

"As newborn babes desire the sincere

Milk OF THE Word

That ye may



Grow thereby

1 Peter 2:2

"WHAT DO THY LORD REQUIRE OF THEE ----- BUT TO WALK
HUMBLY WITH THY GOD?" MICAH 6:8



Pride of RACE



Pride of FACE



Pride of PLACE



But the worst is
Pride of GRACE

I TIM
4:13

PSALM
119:9

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ST. JOHN : 21:15

GOD'S QUESTION

"O generation see ye the word of the Lord. Have I been a wilderness unto Israel?" . . . "Yet my people have forgotten me days without number." Jer. 2:31.

Have I a wilderness e'er been to thee
A land of darkness or obscurity?
Amid thy many backsliding ways,
Have I e'er failed thee, or made hard thy days?

No, no, my God I cannot dare to say
That Thou hast been aught else but brightest days!
Or glorious river in my desert dry,
Or mighty rock's cool shade when sun was high.

A wilderness? No, never that to me;
Always so good, so full of sympathy:
Thou pour'dst on me Thy love yet more and more.
While I deserved both thirst and famine sore,

I was a wilderness, until Thy power
Breathed on my drought and brought forth fragrant
flower;
Thick thorns of hate and briars of self-will
Had hedged my life, and every part did fill.

Thy word sent forth, the "fir" the "myrtle" grows;
My wilderness now blossoms as the rose.
And in some little measure I can see
How sweet to be a Garden unto Thee.

Oh, may Thy love so captivate my soul,
And Thy good Spirit so my life control,
That fruit—"more fruit" "much fruit" my garden may
Yield in increasing measure day by day.

F. M. and G. W. L. B.

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SOME THINGS EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

Suggested by the Sister who Offered the Title of this Magazine

Every true Christian is born of God (John 3:3-5) and should know it (1 John 5:13).

Every Christian should desire the sincere milk of the Word that he may grow thereby (1 Pet. 2:2). The simple truths are easily understood and digested, becoming part of one's spiritual being.

The babe feeds on milk often, and is cared for by loving parents and friends, who delight to see its normal growth day by day. It can not pay for its care and keep, but can only smile and be happy, or cry to express its needs. It learns to love and trust its parents, fearing no evil (Psalm 28:4). It learns to obey through the parent's word and rod.

Every Christian is called saint (or separated one) because his new birth has set him apart from the world to God (1 Cor. 1:2). This sanctification is made practical and evident in the measure that he walks in the truth (John 17:17; 2 John 1:4). His life is an epistle known and read of all men (2 Cor. 3:2).

Every Christian has two natures; the old, fleshly nature, connected with Adam, which we get at our first, or natural, birth; and the new, spiritual nature, connected with Christ, which we get at our second birth from above.

The new nature never sins, but is righteous in all its ways. The old nature in us is sinful and cannot be made acceptable to God. We have sin **in** us, but not **on** us, for that was laid **on** Christ (Isa. 53:6). God says we are dead (Col. 3:1-3; Rom. 6), crucified with Christ, buried with Him by baptism into death, and we are told to reckon ourselves to be dead unto sin, to keep the sinful nature in the place of death and burial, not yielding to its commands or allowing it to rule over us. It asserts its presence and makes its demands as before, but what relief to learn that we are no longer slaves to it but freed from it through the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. "Dead unto sin, but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:11-13), we are instructed to put off the things of the flesh and to put on the things of the Spirit (Col. 3:1-18).

SOME THINGS EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW

Every Christian has his own place in the family of God, with the suitable gifts for that place, as divided among us by the Spirit (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-12; 2 Tim. 2:20, 21). It is for each to learn from God what his own gift is, and to use it, whether in service to God or to his fellow-man.

—A. B. R.

THE FEAR OF GOD AND THE FEAR OF MAN

Many years ago there lived in a country village a boy named John N—. John attended the village school in company with the other boys of the place, and was noted for the attention and diligence he paid to his lessons.

