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SINCE 1944

Ye should earnestly contend for the faith - Jude verse 3.

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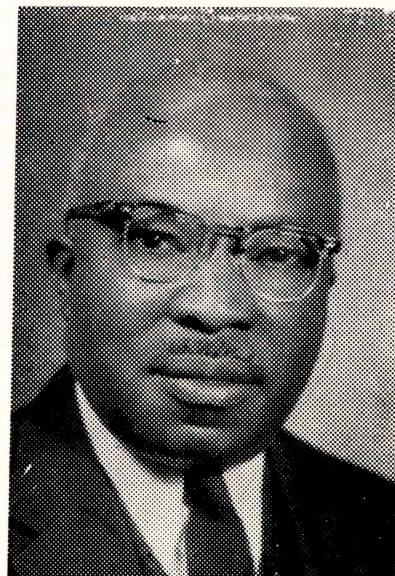
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A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
Official Organ of the National Christian Preaching
Convention

If you saw it in the Christian Informer it must be true.

VOICE OF THE EDITOR



W. H. Taylor

OPINION

My Personal Opinion and My Personal Observation of Doctor Leonard G. Wymore, Director of the North American Christian Convention.

Judging from what my eyes have seen, my ears have heard and what my heart has felt, Doctor Wymore, in my opinion, is to the North American Christian Convention what Moses was to the Children of Israel, in directing them out of the land of Egypt and across the Red Sea.

Doctor Wymore is to the North American Christian Convention what Gideon was in directing the Lord's Army against the Midianites.

Doctor Wymore, according to my observation, is to the North American Christian Convention, what the Apostle Paul was in directing the True Church of Christ or Christian Church on the day of Pentecost.

Doctor Wymore is worthy of my praise and support.

My Friends Everywhere, Greetings!

Because of the high price of every thing, we are forced to reduce this issue of the Christian Informer from 16 pages to 8 pages. We pray that the next issue will be 16 pages.

Be of good cheer,
Your friend,
W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor

IT WAS AN HONOR FOR ME

A Christian man and his Christian wife came to me at the North American Christian Convention in Denver, Colo. They said to me, "You do not know us but we know you. We read your paper, the Christian Informer, and we heard you speak at the workshop in St. Louis, Mo., when the North American Christian Convention met there. We want to do something to show our appreciation for you and for what you stand for." They said, "will you have dinner with us at The GASHO Japanese Dining Room, and accept an airplane ticket to Baltimore, Maryland?" Being an old preacher near eighty, having pastored at that time about fifty-nine years, I thanked God and took courage as Paul did in Acts 28:15. I thanked God, because my last days will be my best days on this earth. The dinner was delicious. I did not know what I was eating, but it was good. I would like to have a Japanese dinner now. The plane trip was my first and best ride of my life. A Doctor and his wife from Essex, Md. made the trip very pleasant for me. They told me that they knew my good friend and his wife Prof. Smoot of the Boulevard Christian Church, of which Dr. C. Wayne Murphy is minister. As Joseph and Mary sought the Child Jesus among their kinsfolk and acquaintances, Luke 2:44, I sought this Christian Man and his Christian wife at the North American Christian Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

THREE IN ONE

Praying — Preaching — and Benediction

By

W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor at the closing session of the 50th Anniversary of the North American Christian Convention, where thousands were in attendance at RIVERFRONT COLISEUM, Cincinnati, Ohio, Friday evening, July 8th, 1977.

LET US PRAY

All Mighty and all wise God, our dear heavenly Father, the Father of Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, the creator and preserver of our lives, the giver of all good and perfect gifts, the author and the finisher of our faith, in whom we live and move and have our being, we come to Thee at the close of the 50th Anniversary of this grand and glorious convention **WITH THANKS-GIVING.**

We thank Thee for the sixty years thou hast given me to preach "The Word of God Forever." And I am in no ways weary nor tired of preaching "The Word of God Forever." And I will preach Thy Word and never retire, until death do us part.

