

Mr. Charles Waters

All our illustrations fail at some point, when we approach the Cross with its bleeding sacrifice. But we are not astray when we catch in the son's love to his mother some glimpse of the supreme and overmastering impulses that moved the Apostle Paul along the path of his amazing life. His career



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emphatically demands our attention, and compels us to enquiry. The brilliant, worldly prospects of his early life were set aside, and he deliberately entered upon a course in which he faced the fire-showers of earthly hate.

Lacking this supreme incitement, he would have bowed before the apparently inevitable and admitted defeat, but everywhere he was a conqueror, growing more intense and enthusiastic until the triumphal close of his eventful life. To any who would have asked for the secret of his power and his tremendous energy, Paul would have said that the love of Christ constrained him. One could never get Paul far away from the Cross. He studied it incessantly, and never could cease wondering at the love it manifested towards the inquisitor, who had been drunk with the blood of saints. Hence he felt that the rest of his life should be given unreservedly to the service of the Christ who had rescued him from ignorance and sin. From the time he was apprehended of Christ, he had, as his master passion, the desire to do His will.

Christians of to-day have work to do, which calls for the most invincible courage and the most unquenchable enthusiasm.

Materialism is doing its best to ridicule spirituality out of existence, and the mania for worldly pleasure threatens to destroy the passion for aggressive Christian enterprise. The institution of the Lord's Day is being assailed, and efforts are being constantly made to belittle the work of God's church. The church itself in some places is cowed into an awful forgetfulness of the command to make disciples of all men.

Under all these circumstances there is a clamant need of intense enthusiasm and unflinching courage. The only thing that will urge His followers on to achieve the conquest of the world is a profound sense of the constraining love of Christ. Hence our need of standing ever near the Cross, where we can be overwhelmed into a passionate desire to do something for Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Paris, Ont.

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Honorary Secretary of the International Bible Reading Association.

Mr. Charles Waters, a busy London banker, is a fine type of the consecrated English layman. He is a member of the International Lesson Committee. For more than thirty years he has been actively identified with the London Sunday School Union, but he is best known through his work in founding and directing the International Bible Reading Association.

Mr. Waters' identification with this Association has placed him in a position in which he is rendering a great service to the people in all lands where the Bible is loved and read. The chief purpose of the Association is to promote Bible reading in the home by providing a method whereby the reading may be rendered intelligent and profitable, and to help teachers and scholars in their study of the Sunday School lesson.

Since its formation in 1873, the Association has enjoyed a splendid growth. At the recent annual meeting of the Sunday School Union, the I. B. R. A. reported a membership of 820,000 with 10,000 branch secretaries who are scattered all over the English speaking world. During the past year alone 40,000 new members had been added to the Association.