Some time after his conversion John got a situation in a large importing warehouse and here in the bustling city everything was new and strange, but he settled down to his desk with the determination to do his best and seek to please his employers.

His diligence and attention soon won him esteem both from his fellow-workers and his superiors, but one morning he had instructions to do a certain thing, "just in the way of business," as the foreman of his department put it, which John's conscience told him was not right. The foreman said it was "only a trifle and that it was often done," but John was not to be persuaded by such superficial arguments, and stuck to his point. If it was wrong, no argument could make it right, and if it was not right he would not do it.

The foreman finding he could make nothing out of the determined young man, reported him to the manager for "declining to obey instructions," and during the day he was summoned to the manager's room. John obeyed and stated his case as well as he could. "I am not here to argue the question," said the manager; "we expect you to conform to the ways of the house. Think over it again; are you prepared to lose a good situation over such a trifle?" John thought over it, and replied, "I cannot do it, sir; I should be sorry to lose my situation, but I will rather do so than act against my conscience." That was a noble answer,

THE FEAR OF GOD AND THE FEAR OF MAN

and we commend it to the consideration of every boy who reads these pages. The Bible tells us to "hold faith and a good conscience, which some having put away concerning the faith have made shipwreck."

John went home that night with a heavy heart. The manager, he knew, would acquaint the proprietor and he looked forward to instant dismissal. This would be a very serious thing for him. He had no influence in the large city, and would not easily get so good a situation elsewhere.

Next morning, just as he expected, a message came from the private office that John was to wait upon the proprietor. "I hear, Mr. N——," said the proprietor, when John came in, "that you declined to carry out the manager's instructions yesterday." This was not a very promising beginning to the conference, and the young man expected his worst fears were about to be realized.

"Yes, sir," said John, "but"—"Now I have looked carefully into the matter at issue," continued the proprietor, "and I find that though this practice has been going on for some time, yet it is wrong, and I have given orders that it be discontinued. You, Mr. N——, are in the right. You shall continue here, and your salary will be increased by the sum of eight dollars a month.

John went out of the office with a glad heart. He had expected dismissal; he received promotion. He that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe. Mr. N—— put his trust in the Lord and his faith was rewarded by the high esteem and confidence of his employer, who felt that here was a young man who could be trusted. Upright principles are not always rewarded here; indeed, oftentimes we are called upon to suffer for righteousness' sake, but you can depend upon it, the reward will come hereafter.

Mr. N—— rose rapidly step by step, and today he is manager of the firm where he began as an humble clerk. God says, "Them that honor Me I will honor, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed." (1 Sam. 2:30).

—Loving Words.

THE ROSE AND THE FIG

"And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."—Eph. 4:24.

There is a choice rose in my garden, carefully trained against the wall, but it had never yielded a blossom. At length a practised eye lighted upon its vigorous growth and blossomless leaves, and in a moment the gardener's hand had drawn forth his pruning knife and the rose was level with the ground. Its pretension died the day the gardener saw it. And then, pointing to a poor weakly spray of perhaps one inch long, the gardener showed me the grafted plant which the wild sucker had overwhelmed and almost choked. But the wisdom of the parable made ample amends for the ignorance in the garden. Many Christians are like the mistaken man who cultivated the wrong shoot because it looked vigorous. They are taking care of their old nature and training that instead of reckoning self to be dead and yielding to the new life its rightful place.

But all the cultivation of the old nature will not produce one blossom, one sweet savour for God.

It is condemned by God, and is not to be bettered.

An aged Christian was observing the other day, "My heart's no better than it was when I was young, and yet I am over eighty years of age." She was greatly astonished when she heard that God Himself did not purpose to better her nature, but that He had given her a new life in His risen Son. Christian reader, take heed lest your life be wasted in cultivating the wrong shoot. Remember that you are crucified with Christ, put out of sight before God, and that it is Christ that lives in you.

