


The Sabbath Watchman



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Our Attitude in Regard to Politics

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? . . . Wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you." II Cor. 6, 14, 15, 17.

"The government under which Jesus lived was corrupt and oppressive; on every hand were crying abuses,—extortion, intolerance, and grinding cruelty. Yet the Saviour attempted no civil reforms. He attacked no national abuses, nor condemned the national enemies. He did not interfere with the authority or administration of those in power. He, as our example, kept aloof from earthly governments. Not because He was indifferent to the woes of men, but because the remedy did not lie in merely human and external measures. To be efficient, the cure must reach men individually, and must regenerate the heart."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 509.

"Again and again Christ had been asked to decide legal and political questions. But He refused to interfere in temporal matters. He knew that in the political world there were iniquitous proceedings and great tyranny. But His only exposure of these was the proclamation of Bible truth. To the great multitudes that thronged His steps He presented the pure, holy principles of the law of God, and spoke of the blessing found in obeying these principles. With authority from on high He enforced the importance of justice and mercy. But He refused to become entangled in personal disputes."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 218.

"Those teachers in the church or in the school who distinguish themselves by their zeal in politics, should be relieved of their work and responsibilities without delay; for the Lord will not co-operate with them."—"Gospel Workers," p. 393.

"God's children are to separate themselves from politics, from any alliance with unbelievers. They are not to link their interests with the interests of the world. 'Give proof of your allegiance to Me,' He says, 'by standing as My chosen heritage, as a people zealous of good works.' Do not take part in political strife."—"Gospel Workers," p. 395.

Our Heaven Appointed Work

"Let the Lord be exalted. Let the word of God be magnified. Let human beings be placed low, and let the Lord be exalted. Remember that earthly kingdoms, nations, monarchs, statesmen, counselors, great armies, and all worldly magnificence and glory are as the dust of the balance. God has a reckoning to make with all nations. Every kingdom is to be brought low. Human authority is to be made as naught. Christ is the King of the world, and His kingdom is to be exalted."—"Fundamentals of Christian Education," pp. 481, 482.

"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." I Cor. 2:2.

OBEY—Acts 5:30

PRAY—Luke 11:13

TARRY—Luke 24:49

RECEIVE—Acts 2:4

“RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST”

“To us today, as verily as to the first disciples, the promise of the Spirit belongs.”—“Testimonies,” Vol. 8, page 20.

“RIVERS OF LIVING WATER”

A BELATED SHIP had come in from the sea. Her water barrels were exhausted. Her crew were perishing with thirst. By and by they sighted another vessel, and the cry went up from the perishing men, “Send us water! Send us water!”

Back from the captain of the other ship came the strange reply, “Throw over your pails, and draw.” “But we want not this salt water to madden our thirst! We are famishing for life-giving water!” Back again came the strange reply, “Throw over your pails and draw.” Once again with parched lips and burning throats, the now desperate crew called for water. And then came back the answer, “You are in the mouth of the Amazon. Throw over your pails, and draw!”

And sure enough, all unknown to themselves, they had sailed into the mouth of the Amazon, which is, at mid-river, so wide as to be out of sight of land. And all the while that they were thirsting, perishing, and crying for water, the sweet, fresh water of that great river was all about them, and they needed only to draw, to drink, and find life.

Just so are men and women crying out to God for the Holy Spirit to come; pleading for a baptism of the Holy Spirit; waiting to receive the Holy Spirit. Yet, all the while, the Holy Spirit is here. For this river of life, the Spirit of the living God, becomes the possession of everyone of His children upon belief in Jesus Christ for salvation.

If there were no other test to prove this than Christ's own word, that would seem to be all-sufficient. How clear and explicit it is: “He that believeth on Me, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.” “But this spake He of the Spirit which they that believe on Him should receive.” No other condition named. None other needed, but this simple one of faith in Him for salvation.

The faith which trusts God, then, for salvation; and the faith which presses on to give the life to Him in dedication; which commits all things to His keeping; which draws daily upon Christ for His resurrection life; which constantly leans upon and lives upon Him for all things,—it is this faith alone which the fuller, more complete, and the more all-sweeping it becomes, brings to the child of God an ever-increasing, ever-enriching knowledge of the indwelling Spirit of God.

When the Lord Jesus was going away from His own, and said, “The Father will send you another Comforter,” He used the Greek word which means, “another of the same kind.” That is, the very same as Himself. “The very same life you have seen flowing from Me; the very same the Father sent down from heaven with Me; the very same by which He has done His wondrous works through Me; that very same Holy Spirit shall be in you, even as he was not in the Old Testament saints. He was with them: but He will be in you.”

And so with all reverence, yet with all joy and gladness of heart, may we say that the very same Holy Spirit who dwelt in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is dwelling in us, God's children. Let us believe upon His word, that He is so indwelling in all of us who are believers in Him, and just waiting for a chance to live out His life in all its fulness through us.

The stream of life and power from God runs along the river-bed of the will of God. Wherefore the man or woman who is most fully in the will of God must most fully know the life in the fulness of God. The one Man who had the Spirit “without measure” was He who at the beginning said to God, “Lo, I came to do Thy will.” In other words, self-will is a dike; the yielded will is a channel. The dike of self-will keeps out the fulness of God's life. But the channel of the yielded will furnishes an avenue for its overflow.

Why does the harp breathe forth its ravishing strains under the hand of the master-harper? Because it is yielded to him. Why is the molten bronze filled with every outline of the beauty of the mould? Because it is yielded to it. Why does the great ship plough her way through storm and surge to her destined haven? Because she is yielded to the will and touch of the helmsman. If the harp, and the bronze, and the ship each had a will of its own, it could hinder the master's highest purpose for it.

You do have such a will. And you can resist God. Therefore you must needs yield the life to Him, if so be that He may fill it. And that fuller life will come! It may not be in a flash, it may come by degrees. But as you yield your life by one definite act, and then, day by day, learn to live out that act in a life of yieldedness and ministry, God's river of life will surely and steadily manifest itself from your innermost being.—James H. McConkey.

Complete Redemption Through Christ

IN THE LIGHT of the New Testament there is sufficient evidence that all the disciples as living witnesses, testified of the complete redemption of the sinner as established by the death of Christ. Although the sinner is under the responsibility of having committed sin, provision is made that his sins may be pardoned:

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30.

Sin, once committed, will not remain unpunished. The righteousness of the law of God requests the full penalty for sin. If the sinner accepts Jesus and acknowledges Him as a personal Saviour, his ignorant sins are pardoned, and even if he again falls into temptation after having the knowledge of truth, by committing sin, there is still a possibility of recovery and forgiveness if he makes a true confession, and gains the victory over sin by returning to Christ.

A sinner has no power in himself to do any good. In vain he will wait to become better and then come to Christ. He should first come to Christ in humiliation and prayer. In order to overcome evil he must be linked to the cable of everlasting power. His refuge should be in the City of Refuge, where he can be saved from the hand of his avenger. Once he returns to this protection, his sins are forgiven but the punishment for the sin committed will be imposed on the enemy.

"Through Christ, restoration as well as reconciliation is provided for man.

"The gulf that was made by sin has been spanned by the cross of Calvary.

"A full, complete ransom has been paid by Jesus, by virtue of which the sinner is pardoned, and the justice of the law is maintained.