We thank Thee for what our eyes have seen, what our ears have heard and what our hearts have felt in this 50th Convention. We thank Thee for the true church of Christ, whose members are Christians, the church that came from Heaven by the way of Jerusalem, on the Day of Pentecost. We thank Thee for bringing Christians together, from around the world, regardless of race or color, because Christians are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We thank Thee, because down through the years we have never seen, nor heard, nor felt racial hatred, nor racial prejudice, nor racial discrimination in any North American Christian Convention, any where in the United States of America. Neither have we seen nor heard of such things in any of our Loyal Conventions. We thank Thee because we have only seen one race in this Convention, and that one is the human race. We have only seen one color in this Convention, and that color is the pure in heart. We thank Thee because we have not seen any strangers among the fifty odd thousands registered in this Convention, we have only seen brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ. David said, "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

As we go from this Convention help us to preach and live "The Word of God Forever." Help us to preach one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one church, the church of Christ, one God and Father of us all. Help us to preach no creed but the Christ, no book of authority but the Bible, no name but Christian. Help us to speak where the Bible speaks, where the Bible is silent, let us keep silent. Help us to preach in faith, unity, in opinion, liberty, in all things charity.

When we shall come to the end of our journey, meet no more in a convention, we pray that young preachers and Christian workers will carry the church of Christ to higher heights. When we shall meet no more down here, help us to meet with Jesus Christ, with the Apostles, and with the men

of the Restoration Movement, who have gone on before. Help us shake glad hands with the Campbells, Stone, and Scott, who got us out of the denominational church into the Church of Christ, we read about in the New Testament. Help us to shake glad hands with Abraham Lincoln, who gave us the Emancipation Proclamation and set several million slaves free. It is written that his father and mother were members of the Christian Church and he was baptized by a Christian Preacher in the state of Illinois.

Help us to shake glad hands when we get over there with the Erretts, Garfield, Welshimer, Murch, Elmore, Walker, Maude Maxie, Swenney, Leavett, Preston Taylor, George Calvin Campbell, I. H. Moore, R. L. (Back to the Book) Peters, and a host of others who died in the faith and I will see them soon. We pray Thy benediction upon the officers of this Convention. Help them to fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life. My Father and my God. When we shall have preached our last sermon, prayed our last prayer, extended our last invitation, baptized our last candidate, served our last communion, attended our last convention, published our last Christian Informer paper, gone in, to come out no more, must swap lives and change worlds. When my tongue shall cleave to the roof of my mouth, when mine eyes shall close in death, when the Doctor feels my pulse for the last time, when the Nurse pulls the sheet over my face, swing low sweet chariot and take me home. May it be well with my soul in the Kingdom of God, where fellowship will never break up, and the Lord's Day shall have no end. Over there we can truly sing.

All hail the power of Jesus' Name, let angels prostrate fall, bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all. O that with yonder sacred throne, we at His feet may fall, We'll join the everlasting Song, and crown Him Lord of all.

This benediction we ask in Jesus' name and for His sake,

Amen.

HERE AND THERE

Since the last issue of the Christian Informer, we have been here and there. Southeast Cleveland Church of Christ, Dr. R. McCain, Minister. Blue Rock Christian Camp near Cleveland, Ohio, where I met some of the best Christians I have ever met. Some of them are members or they attend the Southeast Church as if they are members. Attended the Tri-State Evangelist Convention, Tazewell, Va. Dr. Ed Simmon, President, conducted a revival at Undenominational Christian Church, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Dr. Rodney Warren, Minister.

Preached at Eastern Christian College, Bel Air, Md., Dr. J. T. Seagroves, President.

Attended The North American Christian Convention, Denver, Colo., Dr. E. Ray Jones, President.

Attended Gospel Rally at Berlin, Maryland, Dr. Jin Nealis, President.

Attended church meetings in Washington, D.C., New York City, and Philadelphia, Pa.

Attended the North American Christian Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio, Dr. Wayne B. Smith, President, Dr. Kenneth Mead, Rockville, Md., Secretary.

PRESS RELEASE

Recently, William M. Ellis, Minister of Washington Shores Church of Christ was awarded an honorary Doctor of Sacred Literature degree from the College of the Scriptures, Louisville, Ky. He delivered the 1977 Commencement address. After the presentation of his degree his daughter, Jacquelyn, sang a solo "My Tribute."

Bro. Ellis has been active in new church work, starting two new churches in the Orlando area. He has served in the area of race relations in the churches on a National scale. He has written several articles for Christian publications and has been active in National, State and local Christian organizations as well as many civic organizations. During this same time he and his family celebrate their fifteenth anniversary ministering to the Washington Shores Church of Christ. Bro. Ellis said, fifteen years ago it was one of those hot days in June when we held our first meeting at the Minor Street Recreation Center. There were nine in attendance, the Maxey family (4), a family who came from Kentucky to help us and the Ellis family (5). Four in our family became the first members of the newly organized Washington Shores Church of Christ.