I have ascertained the truth of a peculiar habit in the fine and stately Moreton Bay or Australian Fig (or Vine, which it really is), about which I was incredulous until I saw it. A seed of this fig being deposited in the branches of another tree, let us say in one of the enormous staghorn ferns, is thus provided with a certain amount of decayed material in which it germinates. It first throws down its roots until they reach the ground, and then begins to grow round the fern tree, clinging to it like a vine, until it completely envelopes the fern tree, its sap wood uniting where it meets and the bark entirely covering the

THE ROSE AND THE FIG

joint so that nothing of the old fern tree can be seen. The old tree dies, so that after a lapse of years all traces of the fern tree disappear, at least from the eye of the casual observer, and a Moreton Bay Fig only is visible. In many cases I have found openings where the wood of the fern tree is plainly visible, and the process I have related may be seen in its varied stages in some of our Australian scrubs.

Is it not an illustration of the practical working of the two natures? Man, like the stately fern tree, flourishes in the power of his own energy, until at some point decay and death force themselves upon his soul.

But God plants a seed of another kind within him, and gives him a new life, which is destined to overcome the old, though the old will never entirely disappear until we see Him Who has conquered death. The new life, like the fig, feeling after and feeding upon the provided nourishment, grows stronger and gradually spreads itself over the rough surface of the old, until, though the old is known to be there, the new alone is to be seen. It is often slow work, but if going on, how sweet to have some little bit of our old self covered with Christ.

It is also interesting that the fern tree has a rough bark, while that of the new tree has a smooth one. The rough (the old) is covered by the smooth (the new). "Put on, therefore (as the elect of God, holy and beloved), bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering" (Col. 3:12).



*L*ORD JESUS, make Thyself to me
A living bright reality;
More present to faith's vision keen
Than any outward object seen;
More dear, more intimately nigh,
Than e'en the sweetest earthly tie."

(Phil. 3:10.)

THE PLACE OF THE BIBLE

It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the Word of God in the life of the believer, whether young or old.

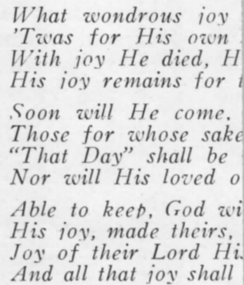
It is the food of the soul. There can be no normal growth or progress apart from it (1 Pet. 2:2), and the neglect of it can only result in a stunted, backward condition (Heb. 5:11-12). It must be allowed to enter into the very warp and woof of your soul's life, as food enters into the structure of your body.

It is the channel by which God communicates strength, comfort and sustenance to you. Trials and temptations are sure to cross your path, and it will be well for you if you are able to meet each onslaught with an "It is written." It was thus that the Lord Jesus Christ resisted the tempter. If you will look up the passages of Scripture (in Deut.) which He quoted on this occasion, you will find that they are quite close together. Were they, as someone has suggested, part of the Lord's morning reading that day? It seems very likely that they were. At any rate, we know that the Scriptures had a very large place in His life.

It is the believer's equipment for service: only by means of it can he be "thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:17). If you are looking forward, as you should be and as I trust you are, to a life of useful service for God, you will find a practical knowledge of the Word of God indispensable.

Let me lovingly and urgently plead with you, therefore, to give it the supreme place in your life. Allow **nothing** to hinder your frequent reading of it. "Read it copiously, continuously, consecutively, repeatedly, independently and prayerfully" (Ans-
tey). Let your soul be steeped in it; not in certain favorite parts of it, but in the whole.

"Search" (John 5:39). The truths of the Bible are not spread upon the surface where the careless reader will find them. It is



*What wondrous joy
'Twas for His own
With joy He died, H
His joy remains for
Soon will He come.
Those for whose sake
"That Day" shall be
Nor will His loved o
Able to keep, God wi
His joy, made theirs,
Joy of their Lord Hi
And all that joy shall*

THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER.

a mine that will reward careful exploration.