"All who believe that Christ is the atoning sacrifice may come and receive pardon for their sins; for through the merit of Christ communication has been opened between God and man.

"God can accept me as His child, and I can claim Him and rejoice in Him as my loving Father.

"We must center our hopes of heaven upon Christ alone, because He is our substitute and surety.

"We have transgressed the law of God, and by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified. The best efforts that man in his own strength can make, are valueless to meet the holy and just law that he has transgressed; but through faith in Christ he may claim the righteousness of the Son of God as all-sufficient.

"Christ satisfied the demands of the law in His human nature.

"He bore the curse of the law for the sinner, made an atonement for him, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"Genuine faith appropriates the righteousness of Christ, and the sinner is made an overcomer with Christ; for he

is made a partaker of the divine nature, and thus divinity and humanity are combined.

"He who is trying to reach heaven by his own works in keeping the law, is attempting an impossibility.

"Man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should work in him to will and to do of His good pleasure."—"Review and Herald," July 1, 1890.

"We must unite with Christ. There is a reservoir of power at our command, and we are not to remain in the dark, cold, sunless cave of unbelief, or we shall not catch the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness."—"Review and Herald," January 24, 1893.

"We must rise above the frosty atmosphere in which we have hitherto lived, and with which Satan would surround our souls, and breathe in the hallowed atmosphere of heaven."—"Review and Herald," May 6, 1890.

The redemption made on behalf of the salvation of sinners, is so great that it has paid the price for every sin committed and repented of. No one is able to obtain righteousness without Christ. No one can manifest perfect obedience to the moral law in his own power. The power of redemption is entirely in the hand of Christ, and only through Him and by Him, obedience to the law and restoration of the divine image is possible. Christ has become our substitute and surety. By appropriating the righteousness of Christ by faith, we become changed in accordance to His image. There is no other way than this to come to Christ.

Obedience to the moral law is essential. No one can be excused in disregarding this great moral law upon which is built all the universe of God and is durable for eternity. The moral law is a means in the hand of God for building up the character of the converted sinner. If the sinner does not look in this mirror of righteousness it will be impossible for him to find out his own condition. Once a sinner comes to the conviction of his own unrighteousness then the call comes at once to him, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." Jesus is the power that overcomes the wicked one.

Imparted Righteousness

It is essential that the sinner should know the appointed way to find Christ. He should not seek any other way. His salvation is easy and he can do everything that is requested of him by the power of Jesus, who works in him and through him for salvation. What is requested from the sinner is that he render obedience. Once a man is redeemed, saved by grace, he is no more his own. He cannot do anything else than what Christ, who redeemed him, desires him to do. He becomes acquainted with the voice of Christ speaking to his conscience and knows very well

when He calls him. And he can distinguish the voice of the enemy to whom he does not render obedience.

"It is not necessary for us deliberately to choose the service of the kingdom of darkness in order to come under its dominion. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves with the kingdom of light. If we do not cooperate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 324.

"When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a supernatural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded to Christ, becomes His own fortress, which He holds in a revolted world, and He intended that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies, is impregnable to the assaults of Satan. But unless we do yield ourselves to the control of Christ, we shall be dominated by the wicked one. We must inevitably be under the control of the one or the other of the two great powers that are contending for the supremacy of the world."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 323.

"No repentance is genuine that does not work reformation. The righteousness of Christ is not a cloak to cover unconfessed and unforsaken sin; it is a principle of life that transforms the character and controls the conduct. Holiness is wholeness for God, it is the entire surrender of heart and life to the indwelling of the principles of heaven."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 555.

"Christ has become our sacrifice and surety. He has become sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Through faith in His name, He imputes unto us His righteousness, and it becomes a living principle in our life.

"Christ imputes to us His sinless character, and presents us to the Father in His own purity. There are many who think that it is impossible to escape from the power of sin, but the promise is that we may be filled with all the fulness of God. We aim too low. The mark is much higher."—"Review and Herald," July 12, 1892.

"Jesus is our great High Priest in heaven. And what is He doing? He is making intercession and atonement for His people who believe in Him. Through His imputed righteousness, they are accepted of God as those who are manifesting to the world that they acknowledge allegiance to God, keeping all His commandments."—"Review and Herald," August 22, 1893.

"In the religion of Christ there is a regenerating influence that transforms the entire being, lifting man above every debasing, grovelling vice, and raising the thoughts and desires toward God and heaven. Linked to the Infinite One, man is made partaker of the divine nature. Upon him the shafts of evil has no effect; for he is clothed with the panoply of Christ's righteousness."—"Counsels to Teachers," pp. 51, 52.

"The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed. The righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven; the second is our fitness for heaven."—"Review and Herald," June 4, 1895.

Preserving Righteousness

The sinner is an impure vessel used by the enemy to degrade his nature by different habits and practices. He is also an agent to lead others to imitate his example. Once he comes to Christ, he is purified; he becomes a clean vessel to be used by the Lord in saving others by his good example.

"Righteousness within is testified by righteousness without. He who is righteous within is not hard-hearted and unsympathetic, but day by day he grows into the image of Christ, going on from strength to strength. He who is being sanctified by the truth will be self-controlled, and will follow in the footsteps of Christ until grace is lost in glory."—"Review and Herald," June 4, 1895.

"When we accept Christ, good works will appear as fruitful evidence that we are in the way of life, that Christ is our way, and that we are treading the true path that leads to heaven."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

"When we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we shall have no relish for sin; for Christ will be working with us. We may make mistakes, but we will hate sin that caused the sufferings of the Son of God."—"Review and Herald," March 18, 1890.

"When Christ is in the heart it will be so softened and subdued by love for God and man that fretting, fault-finding, and contention will not exist there. The religion of Christ in the heart will gain for its possessor a complete victory over those passions that are seeking for the mastery."—"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 610.

"When a man is converted to God, a new moral taste is created; and he loves the things that God loves; for his life is bound up by the golden chain of the immutable promises, to the life of Jesus. His heart is drawn out after God. His prayer is, 'Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.' In the immutable standard he sees the character of the Redeemer, and knows that though he has sinned, he is not to be saved in his sins; but from his sins; for Jesus is the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."—"Review and Herald," June 21, 1892.

"As we near the close of time, the current of evil will set more and more decidedly toward perdition. We can be safe only as we hold firmly to the hand of Jesus, constantly looking to the Author and Finisher of our faith. He is our mighty Helper."—"Review and Herald," October 7, 1890.

"Only those who are clothed in the garments of His righteousness will be able to endure the glory of His presence when He shall appear with 'power and great glory'."—"Review and Herald," July 9, 1908.

"On Christ's coronation day, He will not acknowledge as His, any who wear spot or wrinkle or any such thing. But to His faithful ones He will give crowns of immortal glory. Those who would not that He should reign over them will see Him surrounded by the army of the redeemed, each of whom bears the sign, 'The Lord our Righteousness'."—"Review and Herald," November 24, 1904.

Righteousness is preserved only by a continual indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the heart of the sinner. He should continually preserve a clean conscience and not give heed to the tempter who aims to defile his soul. The only safety for us is to watch that no roots of bitterness or old habits may begin to grow again and lead us astray. The saved sinner should not remain on

the dangerous ground belonging to the enemy. He should not invite the temptations of Satan, but be strong to resist them when they come.

