

God; therefore, when Paul finds the jailor at Philippi without faith or in unbelief, he says to him (in answer to his question, What shall I do?) "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16: 31. But in perusing the history of the case Paul does not command him to pray to God to give him faith, but teaches him the word of the Lord. This agrees with the command of Jesus, "Go teach all nations." Again we hear Jesus proclaim to the multitude, "Except you repent ye shall all likewise perish;" and when Peter on the day of Pentecost, speaking as the spirit gave him utterance, prayed to those Jews, and told them that they had with wicked hands crucified and slain him; they were convinced by the overwhelming evidence, and faith in them, was the result of Peter's argument, and they cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins;" here again we find Peter carries out the command of Jesus. He does not ask them to come to the mourners bench, and by a long series of prayers and mourning, obtain some miraculous change, or tell a long Christian experience, but, seeing their hearts were purified by faith, he went on teaching them the commands of the Great Head of the Church, saying, "Repent and be baptized." Their hearts being changed by faith in Jesus Christ, it is necessary that their life be changed by forsaking their evil ways, in order that they may come into Christ and be saved from their past sins.

One more case is in point while we are on this subject. After Saul had seen Jesus while on his way from Jerusalem to Damascus, we find him in Damascus blind, fasting and praying, and one Ananias coming in to him, saying, "Why tarriest thou, arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins." Here again we find the necessity of teaching before intelligent obedience. Jesus had said to him (in answer to his question, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?) "Go into Damascus, and there it shall be told thee." We think if some of our modern teachers should find such a case they would say: "Pray on, Bro. Saul, God in his own good time will give you faith, and change your heart," when the facts in the case are, he did not need

faith, for it is evident that he already believed that Jesus was the Christ, when he said, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Second. He did not need a change of heart, for he had been doing the bidding of the Pharisees, and now his will is changed, and he desires to do the will of Jesus, Ananias tells him to "arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Here we find an entire change of state or condition, where he had been obeying the behests of the Jewish Sanhedrim now he is to have another King and do all things in his name, or calling on the name of the Lord Jesus.

So we see in the Gospel of Christ a beautiful adaptation to man as it finds him; when it finds us in unbelief it says to us, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ," and then goes on to teach us other duties. It does not teach him to pray for any other faith, but commands him to repent, and when we have believed on the Lord Jesus and turned away from our sinful practices it commands us to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of our past sins, as in the case of Saul when he was fasting and praying.

O, how beautiful is the promise that God made to Abraham, fulfilled in the Gospel of Christ. In all conditions and circumstances of life it comes to each individual to lift him up higher and bless him and lead him each step nearer to God and heaven until we come into Christ. Then he tells, "If you sin you have an advocate with the Father;" Jesus then becomes our Great High Priest and advocate. And here again we find beautiful adaptation to our needs; we are admonished to add to our faith courage, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love, and we are told if we do these things we shall never fall; but if we observe them an abundant entrance will be ministered unto us into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1: 5-11.

O, when God has spread out before us in such glorious grandeur his will, so graciously adapted to all our wants to bring the spiritual man back to himself, and clothe him with righteousness and immortality, it should inspire each one of us to adopt the sentiments of the poet, and break out in singing

"Blessed Bible how I love it,
How it doth my bosom cheer;
What hath earth like this to covet,
Oh what stores of wealth are here;
Man was lost and doomed to sorrow,
Not one ray of light or bliss
Could he from earth's treasures borrow,
Till his way was cheered by this."

And as we march down the stream of life, running the Christian's race, we still need this beacon light, this guiding compass to direct us to the haven of the soul; then let us sing as we go

"Yes, sweet Bible, I will hide thee,
Hide thee richly in this heart;
Thou through all my life will guide me,
And in death we will not part.
Part in death, no never, never,
Through death's veil I'll lean on thee.
Then in worlds above forever
Sweeter still thy truth shall be."

Scio, Or.

Sixth Edition of Tracts Received.

The fifth edition of card tracts containing 16,000 did not last long. About one-half were given away to destitute fields. No cry for a gift of tracts is unheeded. The prime object of The Christian Sower Tract Fund is to furnish such. A new edition of 14,000 has just been received. Still another lot of 14,000 has been ordered to meet the rapidly increasing demand. There is no money on hand to pay for this seventh edition. Who will help? You cannot make a better investment of Gospel money. Think of the good that is being done 20,000 have been put to work during the last 30 days. Many testimonials have been received certifying to the value of these tracts. Much more could be done if I had the means. We very much need such a Fund, and then to increase it till it can give away thousands of dollars worth of tracts every year.

Some think this Fund is controlled by the South Kentucky Missionary Association. This is a mistake. It is an effort of my own to try to arouse a deeper interest in tract work and make an effort to supply destitute fields. I am self appointed Trustee, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee, and call upon all to help me by contributing to the work.

Tracts free to those unable to buy, and 50 cents per hundred to those who are able. The Fund now owns seven kinds. Evangelists should go well supplied. A dollar bill may be trusted in a well directed envelope. Smaller sums

in postage stamps. "Awake thou that sleepest." Address
J. W. HIGCEE,
Madisonville, Ky.

Happiness.

Make it a rule, and pray to God to help you to keep it, never, if possible, to lie down at night without being at least a little wiser, or a little better this day." You will find it easier than you think, and pleasanter. Easier, because if you wish to do God's work, God will surely find you work to do; and pleasanter, because in return for the little trouble it may cost you, or the little choking of foolish, vulgar pride it may cost you, you will have a peace of mind, a quiet of temper, a cheerfulness and hopefulness about yourself and all around you, such as you never felt before; and over and above that, if you look for a reward in the life to come, recollect this: What we have to hope for in the life to come is to enter into the joy of our Lord. And how did he fulfill that joy, but by humbling himself, and taking the form of a slave, and coming, not to be ministered to, but to minister, and to give his whole life, even to the death upon the cross, a ransom for many. Be sure that unless you take up his cross you will never share his crown; be sure that unless you follow in his footsteps you will never reach the place where he is. If you wish to enter into the joy of your Lord, be sure that his joy is now, as it was in Judea of old, over every sinner that repenteth, every mourner that is comforted, every hungry mouth that is fed, every poor soul, sick or in prison, who is visited.—Ex.

Christ's Witnesses.

Infinitely the most important fact in the world's history, perhaps also the most important in the history of all worlds, was the life on earth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which took place some nineteen centuries ago. But a fact such as this, obviously needs to be confirmed by the most certain and completest testimony. And just that we have. The apostles were his witnesses. And their "Acts"—which they have empowered to do in founding the church, against which "the gates of hell can not prevail," and which now, age after age, is constantly taking deeper, wider hold on the life of the world—make sure to us the truth of all their teaching.—Congregationalist.