

RELIGIOUS THOUGHTS

Gathered From the Best Exchanges of All Churches

Christ is the way to Christ, and the sooner we enter that way by appropriating his teaching and growing into his spirit, the sooner shall we come to that end that is the true attitude for the soul and its true rest and joy. It is this that Paul calls "looking for Jesus," and that Peter calls "setting the Lord ever before you." These are expressions that signify the coming to Jesus in the true spiritual meaning of the words. For whatever lifts us up, and refines us, and improves our tempers and inward states, is carrying us gradually, even if remotely, that way. Whatever brings us near to the high level whereon he stands, nears us to him. Whatever betters us in the spirit of our lives, so that we are made more like him and the Father who sent him and the final perfection of the glorified, is virtually a means of approximation and victory. The verities and obediences, however practised, lead up and lead on from less to more and from lower to higher, even to that point wherein we shall reach the measure and stature of the fullness of Christ.—The Universalist Leader.

While it is absolutely true that we cannot save ourselves by any effort of our own, it is also true that our will must co-operate with the will of God in the process of salvation. God cannot save those who do not want to be saved. His Spirit may strive long with a reluctant soul, but until that soul yields its opposition and willingly receives Christ, it will not find salvation. When in that memorable walk to Emmaus, the disciples came to the village whither they were bound, Jesus "made as though he would go further." He would not enter without invitation. But how quickly he responded to their desire that he should abide with them! So, gladly, he enters every heart that invites his presence; but he will not

force his way in, an uninvited guest.—The Examiner.

God has given every encouragement to us to make known our needs to Him. To the man or woman whose heart is right with Him He says, "And it shall come to pass that, before they call, I shall answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." The truth of this may be proved by any one anywhere, who may will to do the will of God. Denial of the efficacy of believing prayer in securing definite answers from God is one of the indications of the prevalence of unbelief in the heart of men and women who call themselves by the name of Christ, yet in practise deny his everlasting power and divinity.—Pacific Baptist.

If men were to be judged solely by their achievements and not at all by their struggles who could hope to stand in the awful light which streams from the divine Judge of all men? The saints who were once a little company, have become an unnumbered host, gathered out of all nations, calling themselves by all names, stating their faith in many forms, but all devoted to the service of God through the love of man.—The Outlook.

To look for the best; not because the world is good, but because God is working in it to bring about His purposes, which cannot but be good; to cultivate the social love which seeks the best in man, to count discouragement a forgetfulness of God, and idleness an ingratitude, this is the way of courage and of joy, which is at once becoming and rewarding to the children of God.—The Congregationalist.

When religion, or re-allegiance to God, lives in the heart, we easily see that it must manifest itself in life. Really, the man's religion is what the man is. If the Christly spirit and power have taken hold of him, it will

bring forth the fruits in him which were seen in Jesus Christ.—The Examiner.

Excursion Rates.

The Northern Pacific Railway company will place round trip tickets from Portland to St. Louis and return on account of the World's Fair to be held at St. Louis, on sale on dates as follows:

May 11th, 12th, and 13th.
June 16th, 17th, and 18th.
July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
August 8th, 9th, and 10th.
September 5th, 6th, and 7th.
October 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

The round trip rate from Portland to St. Louis and return, good for ninety days from date of sale and good for return via any of the direct lines will be \$87.50.

On the same dates round trip tickets will be sold to Chicago and return at rate of \$72.50.

The round trip from Portland to St. Louis returning via Chicago and direct lines or to Chicago and returning via St. Louis will be \$75.00.

All tickets will have to be used to destination within ten days from date of sale, but will be good for ninety days from date of purchase. Stopovers will be permitted west of St.



Bishop William F. Nichols.

of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of California, who welcomed the delegates to the big Methodist Episcopal missionary conference which opened in San Francisco, April 28, as a forerunner of the General Assembly meeting to be held in Los Angeles the week following.

Paul or Missouri river points.

If passenger desires to return through California the above rates will be increased by \$13.50.

The Northern Pacific will operate three trains daily from Portland, and the ticket agent will route you via this company's line if you ask for your ticket via this route.

For any additional information in connection with the rates, routes, etc., call on or write A. D. Charlton, Asst. General Passenger Agent, at 255 Morrison street, corner of 3rd., Portland, Oregon.

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The Salem Steam Laundry
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Hiram S. Cronk,

of Alva, N. Y., the only surviving pensioner of the war of 1812, who celebrated his 104th birthday April 19



Robert G. Ogden,

of New York, president of the Conference for Education in the South, who will preside over the big educational conference which began its sessions in Birmingham, Ala., April 26

Books By William J. Long

Ways of Wood Folk	75c
Wilderness Ways	75c
Secrets of the Woods	75
Wood Folk at School	75c
Beasts of the Field	\$1.75
Fowls of the Air	\$1.75
School of the Woods, net.	\$1.50
Following the Deer, net.	\$1.25
A Little Brother to the Bear,	net. \$1.50

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