Experience in the Way of Righteousness

Many are in ignorance of the meaning of justification by faith. Really nothing is requested from the sinner but that he accept the gift of God given for his salvation. Also he should give his verbal testimony of fidelity when he accepts this, and then he is immediately justified. What is essential for us is the last step which remains entirely in our care. God does not compel the sinner, but pleads with him. He waits for him to come to meet Him. From him is requested one step towards Christ. He should voluntarily and willingly agree to return to God. Many consider it a great shame to show that they are lost sinners and are not willing to confess their wrong. Why should they be less faithful to God than to Satan? Satan imparted to them corruption and defilement, while God offers to them the great gift of justification. They depend on God and live through Him and everything they possess comes from Him. Why then should they not show more love and respect towards their Redeemer? The way of returning from sin is so clear and definite that everyone who desires to find it may do so.

"What is justification by faith? It is the work of God in laying the glory of man in the dust, and doing for man that which it is not in his power to do for himself. When men see their own nothingness, they are prepared to be clothed with the righteousness of Christ."—"Review and Herald," September 16, 1902.

"Faith is the condition upon which God has seen fit to promise pardon to sinners; not that there is any virtue in faith whereby salvation is merited, but because faith can lay hold of the merits of Christ, the remedy provided for sin."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

"When we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ, we shall have no relish for sin; for Christ will be working with us. . . . A door has been opened, and no man can close it, neither the highest powers nor the lowest; you alone can close the door of your heart, so that the Lord cannot reach you."—"Review and Herald," March 18, 1890.

Not By Our Own Works

"Many are losing the right way, in consequence of thinking that they must climb to heaven, that they must do something to merit the favor of God. They seek to make themselves better by their own unaided efforts. This they can never accomplish. Christ has made the way by dying our sacrifice, by living our example, by becoming our great high priest. He declares, 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.' If by any efforts of our own we could advance one step toward the ladder, the words of Christ would not be true."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

"There are many who seem to feel that they have a great work to do themselves before they can come to Christ for His salvation. They seem to think that Jesus will come in at the very last struggle, and give them help by putting the finishing touch to their life-work. It seems difficult for them to understand that Christ is a complete Saviour, and able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him. They lose sight of the fact

that Christ Himself is 'the Way, the Truth, and the Life.'"—"Review and Herald," March 5, 1889.

Discerning Hopeless Condition

"Without the grace of Christ, the sinner is in a hopeless condition; nothing can be done for him; but through divine grace, supernatural power is imparted to the man, and works in mind and heart and character. It is through the impartation of the grace of Christ that sin is discerned in its hateful nature, and finally driven from the soul-temple. It is through grace that we are brought into fellowship with Christ, to be associated with Him in the work of salvation."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

Belief and Faith of the Sinner

"Faith is the condition upon which God has seen fit to promise pardon to sinners; not that there is any virtue in faith whereby salvation is merited, but because faith can lay hold of the merits of Christ, the remedy provided for sin. Faith can present Christ's perfect obedience instead of the sinner's transgression and defection. When the sinner believes that Christ is his personal Saviour, then, according to His unfulfilling promises, God pardons his sin, and justifies him freely. The repentant soul realizes that his justification comes because Christ, as his substitute and surety, has died for him, is his atonement and righteousness."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

Faith Is Always Seen in Works.

1. Leaving known sin and practising known duty.

"But while God can be just, and yet justify the sinner through the merits of Christ, no man can cover his soul with the garments of Christ's righteousness while practising known sins or neglecting known duties. God requires the entire surrender of the heart, before justification can take place; and in order for man to retain justification, there must be continual obedience through active, living faith, that works by love and purifies the soul."—"Review and Herald," November 4, 1890.

2. Ready to surrender all.

"The righteousness of Christ, as a pure white pearl, has no defect, no stain, no guilt. This righteousness may be ours. Salvation, with its blood-bought, inestimable treasures, is the pearl of great price. It may be searched for and found. . . . In the parable the merchantman is represented as selling all that he had to gain possession of one pearl of great price. This is a beautiful representation of those who appreciate the truth so highly that they give up all they have to come into possession of it."—"Review and Herald," August 8, 1899.

3. Entire consecration.

"There are some who are seeking, always seeking, for the goodly pearl. But they do not make an entire surrender of their wrong habits. They do not die to self that Christ may live in them. Therefore they do not find the precious pearl."—"Review and Herald," August 8, 1899.

4. Work in unity with God.

"The Lord does not design that human power should be paralyzed; but by co-operating with God, the power of man may be efficient for good. God does not design that our will be destroyed; for it is through this very attribute that we are to accomplish the work He would have us to do both at home and abroad."—"Review and Herald," November 1, 1892.

By carefully reading through these passages you will be able to increase your knowledge of the provision made on your behalf by our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the fact that we need this provision, all humanity are equal. All have failed and come short of the glory of God. To all is imputed the great gift of God, justification through belief in Jesus Christ, but we are called to accept the robe of righteousness, granted by Jesus and to preserve it pure and spotless. Let no one be deceived in thinking that he will be saved in another way than is herein revealed. Perfection and sanctification—nothing else will fit us to meet the requirements of God. Therefore let us work out our own salvation with fear and trembling.

Above everything else let us strive for the victorious life. Let us live for God and the salva-

tion of others. Let us be glad and happy that our redemption is nearing. Only a little time will pass and we will arrive home. What great things are before us! What a glorious future is waiting for us when we return from the foreign country to our Heavenly Father, and see His face. May these words inspire us to sanctify the whole body, mind and spirit. This is the message to everyone who is living in Laodicea. Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart and conscience and endeavors to awaken you that you may open the door for Him to enter in. Do not keep him waiting any longer, but allow Him to come in and transform your life. He pleads:

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me." Rev. 3:20.

D. Nicolici.

God Accomplishes All He Undertakes

"So shall My word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isa. 55:11.

"For the word of the Lord is right; and all His works are done in truth. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea together as an heap; He layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Ps. 33:4-9.

God's Power Manifested in Creation

THE LORD GOD did not make man at the beginning of creation. Man was not brought into existence on the morning of the first day. God made man on the sixth day of creation, the world with its contents was here before God said, "Let us make man." When Adam arrived, all the works of God in our world had preceded him. Man was the final and crowning act of creation. The Lord wished man ever after to understand that he is not dependent upon him for the accomplishment of His work. God is able to accomplish the work He undertakes. It is true that God co-operates with man, and He does not work against him, yet God is not dependent upon man for the accomplishment of His tasks. Jesus does have ability to finish what He begins, in fact the Lord has a thousand ways of accomplishing His work, ways of which we know nothing. The Apostle Paul must have well understood something of the mighty energy and power of the Saviour when he uttered the following encouraging testimony: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." Tim. 1:12.