"Meditate" (Psalm 104:34). Dwell prayerfully upon its precepts. Make a personal application of what you read. Endeavor to discover the leading ideas, as well as the "drift." Ponder over striking words and phrases.

"Compare" (1 Cor. 2:13). By taking one passage in connection with others you will see truth in its proper relations.

For real progress in true acquaintance with the Word of God, several things are indispensable:

(1) **The New Birth.** The Bible is a sealed book to all by nature. (Isa. 29:10-13). No amount of natural ability will enable you to understand it (1 Cor. 2:14).

(2) **A true estimate of its character.** Never give place for a moment to any doubt or question regarding the fact that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God" (2 Tim. 3:16). In it God,—the living God—speaks to you,—to you directly,—to you personally. Earnestly ponder this fact, and let it appear from your life that you really believe it.

(3) **A real love for the Word of God.** "Desire the sincere milk of the Word that ye may grow thereby," writes the Apostle Peter. (1 Pet. 2:2).

The word he uses is a very strong one, and is translated elsewhere "to earnestly desire," "to long after greatly." God's Word is "more to be desired than gold, yea, than much fine gold" (Psalm 19:10).

(4) **Reverence and submission.** Shun all habits of joking and jesting upon it. Read to obey. The real value of the Book can only be known by a **practical** acquaintance with it. "Only to think well, and not to do well, amounts to no more than to dream well." Obedience has been called an "organ of knowledge:" the more readily the Word is submitted to, the greater

*Christ to Calvary went,
all His life was spent,
treasure thus to win,
to enter in.*

*to Himself present
once to Calvary went,
gladness of His heart,
from Himself depart.*

*to lose His own,
soon be fully known;
treasures then shall see,
eternal be.*

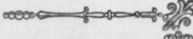

THE PLACE OF THE BIBLE IN LIFE OF THE BELIEVER

will be the progress in the knowledge of it. Not scholarship, but surrender, is the primary qualification it demands of its readers.

(5) **Prayerfulness.** We are dependent entirely upon the Holy Spirit of God to teach and direct us. The realization of this should cause us to adopt a prayerful attitude in approaching the Book. It is well to dwell prayerfully on what we read, endeavoring to find an application, to our own ways and needs. And having seen this application, one will be well advised to look to God for grace to reproduce what has been read in the life.

(6) **Regularity and perseverance.** Haphazard, aimless, work will not produce results in Bible study any more than they do in other lines of effort. Do not be discouraged because, perhaps, you find yourself to be a "poor scholar." "Much food is in the tillage of the poor" (Prov. 13:23), and prayerful perseverance will be rewarded. Do not allow difficulties to slacken your interest. You will meet them in **such** a book,—indeed it would be strange if, in a Book which is "God-breathed," there were no difficulties. Be patient, humble and teachable, and you will surely, even if slowly, attain to higher degrees of useful knowledge.

Concentrate upon the portion before you. "The weakest living creature, by concentrating his powers upon a single object, can accomplish something; the strongest, by dispersing his over many, may fail to accomplish anything." (Compare 1 Tim. 4:15).
—F. W. Schwartz.

"In prayer continue—patient prayer 
Consecutive, insistent, sure;
Not just a spasm here and there, 
But prayer of faith which can endure."

WHAT ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE DID

Millions upon millions of dollars are being spent annually for the advertising programs of the great commercial organizations of the world. They are thus giving a vigorous testimony to the truthfulness of the well worn slogan "It pays to advertise."

Many of the Lord's people have been persuaded that this is as true of the things of God as of the things of man. And they are giving liberally of their time, energy and money for the promotion of this commendable work. Not only do they desire to let their light so shine before men that the Father may be glorified; but they are convinced that in the pure Word of God there is power to meet the wants of needy men.

