C CHURCH NEWS FOR THEE WEEEK

## THELIFEWORK OF PETER AND JOHN; SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON, REVIEW

 the spiritual conception that he never
has been, and never will be, separated
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| John 1:42; 21:15: 1 Peter 1:3:1 John 1:t-4. (By J. C. Spencer) During the past sis months we have been following two porallel lines of thought. We have been studying the gradually growing conception of Christ in the minds of Peter and John, and we have been observing the con- tribution which they have made besause of this conception, to Christian teaching. Their life history in relation to Jesus is really what takes place in every life as the vision of Christ They see him first as the simple Galilean peasant teacher. He speaks as never man spake. His manner is so kind that the children are attracted to him, and the common people hear him gladly. He performs deeds that stamp him as unique among men. He dies an ingnominigus death and rises rimphantly from the grave, and ends forth a wonderful spirit into the ears of men that transforms the life humanity wherever it touches. In single lifetime he grew in the eyes men, until he was the "Ancient of Days," the glorious kind depicted in he Revelation of John, the "Word," ho "was in the beginning with God, not anything made that was ade." <br> We must remember that the gospel fohn was written long after the ascension of Jesus, and, besides re- cording the historical facts of his life, records also the philosophical conclusions at which John had arrived after long years of contemplation. John would not, indeed could not, have would not, indeed could not, have written the first eighteen verses of his gospel during the life-time of Jes, nor could he have written that marvelous epitome of the gospel, John 3:16-21. But as the years passed, and the great events of the Master's life were seen in their relation to each other and the events of history, like a gigantic mountain the mighty <br> Chrss, the Son of the living God, And through the remainder of the carthly ministry of Jesus, Peter strug. earthly ministry of Jesus, Peter strug- gled with this great conception. Sometimes, as at the bedside of the little daughter of Jairus, it was easy to be- lieve. At other times, as when Jesus lieve. At other times, as when Jesus told of his coming sufferings and death. Peter found himself floundering in doubts and questionings. At the betrayal in the garden, he was mad enough and brave enough to defend his Lord with his life, but the next morning, in the house of the high priest, he denied that he even knew the man on trial. Fifty days later, with the marvelous experiences of the resurrection and appearances of Jesus, especially the memorable scene on thie shore of Galifee, after the night-long fishing ttip. "Peter the Bold" stood and faced a mob in Jerusalem and charged them with the death of Jesus, but preolaimed that God had raised him, "because that it was impossible that be should be holden by death," and announced that only through the name of Jesus was there salvation, for "there was none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved." Still Peter was a Jew, and hampered by the limitations of Jewish national narrowness, and needed the vision on the housetop in Joppa, recorded in Acts 10:9143, to reveal to him the world 10:9143, to reveal to him the world- wide mission of the gospel which he had been commissioned to preach. And so we find him writing juast before his martyrdom, "And the God of all grace who called you unto his ctornal glory in Christ, after that ye have suffer in Christ, after that ye have suffer- ed a little while, shall himaelf perfect, establish, strengthen you" Christ was a revelation, a call from God, to endurance, suffering, even death; but and we of this, should be perfected strengthened and established. And the end is not yet. It is possible to have a grander conception of the Christ and his work today than ever before, even as we have a great- |
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