Concerning the creation of this world, we read in Isa. 45:18, that the Lord "created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited," but not by a sinful race, as we learn from His dealings with Adam after his fall. Sin could not be in the purpose of God; it was contrary to His nature, and it could not have an abiding-place in His creation without marring His purpose. Therefore, as sin entered, and man fell from his first estate, apparently God's purpose had been frustrated. The all-wise God and Creator of the whole universe could not allow His original plan to always continue to be interfered with, and, therefore, He set forth a plan of redemption for man whereby He could maintain His honor, and carry out His original purpose. To permit sin for a season, for the formation of the character of His creatures; finally bringing all to the test of the judgment, would be consistent with the attributes and purpose of God. But to perpetuate sin, and give it eternal habitation within the bounds of His government, would forever tarnish the glory of the Creator. From the days of Adam to faithful Noah's time, sin became so prevalent in the world that it repented the Lord that He had made man. Gen. 6:5-7. We read in Gen. 6:8 that "Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." But as sin became so awful in the sight of a sin-hating God, He would destroy the earth by a flood. This was indeed accomplished by the power of the Almighty, and only eight righteous souls survived in an ark of safety.

After the flood, the sins of man became as great in the sight of God as before. Through much effort God did everything that a God could do to maintain true and righteous principles, but to no avail. At last He sent Jesus, the Saviour,

to restore and to bring man back to the observance of the first principles as instituted in the beginning by God Himself.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only Son of God." John 3:16-18.

God will certainly fulfill His original plan and purpose; knowing the Lord does not change, that Jesus is "the same yesterday, and today, and for ever;" that with "Him there is no variable-ness, neither shadow of turning;" our hearts should be assured, strengthened and stabilized. Jesus had power and ability in days of yore to accomplish what He undertook, and He is still able to do all that He has promised.

A most precious promise is found in the following testimony:

"I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again into their folds. . . . Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

"Thus prophecies of on-coming judgment were mingled with promises of final and glorious deliverance. Those who should choose to make their peace with God, and live holy lives amid the prevailing apostasy, would receive strength for every trial, and be enabled to witness for Him with mighty power."—"Prophets and Kings," p. 427.

With the passing of years, the Saviour has not been shorn of any power or energy. Power belongs to God. The Saviour said, "all power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth," and this energy He uses for His children.

Nothing Impossible With God

There is, and can be, no limit with the Almighty. Nothing is impossible with God. The Lord is the Creator. He is not dependent upon conditions, upon circumstances, nor environment to accomplish His tasks. Oh, how much we need to understand today that there is nothing too hard for the Lord. God is our Father; Jesus is our Saviour. Repeatedly He has assured us that He understands our need, and He has faithfully promised to do for us exceeding abundantly above all that we may ask or think. He takes cognizance of the least of His children, and should we not have our heart's affection entwined about Him?

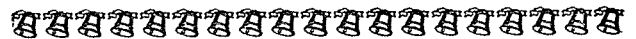
The last days with God are no different from the first days. There are as many material things in the world today as there were when God first made them. The changes among men, in world conditions, do not in the least affect the Lord. He is still able to create, to bring into be-

ing, to accomplish all that He considers necessary. We should have full and absolute faith in His ability. All things are possible with God. All things are possible to him who believes. Are we allowing our Lord to have His way in our hearts and lives? Are we surrendering our ways, our wills, thoughts, plans and all to His will? Are we good and obedient children of His, in order that He may prove to us His ability to accomplish in and through us what He has undertaken in our behalf?

Today God is undertaking to prepare a people to dwell with Him and the heavenly hosts, in a land pure, holy and clean. Can He do this? Oh, yes, my brother, my sister, indeed He is able, and will accomplish all that He undertakes.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen." Jude 24, 25.

A. T. Chapman.



LIVE CHRIST

*Live Christ! and though the way may be
In this world's sight adversity,
He who doth heed thy every need
Shall give thy soul prosperity.*

*Live Christ! and though thy path may be
The narrow street of poverty,
He had not where to lay His head.
Yet lived in largest liberty.*

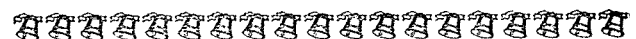
*Live Christ! and though thy road may be
The straight way of humility,
He who first trod that way of God
Will clothe thee with His dignity.*

*Live Christ! and though thy life may be
In much a valedictory.
The heavy cross brings seeming loss,
But wins the crown of victory.*

*Live Christ! and all thy life shall be
A highway of delivery—
A royal road of goodly deeds,
Gold-paved with sweetest charity.*

*Live Christ! and all thy life shall be
A sweet uplifting ministry,
A sowing of the fair white seeds,
That fruit through all eternity.*

—John Oxenham



"No church can flourish unless its members are workers."—"Testimonies," Vol. 2, p. 121.

Our Homes and Our Health

HOPE FOR THE TEMPTED

IN ORDER to reach excellency of character, we must realize the value which Christ has placed upon the human race. In the beginning, man was invested with dignity; but he fell through indulgence of appetite. Notwithstanding the great gulf thus opened between God and man, Christ loved the hopeless sinner, and came to our world to bridge the gulf, and unite divine power to human weakness, that in His strength and grace man might wrestle for himself against Satan's temptations, overcome for himself, and stand in his God-given manhood, a victor over perverted appetite and degrading passions. The last words of David to Solomon, then a young man and soon to be honored with the throne of Israel, were "Be thou strong, . . . and show thyself a man." To the weak and tempted one I address the same, "Show thyself a man." I point you to the cross of Calvary. I bid you in the name of Jesus, Look and live. Destroy not yourself. With God's blessing it is possible for you to gain the ascendancy over appetite and debasing passion.

God has made man capable of constant progress in every thing that constitutes mental and moral dignity. No other creature of His hand is capable of such advancement. Man can reach an eminence in self-control and dignity that will raise him above the slavery of appetite and passion, where he can stand before God as a man, his name written in the books of heaven.

Let the light of truth shine into the mind of a man, let the love of God be shed abroad in his heart, and we can hardly conceive what he may be or what God can do through him. Though a fallen son of Adam, he may, through the merits of Christ, be an heir of immortality, his thoughts elevated and ennobled, his heart purified, and his conversation in heaven. Think, O, think of the superiority of an intelligent Christian man over a poor votary of sin! Note the difference between man blinded by sin, the victim of his own evil passions, and sunk in vice, and a man reclaimed by the truth of God's word, ennobled by looking to Jesus and believing in Him, and becoming a partaker of the divine nature!

Look at the condition of the men who give themselves up to intemperance. Littleness, earthliness, degradation, mark their entire character. This is the result of their evil course. They have

been walking in the way of their own heart, and in the sight of their own eyes, and are filled with their own devices. Their wretched homes are a hell, made so by themselves. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Shall these men charm you? Would you sink into ignorance and debasement, and become bespotted like them? Shall the habits and practices of these debased creatures, who bear scarcely a trace of the moral image of God, be your pattern? Is not the picture of their degraded condition enough to make you shun the first step in the same direction? Would you desire to be shut out of heaven with such company?

Let me say to him who is struggling to overcome, God presents before you a strong hope, that you may lay hold on eternal life. Lose no opportunity of becoming a man. When you look at yourself, and realize the strength of temptation, you feel so weak in moral power that you say, "I cannot resist." I tell you, you can resist, you must resist temptation. Although you may have been overcome, although moral debasement may have marked your course, it need not always be thus. Jesus is your helper. In His strength you can overcome the beguiling power of appetite. Summon will-power to your aid.

The will is the governing power in the nature of man. If the will is set right, all the rest of the being will come under its sway. The will is not the taste or the inclination, but it is the choice, the deciding power, the kingly power, which works in the children of men unto obedience to God or to disobedience.