That same night we began a one month evangelistic meeting and calling program. At the conclusion of that meeting there were seventeen members. We met at the recreation center for three and one-half years. On December 12, 1965 we moved into our new church building at 2818 Orange Center Blvd. with 45 members. The congregation took on new life in our new building and began a rapid growth.

In the Fall of 1967 the Washington Shores congregation was challenged to establish a mission work to the West in a rapidly developing community. Thus the Ivey Lane Church of Christ was established. Bro. Ellis served as Minister to both congregations for twenty-seven months until Clarence Green returned from Bible College to take over as Minister of the Ivey Lane congregation.

As an Evangelist, Bro. Ellis has held meetings throughout the United States and several foreign countries but he said his goal is to try to establish more churches in the Central Florida area. Without the Lord's help, a good wife and family and many Christian friends it would have been impossible to accomplish such developments.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF THIS?

Christ was born in a manger. Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin. Christ worked in the carpenter shop with wood. Abraham Lincoln split wood or rails in the forest. Christ was wounded for our transgressions. Isaiah 53:5. Abraham Lincoln was shot because he saved the Union and freed the slaves.

Christ, the Apostles and the Holy Spirit gave us the Church of Christ, whose members are Chris-

tians, Matthew 16:18, Romans 16:16, Acts 11:26, First Peter 4:16, Acts 26:28, Acts 4:12. It was and is the true Church of Christ that came from Heaven by the way of Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. Hebrews 12:23, Acts 2:2, Acts 2:47.

Abraham Lincoln gave us the Emancipation Proclamation that set several million slaves free.

I am a thankful son of a slave, and I thank God and his Christ for the Republican Party, to which Mr. Lincoln was a member, for the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the United States Constitution that made me and others citizens of the United States of America. And I thank God and His Christ for the Abolitionist Movement, and the Anti-Slavery Movement, with such men as John Brown, Nat Turner, Frederick Douglass, Henry Ward Beecher, William Loyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Mrs. Harriet B. Stowe, and Mrs. Harriet Taubman of the Underground Railroad, and thousands of others space will not permit us to name.

I can not forget General Grant, General Sherman, the Union Soldiers who made it possible for me to be free. Before I would turn my back on Jesus Christ and His Church we read about in the New Testament, and join a man made or a denominational church, before I would turn my back on the Republican Party that got me out of slavery, before I would be a member of the party to which the slave masters belonged, that party that fought and lost trying to keep me in slavery, I would ask God, as it is written in Psalm 137, If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.

If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth. If I prefer not Jerusalem (the Church of Christ and the Republican Party) above my chief joy.

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Be of good cheer,

Your Friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, Editor and Publisher

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A Trace Of a Way

MOST OF US are at times confronted with so many duties to perform that we are at a loss just what to do first. A great emotional experience may also overwhelm us so that we are not sure just where to turn.

Bereavement, disappointment, special anxiety, the necessity of making an important decision—all of these may weigh so heavily upon us that we seem stymied for a time. For some, the distance between an ideal or a hope, or a future plan, and the present may be so great that we become discouraged as we contemplate the long road ahead to the cherished dream.

Occasionally the sheer routine of our life becomes oppressive as we ponder the monotony that we complain invests our days. These moods are not constant; it is hoped that they only come once in a while, but when they come, they can be very troublesome.

There is always visible, however, the trace of a way out of such frustrating situations. The road ahead may not be very clear, and we may not be able to glimpse very far, but we can always, if we really look, see a little bit into the distance.

This trace of a way is found in just some simple thing at hand which we can do and believe we ought to do. No matter how many tasks there are clamoring for our attention, and no matter how bewildered we are by them, there is one upon which we can start, and the moment we do begin things begin to improve.

When we are under unusual emotional strain, there is always some one constructive Christian thing we can do, or some one sound idea to which we can hold, and then the way opens up more clearly. The great gap between the present and the goal of our heart's desire becomes just a little shorter when by doing one simple thing we take a further step along the way. Even the spell of monotony is broken when we cease lamenting it and do one thing which lies nearby.

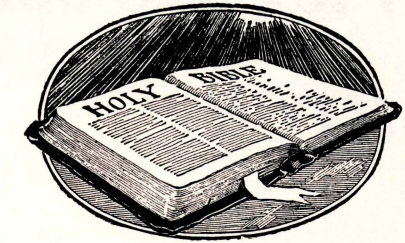
This concise, practical suggestion is not the full solution of our problems to be sure, but it is a step in the right direction and sometimes it proves to be a longer step than we imagined.