Therefore millions of copies of the Bible, and portions of it, are being sent to the ends of the earth. Gospel tracts that quote the Word of God freely are being distributed in enormous quantities. Scripture texts on the walls of homes and offices are far from uncommon. Brief statements from the Bible are sometimes seen on the backs of envelopes. And in many other ways the things of God are being brought to the attention of men and women, even apart from verbal testimony. And though the ways be simple, and though they are often condemned by the world, the incorruptible Word of God has borne much eternal fruit.

The writer has long made a practice of penning across the back of each letter that he mails, the glorious declaration of 1 Cor. 15:3: "Christ died for our sins." Some time ago a so-called preacher of the gospel, to whom such letters were occasionally sent, took great offense at this means of testimony. On several occasions he returned sharp reprimands, declaring: "If you ever expect to get anywhere, you will have to stop this sort of thing." But having no reason to be ashamed of the words of Christ, (Mark 8:38); but rather having a desire to hold forth the word of life, (Phil. 2:16), inasmuch as men are "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God" (1 Peter 1:23), the writer continued his practice of inscribing "Christ died for our sins" upon the backs of his letters.

Soon after, as though to prove the power of His own Word, God permitted the writer to see some glorious fruit from this

WHAT ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE DID

humble service. He stepped into a city office one morning, a stranger, save for the fact that several letters had preceded him, the last one by nearly a week. The back of each letter had borne the words "Christ died for our sins." A young Jew, after discovering the identity of the caller, approached, and with a look of real joy on his face said: "That was a splendid verse on your letters."

"Then you must love the Lord too," the writer responded.

Genuine thankfulness filled his heart at the Jew's reply. "Yes, I do now. Last night I trusted Christ as my Saviour."

Further questioning revealed that this brief portion of God's Word had been used of the Holy Spirit in His work of conviction. For the young man confessed that "the Scripture on the back of your letters always set me thinking in regard to my spiritual welfare. I often wondered who the party was that was not ashamed of Jesus; and wished that I could confess Him and not be ashamed." The Spirit through these few words of Scripture, showed him the way of escape, for he now testifies "I realized that the verse 'Christ died for our sins' included me."

Soon after, while attending a gospel meeting, "he confessed with his mouth the Lord Jesus, and believed in his heart that God had raised Him from the dead," (Rom. 10:9), and he was saved.

Although this one verse of Scripture was not the sole factor in winning this young Jew for Christ, it nevertheless played an exceedingly important part in his decision to personally trust that Saviour of sinners.

Two years have passed, and this young babe in Christ, feasting his soul upon the One who died for him, has grown into a discerning child of God. It is a joy to hear him tell what the Lord has done in his life.

To faith there is no end to the promise of our God: "My word . . . shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing where-to I sent it" (Isa. 55:11). Therefore let us use all diligence in

WHAT ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE DID

scattering the precious seed of the gospel of Christ by all possible means, knowing that in due season we shall reap an abundant harvest.

—Paul R. Jackson.

Editor's Note:—This article came to me from Mr. Jackson under circumstances that seem like a coincidence. We are preaching the gospel in a tent in Elbert, Colo., a small town in the foot-hills of the Rockies. Our meetings in neighboring country places had been very encouraging, but here we could not get the people out. Last Sunday there was an all-day baseball meet, and the whole country-side as well as people from four towns were there, bringing their dinners. Our spirits were stirred within us, when we saw the town wholly given to pleasure. We distributed tracts at the ball-game (evidently considered an intrusion). And my colleague, Mr. John Walden, spent three days painting "CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS" (1 Cor. 15:3) on the face of Flat Rock on the top of a high bluff overlooking the town. It is 26 feet wide, bold blue letters on a yellow background. We hope to get a good photograph and reproduce it in Faithful Words. Those who would not come into a comfortable tent in their very midst will thus have the Word of God before them where they must see it every day, a testimony of "five words" easily understood (1 Cor. 14:19) which will no doubt prove to be a "savour of death unto death" to some, but will you not pray with us that it may also be a "savour of life unto life" to many (2 Cor. 2:16). They do not deserve it, of course; neither did the one mentioned by Bro. Jackson; nor did we, any of us; "but God . . . is rich in mercy" (Eph. 2:4).—A. B. R.