You will be in constant peril until you understand the true force of the will. You may believe and promise all things, but your promises and your faith are of no account until you put your will on the right side. If you will fight the fight of faith with your will-power, there is no doubt that you will conquer.

Your part is to put your will on the side of Christ. When you yield your will to His, He immediately takes possession of you, and works in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Your nature is brought under the control of His Spirit. Even your thoughts are subjected to Him. If you cannot control your impulses, your emotions, as you may desire you can control the will, and thus an entire change will be wrought in your life. When you yield up your will to Christ, your life is hid with Christ in God. It is allied to the power which is above all principalities

and powers. You have strength from God that holds you fast to His strength; and a new life, even the life of faith, is possible for you.

You can never be successful in elevating yourself, unless your will is on the side of Christ, co-operating with the Spirit of God. Do not feel that you cannot; but say, "I can; I will." And God has pledged His Holy Spirit to help you in every effort.

Every one of us may know that there is a power working with our efforts to overcome. Why will not men lay hold upon the help that has been provided, that they may become elevated and ennobled? Why do they degrade themselves by the indulgence of perverted appetite? Why do they not rise in the strength of Jesus, and be victorious in His name? The very feeblest prayer that we can offer, Jesus will hear. He pities the weakness of every soul. Help for every one has been laid upon Him who is mighty to save. I point you to Jesus Christ, the sinner's Saviour, who alone can give you power to overcome on every point.

Heaven is worth everything to us. We must not run any risk in this matter. We must take no venture here. We must know that our steps are ordered by the Lord. May God help us in the great work of overcoming. He has crowns for those that overcome. He has white robes for the righteous. He has an eternal world of glory for those who seek for glory, honor, and immortality. Every one who enters the city of God will enter it as a conqueror. He will not enter it as a condemned criminal, but as a son of God. And the welcome given to every one who enters there will be, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."—"Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene," pp. 146-149.

THE GOSPEL OF HEALTHFUL LIVING

"The great object of health reform is to secure the highest development of body, mind and soul."—"Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene," p. 120.

"One of the strongest temptations that man has to meet is upon the point of appetite."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 485.

"He who is thoroughly converted will abandon every injurious habit and appetite."—Id., Vol. 9, p. 113.

"The liability to take disease is increased tenfold by meat-eating."—Id., Vol. 2, p. 64.

"At this stage in the earth's history, meat-eating is dishonoring to God."—"Bible Training School," July 19, 1902.

"Many who are now only half converted on the question of meat-eating will go from God's people to walk no more with them."—"Review and Herald," May 27, 1902.

"Our habits of eating and drinking show whether we are of the world, or among the number whom the Lord by His mighty cleaver of truth has separated from the world."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 372.

"God has pledged Himself to keep the living machinery in healthful action, if the human agent will keep His laws and co-operate with Him."—"Healthful Living," p. 22.

"The Lord will not work a miracle to preserve anyone in health who will not make an effort to obtain knowledge within his reach concerning the wonderful habitation that God has given."—"Medical Missionary," Vol. 2, p. 216.

"Those who will not eat and drink from principle, will not be governed by principle in other things."—"Healthful Living," p. 76.

WE'RE GOING HOME

*In the Bible we are told
Of a City of pure gold*

*That our Saviour has prepared for all His own;
We shall walk with Him in white
In that City of delight*

When our Saviour comes to claim us as His own.

He is coming by and by—

We shall meet Him in the sky

*In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye;
When the trump of God shall sound
And from earth's remotest bound*

Changed and be made like Him, nevermore to die.

When the saints begin to rise

To their Home beyond the skies,

*What a shouting and rejoicing that will be:
Our Beloved we shall see*

And throughout eternity

Reign with Him and all His glory we shall see.

Are you ready for that day

When our Lord shall call away

*His redeemed, His own, His Blood-bought ones so
dear?*

Some from every tribe and race

All redeemed through Jesus' grace—

Oh, be ready, for our Lord will soon be here:

—Ruth S. Williams

"It is better to die than to sin; better to want than to defraud; better to hunger than to lie."—"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 495.

ARE YOU READY?

THE QUESTION: Are you ready? can not be too often considered. It is a question which involves our eternal welfare. It is a question which means life or death. Life to those who are ready; death to those who are not ready. Yes, it is a question which you and I must meet at the judgment bar. Let me ask you again: Are you ready to meet Jesus? If we want to meet Him with everlasting joy upon our heads we must be ready. Praise God, to be ready is not an impossibility. It is possible for you and me to be ready. Jesus said, "be ye also ready," meaning of course to be always ready. The reason why we need to be always ready is: "for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." As long as we firmly believe that we must be ready when Jesus comes, let us consider how this is to be accomplished.

How to Get Ready?

This question is of great importance to those who want to be ready. Since Jesus requires us to be ready for His appearing, He has outlined in His word definite specifications how we can meet this condition. Some seem to be in darkness about this vital question, but this need not be. There may also be a difference of opinions on this question. One may say, to be ready means to make a confession of Jesus Christ. Another may say, to be ready signifies to keep the Sabbath day. While we consider these things of vital importance, we believe that something else is necessary in order to be found ready. To be ready signifies nothing else then to be free from sin, perfect, without spot or wrinkle. Only those who are counted as overcomers, are in reality ready. The Scripture says: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Rev. 21:7. "Be ye holy in all manner of conversation." I Peter 1:15. Since this is the condition which we must attain, we will all agree that in order to be found ready, we need to make a thorough

Preparation

that will enable us to stand in the day of the Lord. In connection with this important work the prophet Amos said: "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." Amos 4:12. This work of thorough preparation is to be done in the life of every true Christian. It is a personal work, which no one can do for us. This work of course can only be accomplished with the help of God.

The servant of the Lord speaking about the time of the end said:

"I saw that the remnant were not prepared for what is coming upon the earth. Stupidity, like lethargy,

seemed to hang upon the minds of most of those who profess to believe that we are having the last message. My accompanying angel cried out with awful solemnity. 'Get ready! get ready! get ready! for the fierce anger of the Lord is soon to come. His wrath is to be poured out, unmixed with mercy, and ye are not ready. Rend the heart, and not the garment. A great work must be done for the remnant.'—'Early Writings,' p. 119.

"The day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly, but where do we find the true Advent spirit? Who are preparing to stand in that time of temptation which is just before us? The people to whom God has entrusted the sacred, solemn, testing truths for this time, are sleeping at their post."—'Testimonies,' Vol. 5, p. 101.

God's people are not prepared. They are not ready to meet God. They are sleeping at their post. You may inquire, what is the cause why God's children are not ready? We know that God has made ample provision, yet His people are not ready. Surely there must be a reason why God's children are not ready, or at least preparing to be ready. Let us first find the reason, and then the remedy.

Who Is Responsible?

This is a most solemn question. We do not dare to answer this serious question without a "Thus saith the Lord." The Spirit of prophecy gives us a definite answer to this vital question:

"The watchmen are responsible for the condition of the people. . . . Many who have been placed on the walls of Zion, to watch with eagle eye for the approach of danger, and lift their voice in warning, are themselves asleep. The very ones who should be the most active and vigilant in this hour of peril are neglecting their duty and bringing upon themselves the blood of souls."—'Testimonies,' Vol. 5, pp. 235, 234.