Our Lord told the ten lepers to show themselves to the priests, and it is significant that as they went they were cleansed. Acting in faith changes things. Try it for yourself in your time of need.

Just look for one obvious thing that you can and should do, and do it, for it is the trace of the way out of your morass.

Come to Church next Sunday.

No one was ever honored for what he received; Honor is the reward for what he gave.



Back to the Bible

With the moral foundations of civilization fast rotting away, and mankind threatened with atomic destruction, it is high time to reopen our Bibles and find our way back to God.

For our children's sake, for the country's sake, we must rediscover, through Bible study, those principles of right living which made our forefathers men of character and fortitude and led the nation to greatness.

A revival of true godliness is imperative, and it can only come as men and women seek God through His word.

If our homes are to be saved from disruption; if our children are to be kept from the rising tide of evil; if standards of righteousness are to be preserved in public and private life, we must get back to the Bible and to God.

No one truly lives who does not know his Bible. It brings peace to the troubled, rest to the restless, comfort to the sorrowing. It is a treasure house of truth and an inexhaustible reservoir of spiritual strength.

The Little Things

Small things, little incidents, trifles, go to make up our lives. Carelessness as to trifles leads to grievous falls; attention to trifles makes us developed men and women.

It is the little things, the minor duties that are constantly occurring which form our characters and augment our powers. If we despise the small, we shall fall by the small; but if we are faithful in little, we shall be faithful in much. A word fitly spoken may seem a trifle, but it is full of joy and blessing; a trifling handshake may be a benediction; a cup of cold water shall not lose its reward.

Accomplish the little things well. Do your best; simply, sweetly, quietly, and quickly. It has its reward.

Even if we are right with God and are in continuous prayerful contact with Him, He does not grant all the requests we make of Him. He is far wiser than we are and can also foresee the future. He knows what is best for us.

Christ Loved the Church



“Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that he might present the church to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” (Eph. 5:25-27).

WHAT kind of church was Paul thinking about when he penned those words: “Christ loved the church”? It was the church conceived and born in God’s infinite love—that divine institution which God had established, and chosen, to be the bearer of his salvation to all the world—an institution composed of weak and imperfect members, yet endowed with means of grace, mighty to save a lost world. It was not perfect when first established, it was not perfect when Paul wrote this, and it is far from perfect now. But in spite of all its weaknesses, short-comings and unfaithfulness, He loved it from the beginning and loves it still. O that his love may inspire us now to love “The church our blessed Redeemer bought with his own precious blood.”

Our Savior’s love for his church was not only in words, but in deeds of supreme sacrifice. He proved his love by giving Himself for it. “Greater love hath no man.” He gave Himself in a life of humiliation and reproach. He gave Himself in Gethsemane when He prayed: “Not mine, but thy will be done.” He gave Himself when he bore the cross up to Calvary. He gave Himself, utterly and completely, when He cried out, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” He never tired of giving for us. What are we giving for Him?

The scripture says: “He gave Himself for it that He might sanc-

tify it.” He bought it with His own precious blood, that it might forever be his own peculiar possession. That which is sanctified is set apart from the world, and is “Holy unto God.” For this purpose He paid the price: “That we might be his own, live under his kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.” “Ye are bought with a price; honor, therefore, God in body and soul, which are His.”

When we behold the present day indifference and worldliness creeping in upon the church and its members, how it should stir every Christian to cry out to God for a renewed baptism of the Spirit, with the power and purity of Pentecost.

A church that is asleep, half with God and half with the world, is an abomination in the sight of God—a stumbling block and a laughing stock to the world. Then the Son of God died in vain. Then the blood which flowed on Calvary was shed for naught. But thanks be unto God, this need not, and shall not be. For He “cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that He might present it unto himself a glorious church”—a church from which the glory of God shines forth, a church knit together in brotherly love, a church reaching out in love and compassion for the salvation of a sin-cursed, dying world.

Many churches are closing their doors because its people are not giving it the moral and financial support to which it is entitled. They are literally turning their backs upon God who instituted the church—the first one on the Day of Pentecost when Peter preached that powerful sermon and three thousand souls were brought into that first church. It was necessary that Christ go through all this suffering as he told his disciples as they were gathered in that upper room before His crucifixion. Where there is no love for the church, there is no love for the Master. O church of Christ, arise! Shine, for the glory of God is upon thee.