WHICH IS IT? "PATCHED" OR "MADE WHOLE"

A certain preacher was pressing home the question of the Lord at Bethesda, "Wilt thou be made whole?" Suddenly he leaned forward and said, "Remember, men, it's not patched, but **made whole.**"

"That's it, that's just it, and all of it," responded a man, who rose and said: "I patched for years, but the patches fell off or made bigger holes. I had become a hard drinker. I lost my situation. I sobered up, got another situation, failed again and again. Still I patched, and still I fell. At last my wife and children had to go away to her father's, and decency and clothes were gone. One wet, cold, windy night, as I sat half asleep in the doorway of an empty house, a Biblewoman asked me to come to a mission. There the Lord Jesus found me. He didn't patch; He just made me whole. And now we are all together and happy again."

Reader, what is your present condition: "patched" or "made whole?"

RELIGION IN THE FACE

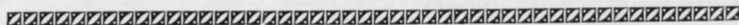
A beautiful little story is told of a young lady missionary in Japan whose peaceful face witnessed for the Lord.

Miss B. was travelling by steamer from one Japanese seaport to another. On the same boat was a Japanese merchant whose business anxieties had so worried and annoyed him that he was seriously contemplating suicide. He noticed Miss B. sitting quietly by, looking over the waters with such an expression of peace upon her face that he found himself trying to look at her again and again.

He did not know her, but he said to himself: "It must be she is one of the foreign Christians. Perhaps it is something in her religion which makes her face so calm and bright."

Addressing her with profound respect, he made known his strange request and sorrowful reason for asking the way that gave the heart a peace so great that the face spoke it in every look. He listened to Miss B. as she told him the gospel story, and it made such a deep impression upon him that he resolved to accept as his own the Saviour whose gift is peace.

Does your face and mine bear testimony that we have "been with Jesus?"



CHANGE YOUR NAME

Alexander the Great had a soldier in his army who bore his own name, but unlike the emperor, he was a great coward. Enraged at his conduct, the emperor justly said to him, "Either change your name or learn to honor it."

Is not this appropriate to many professed Christians? If you bear the name of a Christian, face the foe, and do not let the blood-stained banner trail in the dust. Cowards are not wanted. Don't dishonor the name of the King of kings. "Either change your name or learn to honor it." The apostle Paul exhorts us to "be a vessel unto honor." But how? Paul continues, "sanctified, and meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (2 Tim. 2:21).



TRAINING

The obedient child is the happy one. One of the most important privileges of the children is the parental discipline. The child may not like it at the time—may fret under it, and kick against it even though it be necessary and wise and gentle. But in after years the benefit of it is understood.

The Scripture is plain as to this precious privilege of those who are the children of God. "Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth" (Heb. 12:6). The disobedient child is on a very different footing from the condemned sinner. The erring child is not dealt with by the sword of judgment, but by the "rod of instruction."

John R. Caldwell.

THE FIRST PLACE

I was longing to serve my Master,
I thought that His greatest care
Was to keep all His workers busy
In reaping the sheaves so fair;

But there in the lonely desert,
Afar from the busy scene,
It dawned on me slowly and sadly
Where the awful mistake had been.

My mind was so full of service,
I had drifted from Him apart,
And He longed for the old confiding,
The union of heart to heart.

I sought and received forgiveness,
While my eyes with tears were dim;
And now, though the work is still precious,
The first place is kept for Him.

—Selected.

**The
wages of sin
is death;
but the gift of
God is eternal
life thru
Jesus Christ
Our Lord.**

Roman
6:23