"Men who stand in very responsible positions at the heart of the work, are asleep. Satan has paralyzed them, in order that his plans may not be discerned, while he is active to ensnare, deceive, and destroy."—'Testimonies,' Vol. 2, p. 439.

The watchman upon the walls of Zion have a great responsibility. To them is entrusted the welfare of the flock. God expects them to faithfully sound the message of warning. If they neglect their duty, sad results will follow. The condition of the church will indicate the condition of the watchman. We know that the condition of the professed church of God is sad indeed. We know that the church is making progress, but in the back track. We know that the church is being daily converted, not to God, but to the world. We know that the church is retreating toward Egypt. Is it therefore true that the watchmen are asleep? Yes, indeed. If the watchmen would have given the message a clear and certain sound, the people would have followed, and those not willing to follow, be left behind.

Now since we have found who is responsible for the condition of the people, let us also find the remedy. When we consider the terrible condition of the church, knowing that the watchmen are responsible for that condition and consider the fact that God's people must be found ready when Jesus comes, we may safely arrive at the conclusion that God will raise up other watchmen, and pass by those who have failed.

"In the past God has raised up men, and He still has men of opportunity waiting, prepared to do His bidding—men who will go through restrictions which are only as walls daubed with untempered mortar. When God puts His Spirit upon men, they will work. They will proclaim the word of the Lord; they will lift up their voice like a trumpet. The truth will not be diminished or lose its power in their hands. They will show the people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins."—"Testimonies to Ministers," p. 411.

"God has promised that where the shepherds are not true, He will take charge of the flock Himself. . . . The Lord has faithful servants, who in the shaking, testing time will be disclosed to view. . . . God will choose numble men, who are seeking to glorify His name and advance His cause rather than honor and advance themselves. He will raise up men who have not so much worldly wisdom, but who are connected with Him, and who will seek strength and counsel from above."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 80, 461.

Truly, it is wonderful how the Lord will work in behalf of His people. He is full of pity and of tender mercy. But, instead of being glad that the Lord sends new messengers, many will reject them. They feel satisfied in their present lukewarm condition, and nothing can arouse them. But here and there honest believers will accept the Lord's messengers. The Lord will gather His jewels, and accomplish the work in a very short time.

We are told: "God's messengers have a message."—"Early Writings," p. 50. The timely message to be proclaimed at this time is:

"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Isa. 58:1.

This is not a smooth message. It is not a message that will please the ear of a cold formal professor. It is a message that will cut deep. It will cause separation from sin and sinners. Only those who are truly converted and love the truth, will accept this message. The standard of truth and righteousness will once more be exalted.

God Will Bless Again

The face of the Lord will again shine upon His people. The message will be given in its purity. The great need of being ready will again be presented. The watchmen will realize their responsibility. Like Paul, their duty is: "Warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." Col. 1:28. The Lord will help in this work of perfection, and purify His people in the fiery furnace of affliction. They will go from strength

to strength, from victory to victory. God will again look with pleasure upon His people, for His image is reflected in them. God will cause the showers of the latter rain to fall upon them, and the message will be given with power.

Yes, dear reader, it will be a glorious triumphant church which will be ready for the appearance of the Lord. Truly, they will be ready, for they will say: "Lo, this is our God: we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." Isa. 25:9.

Oh, how wonderful to be ready when Jesus comes. Are you among those who make the preparation to be ready? Once more the admonition is given:

"Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Go to your rest at night with every sin confessed. Thus we did in 1844 when we expected to meet our Lord. And now this great event is nearer than when we first believed. Be ye always ready, in the evening, in the morning, and at noon, that when the cry is heard, 'Behold the bridegroom cometh! go ye forth to meet Him,' you may, even though awakened out of sleep, go forth to meet Him with your lamps trimmed and burning."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 48.

Are you ready? Are you ready? Are you ready for the judgment day? May the Lord grant it is my prayer.

W. O. Welp.

HOLINESS

THE DOCTRINE of holiness is not limited to a bare and questionable place, a doubtful, uncertain existence in the Holy Records; but it is repeatedly and abundantly, explicitly and with great clearness, embodied as a cardinal feature throughout the whole system.

It breathes in the prophecy, thunders in the law, murmurs in the narrative, whispers in the promises, supplicates in the prayers, sparkles in the poetry, resounds in the songs, speaks in the types, glows in the imagery, voices in the language, and burns in the whole spirit of the scheme from its beginning to its end.

Holiness needed, holiness required, holiness offered, holiness attainable, holiness a present duty, a present privilege, a present enjoyment, is the progress and completeness of its wondrous theme! It is the truth glowing all over, welling through revelation; the glorious truth which sparkles and whispers and sings and shouts in all its history and biography and prophecy and precepts and promise and prayer—the great central truth of the system.

The wonder is that all do not see, that any rise up to question a truth so conspicuous, so glorious, so full of comfort.—R. F. Foster.

Young People's Column

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OUR INFLUENCE

"Angels are listening to hear what kind of report you are bearing to the world about your heavenly Master."—*"Steps to Christ,"* p. 119 (Pocket Edition).

INFLUENCE is something which can never perish and its strength and power finds no bounds. An influence of some kind is noted at every hand and this influence points back to the person from whom it originates.

In some you see the influence of love, the influence of the fruits of the Spirit, the influence of godly parents or the influence of truthfulness. On the other hand can be seen the influence of hatred, strife, envy, wickedness, lying, etc. If we scrutinize ourselves closely, do we find that many of our traits of character are the direct results of someone's influence?

What is the meaning of influence? Webster says it is an "energy or power to produce effects by indirect or invisible means, to have unseen power over physically or mentally." We are not always conscious of the influence that we have over others, but by our unconscious influence we are swaying, affecting, biasing, or prejudicing some other soul for or against the truth.

In the same manner as we are influenced, so we influence others. Let no one think he is not accountable for the influence he exerts upon others. "Ever bear in mind that we are accountable for the influence we exert."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 2, p. 47. If we are helping souls in the narrow path of holiness, then a blessing rests upon us; but, if we are a hindrance or stumbling block for souls, we shall be held accountable for their doom. "Woe unto the world because of offenses! for it must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh!" Matt. 18:7.

When we stand in the way of soul's salvation, who is to blame? Certainly we are. If we, by our wrong influence in Sabbath keeping, disgrace God's law, we are turning souls away from keeping the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. Satan triumphs when he can use the so-called children of God to exert an evil influence for then he can point at them and say, "Yes, they call themselves children of God, but look at the influence they are exerting." In this way he can put an evil stain upon God's children and cast a shadow upon God's work.

Shall we permit Satan to sway our thoughts, words, and actions thus, to betray the Son of Man? God forbid.

There are some who know the truth but have been held back from accepting Christ as their personal Saviour because we are such poor examples of Christianity. Can we not show the whole world that God is with us and make our influence the one important thing in our lives? Then it can truly be said, "Sinners would have been converted, and backsliders reclaimed, by your influence; and even the enemies of our faith, although they might oppose and speak against the truth, could but admit that God was with you."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 2, p. 125.