Lord Jesus, thou head of the church, cleanse our sinful hearts so that the glory of God may shine forth through our lives. Make us more appreciative of the blessings which the church showers upon us day by day.

The Life of . . . Booker T. Washington

UP FROM slavery came Booker T. Washington. His is a story to thrill even the most calloused. He was born in a log cabin in Virginia, some time in 1858 or 1859, the exact day and date being unknown. His earliest impressions are those of the recollections of living with slaves, and undergoing the hardships incident to such a life. The cabin was 16x14 feet in size, and into this, without windows, the family was crowded. No wooden floor, no stove, no bed for the children, even the bare necessities of slave life were lacking. The mother was the plantation cook and all cooking was done over an open fireplace.

When mealtime came they were never called around the table. The children were given pieces of bread and hunks of meat as though they were animals, and wherever they could find a place to eat, there they went. Often they had nothing to eat out of but their hands. Never could the lad Booker remember grace being said before a meal. His work even as a boy was the most difficult. He never had an opportunity to play, for the slave duties were pressing. He was about eight years old when the slaves were liberated. The family moved to West Virginia where Booker found a place in the salt mines, and began working at four in the morning and continued at it until he would almost drop from exhaustion at night.

Years before he had learned about school, but never had an opportunity of attending one—though there lingered in his mind a desire to learn to read and write. This seemed like going to Paradise to him, that he might go to school and be like white children. He discovered a dictionary, and eagerly he learned the alphabet. At that time there was not a single Negro that he knew that could either read or write. His mother, though totally ignorant, encouraged him all she could to go on and learn to read. Someone opened a school in the little town for colored children, and a young Negro was placed in charge. Since his father would not permit him to attend in the daytime, he persuaded the teacher to give him a few lessons at night, so anxious was the boy to learn to read. Later he was allowed to attend, provided he continued to work in the mines. From four in the morning until nine, when school opened, he worked, and after school hours he returned again to the mines.

Nothing could stop the lad with such ambitions as his. One day he heard two men in the mine talking about a school for colored boys some distance away. He found out that they could pay part of their board, and learn a trade at the same time by working for the school. At once there arose a desire in his soul to attend. He managed to save a little money,

“It is safe to say that the little Negro boy, who began life under such great handicaps, became one of the most highly respected of the world’s citizens.”

—Wm. McKinley

and determined to succeed; he walked to the school, known as Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute. He walked the entire distance, and, as a result, his clothes were worn and torn, his shoes gone, and he appeared like a tramp. So the teacher was unwilling to take him in.

The furniture needed cleaning, and he was told to clean it, to see how well he would work. He worked the hardest he ever did in his life to be sure that there wasn’t even a speck of dust or dirt remaining. When the teacher returned to inspect his work, she said, “I guess you will do to enter this institution.” He said that the sweeping of the room was his college entrance examinations, and never did any boy or girl pass Yale’s or Harvard’s examinations with greater satisfaction.

Three years he spent in this school. Soon his mind became cleared, and he learned with ease. Through sheer grit and nerve he worked his way to the head of the class. Most of his books were borrowed, for he was unable to buy them. After finishing his course, so brilliant had been his record that he was made teacher in the institute, and was placed over a group of Indians. Through the interest of a teacher, Miss Nathalie Lord, he was taught public speaking. It was she that also introduced him to the study of the Bible. On Sundays he would speak to Sunday schools. When his course was completed he returned to his home to teach school.

In May, 1881, a letter came asking Hampton Institute to nominate someone to take charge of a normal school for the colored people at Tuskegee, Alabama. Booker was recommended and accepted for this place of leadership. It was then that his life’s work began. He started his work with thirty pupils in an old shanty. It was not long until the shanty became too small for those that desired to attend. So Washington saw his opportunity of getting a disused plantation house, provided he could raise \$500. Soon the money was gathered and the school moved into its larger premises. He refers to the first work of Tuskegee as “teaching school in a stable and henhouse.”

Oftimes old colored people would come to him with some eggs and say,

“God knows I spent de bes’ days of my life in slavery; God knows I’s ignorant and poor; but I knows youse is tryin’ to make better men and women out of these colored boys and girls. I ain’t got no money; take dese six eggs, and put dem into the eddication of dese boys and girls.”

