abide with you, Blessing always.

And Jesus weeps, Yes, doubting heart, I daily self He takes, The sinners' Friend; The shadowed soul, that faith craves to Him I'll open, but, (Sister, CLARETTE)

Learning Directly from Christ.

Prof. John Stuart Blackie contributes to the Young Man the following suggestive narrative of personal experience.

Shortly after I commenced the regular course of my theological study, my intellectual vision had been somewhat obtundated by over-study, and I was unable to take advice from the same Dr. Patrick Forbes on the method of conducting my theological studies.

One foot on land, and one on sea, That is the type of thousands of professing Christians. "I fear lest by any means your minds be corrupted from the simplicity that is toward Christ."

The Richness of the Bible.

Now that Spurgeon, the greatest of preachers, has gone to the grave, it is instructive to read his testimony to the Bible, as the fountain of wisdom and knowledge, from which he drew through his long ministry.

The Voice Within.

A little dog is said to have forgotten how to bark. He belonged to two deaf and dumb ladies. He soon discovered that they paid no attention to his barking unless they were looking at him and he stopped barking when they were not.

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tell Charlie B.— that I had taken them! He was a man by this time, and so was I; but it did not matter. God told me, as plainly as I am telling you now, that till I had done this He could not bless me.

Women at Home and in Heathen Lands.

The first fact that confronts us is, that there is not a woman in America, not even in the lowest slums of the most wicked city, who does not know that she can be lifted up into a better life.

It is characteristic of the House to have only the very best, and never deal in what is known in the trade as cheap instruments.

It is characteristic of the House never to ask fancy prices (as some dealers do), and come down if they have to.

By these and other strict commercial methods, I have built up one of the largest, if not the largest retail Piano and Organ trades in the Dominion.

I was awarded a special diploma at the late Provincial Exhibition for the best exhibit of Pianos, consisting of Chickering, Knabe, Bell, Dominion, Mason & Kisch, and Newcombe, which means

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When thou walkest through the thicket, and the thicket shall be the flame kindle upon thee.

EXPLANATORY.

I. THE THREE NON-CONFORMISTS. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, the young men who joined in refusing to defile themselves with the king's meat (Dan. 1: 6). They must have been at this time 35 years old, in the prime of youth and usefulness. They were in the province and brought in before prominent men. When all at the sound of the music had down in worship before the image, these three men stood

They were conspicuous all over the city as they went to a hill, by their forms and their splendid robes. This conduct was quickly reported to the king by certain Chaldeans among the wise men and magicians.

II. His rage and fury. That command of so mighty and successful a monarch should be disregarded, subjects for whom he had done so much, was a great indignity. The greatest monarch and his servants to resist his will, and to defy his authority, was a treason! It might, too, bring up the anger of his god, to be so disobedient. It marred his plans for the occasion, and brought in a public example of resistance to his will, which he thought would have a bad effect upon others.

14. Is it true. Or as in Rev. V. of purpose to say ye were not guilty? Is it true? Or as in Rev. V. foolish.

15. The cornet was a horn, straight or curved. Flute, Tin flute, or shepherd's pipe, which of several reeds of different lengths bound together, and played with a sharp, clear tone. A large reed, called a harp or lyre, was carried under the arm and played with both hands, either side of the strings. Such four-stringed instrument, has sharp, clear tone. A large reed, called a harp or lyre, was carried under the arm and played with both hands, either side of the strings. Such four-stringed instrument, has sharp, clear tone. A large reed, called a harp or lyre, was carried under the arm and played with both hands, either side of the strings. Such four-stringed instrument, has sharp, clear tone.

Who is that God that shall deliver Nebuchadnezzar thought that conquered all countries with his gods, by adoring the golden images, whose golden images rose before the gods who failed to save them from defeat in battle, would be unable to save them now.

18. Answered, and said to the king, "I have seen the vision, and without hesitation, showing they had carefully considered the subject, and that with them it was settled and intelligent principle, not careful. Old English for a soldier. Rev. V. (1) Because it would be useless to the king in his present predicament, could not challenge him. (2) Tithes had answered him. Their minds were made up, and could change their minds.

God's TWO WAYS OF DELIVERANCE. First, by saving from trouble. 17. If it be so. If the decree unrevoked, and ye seek to cast the fiery furnace, or if it be not so, our God whom we serve, whose who serve God can claim protection and His promises. Is a lie or no. He is stronger than the god of Babylon, or than the great god of Greece, or than the god of the universe. So we can in Lord's prayer in faith, because truth, "For this is the Kingdom power." If God did not deliver from the furnace, it was not because we were not able to receive His love and care for them, and cause they loved more than life. He will deliver us out of this furnace, the way that seems best to Him.

Second, by saving through tribulation. COMPELLING IT TO WORK OUT MORE THAN THE DELIVERANCE WOULD BE.

19. But if not. If God should fit to save them, from the furnace, add this "if not" to show that it is not presuming to the God to this, and absolutely; for God knows deliver, and sometimes to suffer to glorify Him by suffering. We were resolved to venture suffering, and leave the cause. We will not serve thy gods. The not do wrong, come what might could do, but they would not conform to the law of the king. They stood alone. Luther stood before the Diet of Worms that even in that council he had stood in that vast assembly, these three knew that, while abandoned, friends they had none. As well might a man try to swim the Atlantic tide with a broom, try successfully to resist the sea of Nebuchadnezzar.

20. They had without a For in many ways the king had them a friend. He had tried well. But methinks I hear scholar say: "Well, they knew Jehovah would deliver them out of burning fiery furnace. I would soon go into a furnace as hot as chadanezzar's, if I knew beforehand it would not harm me. So I can why those three men should be praised for their courage." To answer: "That was exactly the point about which they were not sure. They knew perfectly well that God would deliver them, but they were in

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