Can we not give the whole world a true conception of Christianity by the influence we give others? "The influence of every man's thoughts and actions surrounds him like an invisible atmosphere, which is unconsciously breathed in by all who come in contact with him. This atmosphere is frequently charged with poisonous influences, and when these are inhaled, moral degeneracy is the sure result."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 5, p. 111. When we realize that evil influence is more poisonous than the inhalation of cigarette smoke, it must jar our conscience to the very depths and make our influence pure and holy as the Word of God requires.

We absolutely must not give others poison that we would not want to inhale ourselves. A Christian cannot give his neighbor cigarettes to smoke because they are poisonous; yet in his very words and actions he may be poisoning others by his influence—a deadly poison, in fact more deadly poisonous than liquor and tobacco.

Our Influence

Stop! Right where you are and who you are. Stop spreading poison and turn your face about and let us begin today to make our influence holy and pure and give the world beneficial inhalations of the love of God instead of poisonous influences. We will thereby not only help others, but we will also help ourselves to the road of eternal life.

"Every act of our lives affects others for good or evil. Our influence is tending upward or downward; it is felt acted upon, and to a greater or less degree reproduced by others. If by our example we aid others in the development of good principles we give them power to do good. In their turn they exert the same beneficial influence upon others, and thus hundreds and thousands are affected by our unconscious influence. If we, by acts, strengthen or force into activity the evil powers

possessed by those around us, we share their sin, and will have to render an account for the good we might have done them and did not do, because we made not God our strength, our guide, our counselor."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 2, p. 133.

From the foregoing we can see the great responsibility that we have in guiding souls aright. If each and everyone of us can more fully realize this responsibility, do you believe we will still be careless in our demeanor? Every small word, every small act or deed leads a soul either closer or farther away from God. "An angel is attending you, and taking record of your words and actions."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 363.

A great comfort is given us and to make this comfort ours we must also do the part God has required us to do. "When you are in danger of unconsciously doing wrong, and exerting an influence which will lead others to do wrong, your guardian angel will be by your side, prompting you to a better course, choosing your words for you, and influencing your actions."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, pp. 363, 364. Christ reaches down. If we do our part by reaching up, ours will be the "victory that overcomes the world."

A careful admonition is given us by the Spirit of prophecy:

"I was shown that as a people we cannot be too careful what influence we exert; we should watch every word. When we by word or act place ourselves upon the enemy's battle-ground we drive holy angels from us, and encourage and attract evil angels in crowds around us."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 1, p. 360.

Influence can never perish. Take for an example Moses. Moses' influence was still living long after his death. It was always to the people as though Moses was still with them and his counsels were long remembered, although at the time they were said they were given little heed or thought to; but now that Moses was gone, they had to rely upon the things he had counselled them to do. They had not appreciated him enough when he was living, but now, after his physical death, they appreciated the spiritual words spoken to them through God's servant.

There are often things that are said or done of which one is entirely unaware. We may see no wrong in what we are doing or saying; yet, sometimes after a number of years, it comes back upon us. Someone was hurt by our influence long after the incident was forgotten by us; so, there might be some who will be turned away from the truth by some expression of the face, some word spoken, or some action done under the influence of Satan.

"How little you know the bearing of your daily acts upon the history of others. You may think that what you do or say is of little consequence, when the most important results for good or evil are the consequence of our words and actions. The words and actions looked upon as so small and unimportant, are links in the long chain of human events. You have not felt the need of God's manifesting will to us in all the acts of our daily life. With our first parents, the desire for a single grati-

fication of appetite opened the floodgate of woe and sin upon the world. Would that you, my dear sisters, might feel that every step you take may have a lasting and controlling influence upon your own lives and the characters of others."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 542.

"He (Christ) desires that their souls shall be imbued with the principles of heaven, and then, as they come in contact with the world, they will reveal the light that is in them. Their honest, uprightness, and steadfast fidelity in every act of life will be a means of illumination."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 143.

Influence is as the seed of a tree. The seed looks just like any other seed; plant the seed and watch the tree grow. Influence is spread in the heart by a seed. Out of this small, supposedly insignificant seed comes the fruit. Remember well that the seed that is sown in the heart reproduces itself in either good or evil fruit. One wrong word or act may have a great bearing on another's life and salvation; therefore, let us scrutinize ourselves carefully to see if we are not in our daily life sowing evil seeds.

Have you ever thrown a pebble into a pond or lake? Have you noticed the circles it forms, until these circles go to the very edge of the water? That is exactly the way influence works. Your influence manifests itself in others, their influence in others again, and so a small seed sown into the heart of some soul will make just such a circle as you see in the lake.

Do we behave like the world, dress like the world, or think like the world—for out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh—or are our thoughts pure and elevated, our dress according to God's pattern and our thoughts far away from this gloomy and sin-sick world in a more desirable and brighter place above? We can still change ourselves and bring about an influence for good if we will place ourselves fully in the Lord's hands and let Him lead the way and work with us as with clay. Rely fully upon Him and He will work for you and give you words to speak when you are in danger of exerting a wrong influence.

We must ever keep before us the fact that the eyes of the whole world are upon us and God's character is often judged by that of His children. Let us become so that God can be proud to call us His own. Let us give the whole world a true conception of Christianity.

"Our influence upon others depends not so much upon what we say, as upon what we are. Men may combat and defy our logic, they may resist our appeals; but a life of disinterested love is an argument they cannot gainsay. A consistent life, characterized by the meekness of Christ, is a power in the world."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 142.

Our lives are not our own; therefore, we cannot do as we please. We are either slaves of Satan or servants of Christ. Servants work willingly, while, on the other hand slaves must be forced to do something. Therefore, if we truly love God above all and are His servants we must make our influence of such a character that it

may make a deep, lasting impression upon some soul's heart which will effect a great change in him and draw him to Christ.

Can the World See Jesus in You?

"Do we live so close to the Lord today,
Passing to and fro on life's busy way,
That the world in us can a likeness see
To the Man of Calvary?"

"Do we love, with love to His own akin
All His creatures lost in the mire of sin?
Will we reach a hand, whatso'er it cost,
To reclaim a sinner lost?"

"As an open book they our lives will read,
To our words and acts giving daily heed;
Will they be attracted or turn away
From the Christ we love today?"

"Can the world see Jesus in me?
Can the world see Jesus in you
Does your love to Him ring true,
And your life and service, too?
Can the world see Jesus in you?"

Let us not be affected by circumstances. Christ will provide help for those who stand firm for principles. Note the following testimony:

"If they make the broad principles of the Word of God the foundation of the character, they may stand wherever the Lord in His providence may call them, surrounded by any deleterious influence, and yet not be swayed from the path of light."—"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 562.

Yet, if we willfully go to places of deleterious influence—places where Christ and His angels cannot be with us, the heavenly host will forsake us at the door and Satan will use this opportunity to sway us into the love of the world. We are safe nowhere that we cannot take Jesus with us all the way.

May the Lord in His mercy help us to give others a lasting influence of Christ and true Christianity in our words, expressions, and actions every moment of our lives.

Ruth Kramer.

DO YOU ENJOY YOUR CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE?