Rapidly the school began to grow. The colored people became so interested in it that they would bring animals to it so that the colored student might be trained by them. Soon the school had two hundred horses, calves, mules, and seven hundred pigs, sheep and goats. It became necessary to enlarge the buildings, and it was but a few years until 1,100 students were enrolled and eighty-six teachers and officers were employed. During those early years the school was so poor that it could not afford bedsteads and mattresses, so the students had to sleep on the floor. Even on the coldest night, Washington said that the conditions were so intense that he himself would be unable to sleep, worrying about the students. Three students were frostbitten one night. But nothing could deter them from their desire to get an education.

Faithful work finally won a place for Tuskegee in the hearts of the nation. The colored students graduated and filled positions of trust and leadership, and the south learned that Booker T. Washington, the boy who came up from slavery, was filling a real need. He was called everywhere to lecture, and to raise money. He became one of America’s greatest orators, and he addressed the largest audiences in America. Wherever he went he raised the colored man in the estimation of the people. He became a great friend of Grover Cleveland and was invited many times to the White House. McKinley was also a special friend of his.

When honors began to pour in upon him, it in nowise turned his head. He was called to the largest cities, and the wealthy would entertain him. One incident will bring out the nature of his work with the white people. He invited Dr. E. W. Donald, rector of Trinity Church, Boston, to be his commencement speaker. The meeting was held in an old fashioned brush arbor. During the service it began to rain, so a colored boy came with an umbrella and held it over the speaker until he had finished. But at once two ladies, hearing of the incident, said they would build a suitable chapel. Andrew Carnegie gave the money for the library. Christian Endeavor Societies over the nation sent thousands of dollars to the school.

His pen was also busy. He wrote a number of books, the most interesting of which are those dealing with his life story, “Up From Slavery” and “Working With Hands.” His later works brought him still greater renown. Dartmouth honored him with the L.L. D. degree. When his labor was completed, still a young man, he died November 14, 1915, at Tuskegee, where so faithfully he had wrought for the Master. He died as he had lived—overworked.



When You Pray

IF EVER there was a time when people needed to pray earnest, sincere prayers, it is now. If you are disappointed and feel that God does not hear you, find out what keeps Him from granting your requests.

Our Lord says, "The prayer of the upright is His delight," and that "He heareth the prayer of the righteous." But of the wicked He declares, "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." Proverbs 15:8, 29; 28:9.

God will hear the sinner when he decides to turn from his evil ways and call upon Him for salvation. Jesus declares, "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15:7.

God always hears and answers the prayer of a truly repentant sinner; but when a person defies the law of God, he cannot expect the Father to hear his prayer while he is in open disobedience.

When we put away our sins and turn to the Lord, He promises, "Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I am." Isaiah 58:9. "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear." Isaiah 59:1, 2.

You cannot ask in His name, and not keep His commandments. They are in His heart, part of Him. You will not ask for anything that He would not ask for.

Jesus, whom we are to represent in this world, stands back of His precious promises. When we make a request of the Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, we pray in His stead, and for Him. "If ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it. If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:14, 15.

God wants you to pray. Pray earnestly, fervently; and be certain to expect God to answer your prayers, for He declares, "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin." 2 Chronicles 7:14.

"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers." 1 Peter 3:12.

Good Thoughts

There are thoughts that inspire to lofty action, that put iron into the will, that expand the heart and mind. Our lives are going to be largely determined by our choice from all these thoughts. Every good thought we think lifts us up into its own world. Forceful, vigorous thoughts put tone and precision into the whole life. And yet, the life will rise no higher than the character of the thoughts we think.

There is no substitute for integrity.

A Christian Will

Develop such standards and ideals as will lead persons to value material things, especially money, not for their sake, but for the spiritual goods of life they make possible.

Develop a recognition and understanding of money as a form of power, the Christian administration of which is a sacred trust and obligation.

Foster the development of such an attitude toward life as will determine habits of earning, spending, saving and giving solely on the principle of the sacredness of human personality.

Develop a disposition to acquire money, and an understanding of methods by which it may be procured, in ways that do not harm but positively enrich the lives of one's fellows.

Foster in persons the disposition to spend money for the development of Christian personality in one's self, in those for whom one is immediately responsible through filial ties and in all members of God's family.

Develop the disposition to share in the building of a Christian social order through the support of such institutions and causes as have this for their purposes.

Foster an appreciation of the wisdom and importance of setting apart for specific religious purposes a stated portion of income, to do it systematically, and administer it intelligently.

Develop a growing understanding and appreciation of what constitutes an adequate Christian motive in giving.