Are you serving Christ from sense of fear, or because of your great love for Him? Do you pray to Him to appease His wrath, or because you love this spiritual community? The Scriptures represent Christ as sustaining many beautiful tender relationships to His children. He is designated by such titles as Father, Elder Brother, Friend, Comforter. Do you know Him in these relationships? Is He indeed a Father to you? Do you count Him as your chiefest friend, and hold with Him that fellowship and communion which exists between intimate friends? Is He

your comforter? Do you know His comfort in sorrow, in distress, in life's trials?

It is only as you know Christ in these tender relationships that you can indeed joy and rejoice in His service. Then you will labor for Him, not from the sense of duty, but because the love of Christ constrains you, even as it constrained the Apostle Paul. Then you will obey His requirements not as stern, inexorable laws, but because you will be able to say with the psalmist, "O how I love thy law! it is my meditation all the day." Then you will pray, not as a Christian duty, but as a blessed privilege, because you love to commune with the One who has entered into your life more fully than any other.

This experience will bring into your life the fruits of the Spirit, represented in "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." If indeed to any of us the service of Christ is one of mere form, of stern necessity, let us seek that renewed consecration, that surrender of heart, that giving up of our way and acceptance of His, which will enable Him to come in and work in our hearts His work of grace, filling us with His own blessed Spirit and impressing upon us the seal of His righteousness. There are depths of joys and rich mines of Christian experience to which we have not yet attained. Let us seek for these as for hidden treasure.—A. W. Doerschler.

THE SABBATH BLESSING

*Dear Lord, Thy holy Sabbath day
Our souls delight to greet,
And in Thy courts to praise and pray
While sitting at Thy feet.*

*Here Jesus waits our souls to bless
And grace and strength bestow,
To cover with His righteousness
Our every sin and woe.*

*'Tis here we meet with those more dear
Than any earthly tie,—
Where union joins us, heart with heart,
In tender sympathy.*

*Dear Lord, come near our souls to bless,
Refresh us by Thy grace,—
A foretaste of that greater joy
When we shall see Thy face.*

—J. M. Hopkins.

"Higher than the highest human thought can reach, is God's ideal for His children. Godliness—godlikeness—is the goal to be reached."—"Education," p. 18.



The Children's Friend

for Parents and Children
who would follow Jesus.

Suffer little Children to come unto me.

LUKE 10:16

WHEN THE WELL DRIED UP

RENE was so thirsty. There was not a drop of water to be found anywhere. For many, many days there had been no rain. Not a cloud had crossed the sky, and the fierce African sun had scorched the whole land over hundreds of square miles. The rivers and streams had dried up, and now at last the deep well close to the farmhouse had run dry, too.

Rene's daddy did not know what to do. He had worked very hard for many years to build up that home and to develop his land. Now it seemed that he was about to lose everything. His crops were withering away, and, worse still, his cattle were parched with thirst, for there was no water to give them. What could he do?

Calling his family together, he told them how serious the situation was, and that he was going to ask Jesus to send rain.

So they all knelt down,—mother, daddy, Rene, and her baby sister,—and together they prayed as they had never prayed before. Father and mother both prayed very earnestly that Jesus somehow would send rain to save the crops and to spare the herds of cattle.

When it came Rene's turn to pray, she did not say just what mother and father had said. She said, "Dear Jesus, if You don't send rain, please send some water into the well."

Daddy smiled, because he couldn't see how water could come into the well if it didn't rain. But Rene did not think about that. She believed that Jesus could do anything; and when they all got up off their knees, she said she was quite sure that Jesus was going to answer her prayer.

Father and mother went about their various tasks around the home, but Rene disappeared. She had gone off to the well to watch what Jesus would do.

She pulled and pushed at the cover, and finally moved it enough so that she could look down. But it was so deep and dark that she could see nothing at all. Picking up a stone, she dropped

it in. There was a moment of breathless waiting
Then—

"Splash!"

The next instant she was off to the house like a flash.

"Jesus has sent the water!" she cried. "Jesus has sent the water!"

Father wouldn't believe it, but came running to the well to see, with mother and the farm workers close behind. He dropped in another pebble, and there was another splash.

A moment later he had the pump working, and out from the well there was soon pouring a stream of clear, cold water.

How happy and thankful they all were! And, do you know, from that day to this, that well has never again run dry. Of course, some people say, "It just happened so." But little Rene knows better. She says Jesus sent the water in the well and answered a little girl's prayer—and I believe she is right.—Selected.

WHAT JESUS IS TO ME

- He is my Commander. Isa. 55:4.
- He is my Leader. Same verse.
- He is my Strength. Ps. 77:14, 86:16.
- He is my Righteousness. Ps. 23:3, 119:144.
- He is my Counselor. Isa. 9:6; Rom. 11:34.
- He is my Way. John 14:6.
- He is my Helper. Ps. 46:1.
- He is my my Friend. Prov. 18:24.
- He is my Refuge. Ps. 62:7.
- He is my Rock. Ps. 62:2.
- He is my Provider. Matt. 6:30-33.
- He is my Salvation. Ps. 18:2.
- He is my Defense. Job 22:25; Ps. 59:9.
- He is my High Tower. Ps. 18:2.
- He is my Redeemer. Isa. 49:26.
- He is my Burden-bearer. Ps. 55:22.
- He is my Shepherd. I Peter 2:25.
- He is my Beloved. Cant. 7:10, 11.
- He is my Truth. John 14:6.
- He is my Life. Same verse.
- He is my all in all. Col. 3:11.

The Sabbath Watchman

with
The Children's Friend

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Asleep in Jesus

JULIUS F. THIELKE

It has pleased the Lord to lay our dear brother Julius F. Thielke to rest on December 6, 1944, at the age of 88 years.

For many years our beloved brother was a faithful member of the group of believers in Buffalo, New York. He was indeed a shining example of childlike faith in his God and was ever willing to testify for Jesus and His truth. His hopes centered in the soon coming of Jesus. It may be truly said of our dear brother: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." Ps. 116:15. And "The memory of the just is blessed." Prov. 10:7.

It was my privilege to speak of our blessed hope before a large company of mourners. May God grant that we may meet our dear brother again on that great resurrection morning.

A. W. Doerschler.

CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

THE SCRIPTURES contrast the righteousness of Christ with human righteousness. The first is the priceless wealth of character imparted to the believer through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin, and for the appropriation of His indwelling life. The latter consists of man's strivings to make himself better, and of his self-complacency and self-conceit over what he thinks he has accomplished.

Some possess a false righteousness by faith, which is nothing but veneered self-righteous-

ness. They talk about the righteousness of Christ; they have a theory regarding it, but their theory has not put them in possession of it, as is attested by their life.

After all, the life itself is the real test of the possession of Christ's righteousness. His righteousness in us will work the same character that it wrought in Him. True righteousness is nothing else than Christ-likeness, the possession of Christ's character expressed in love, meekness, humility, kindness of thought and speech and action. Self-deception is the most terrible deception in the world. Let us not be deceived into imagining that we possess Christ's righteousness when we are depending upon our own.—Selected.

LITTLE THINGS

*Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean,
And the pleasant land.*

*And the little moments,
Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages
Of eternity.*

*Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Make the earth an Eden,
Like the heaven above.*

—Selected.

"We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than man. God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation. A 'Thus saith the Lord' is not to be set aside for a 'Thus saith the church' or a 'Thus saith the state.' The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadem of earthly potentates."—"Gospel Workers," pp. 389, 390.

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