

The Banner

WORLD WIDE REFORMATION

"He That Winneth Souls Is Wise"



THE BANNER

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"No pain, no palm; no thorns, no throne; no gall, no glory; no cross, no crown."

"Someone has said that 'promptness is a contagious inspiration.' Whether it be an inspiration, or an acquirement, it is one of the practical virtues of civilization."

"Franklin said to a servant who was always late, but always ready with an excuse, 'I have generally found that the man who is good at an excuse is good for nothing else.'"

"When his secretary excused the lateness of his attendance by saying that his watch was too slow, Washington replied, "Then you must get a new watch, or I another secretary."

"Doing a deed is like sowing a seed; if not done at just the right time it will be forever out of season. The summer of eternity will not be long enough to bring to maturity the fruit of a delayed action. If a star or planet were delayed one second, it might throw the whole universe out of harmony."

"If thou canst plan a noble deed,
And never flag till it succeed,
Though in the strife thy heart
should bleed;

Whatever obstacles control,
Thine hour will come,—go on,
true soul,
Thoul't win the prize,—
thoul't reach the goal."

**DEVELOPMENT
AND SERVICE**

Christian life is more than many take it to be. It does not consist wholly in gentleness, patience, meekness and kindness. These graces are essential; but there is need also of courage, force, energy, and perseverance. The path that Christ marks out is a narrow, self-denying path. To enter that path and press on through difficulties and discouragements require men who are more than weaklings.

Men of stamina are wanted, men who will not wait to have their way smoothed and every obstacle removed; men who will inspire with fresh zeal the flagging efforts of dispirited workers; men whose hearts are warm with Christian love, and whose hands are strong to do their Master's work.

Some who engage in missionary work are weak, nerveless, spiritless, easily discouraged. They lack push. They have not those positive traits of character that give power to do something,—the spirit and energy that kindle enthusiasm. Those who would win success must be courageous and hopeful. They would cultivate not only the passive but the active virtues. While they are to give the soft answer that turns away wrath, they must possess the courage of a hero to resist evil. With the charity that endures all things, they need the force of character that will make their influence a positive power.

Some have no firmness of character. Their plans and purposes have no definite form and consistency. They are of but little practical use in the world. This weakness, indecision, and inefficiency should be overcome. There is in true Christian character an indomitableness that cannot be moulded or subdued by adverse circumstances. We must have moral backbone, an integrity that cannot be flattered, bribed, or terrified.

God desires us to make use of every opportunity for securing a preparation for His work. He expects us to put all our energies into its performance, and to keep our hearts alive to its

sacredness and its fearful responsibilities.

Many who are qualified to do excellent work accomplish little because they attempt little. Thousands pass through life as if they had no great object for which to live, no high standard to reach. One reason of this is the low estimate which they place upon themselves. Christ paid an infinite price for us, and according to the price paid He desires us to value ourselves.

Be not satisfied with reaching a low standard. We are not what we might be, or what it is God's will that we should be. God has given us reasoning powers, not to remain inactive, or to be perverted to earthly and sordid pursuits, but that they may be developed to the utmost, refined, sanctified, ennobled, and used in advancing the interests of His kingdom.

* * * *

Remember in whatever position you may serve, you are revealing motive, developing character. Whatever your work do it with exactness, with diligence; overcome the inclination to seek an easy task.

The same spirit and principles that one brings into the whole life, those who desire a fixed amount to do and a fixed salary, and who wish to prove an exact fit without the trouble of adaptation or training, are not the ones whom God calls to work in His cause. Those who study how to give as little as possible of their physical, mental and moral power, are not the workers upon whom He can pour out abundant blessings. Their example is contagious. Self-interest is the ruling motive. Those who need to be watched and who work only as every **duty is specified to them**, are not the ones who will be pronounced good and faithful. Workers are needed who **manifest energy, integrity, diligence**; those who are willing to do anything that needs to be done.

Many become inefficient by evading responsibilities for fear of failure. Thus they fail of gaining that education which results from experience, and which reading and study and all of the advantages otherwise gained cannot give them.

Man can shape circumstances, but circumstances should not be allowed to shape man. We should seize upon **circumstances as instruments with which to work.** We are to **master them**, but **should not permit them** to master us.

Men of power are often those who have been opposed, baffled, and thwarted. By calling their energies into action, the obstacles they meet prove to them positive blessings. They gain self-reliance. Conflict and perplexity call for the exercise of trust in God, and for that firmness which develops power.

Christ gave no stinted service. He did not measure His work by hours. His time, His heart, His soul and strength, were given to labor for the benefit of humanity. Through weary days He toiled, and through long nights He bent in prayer for grace and endurance that He might do a larger work. With strong crying and tears He sent His petitions to heaven, that His human nature might be strengthened, that He might be braced to meet the wily foe in all his deceptive workings, and fortified to fulfill his mission of uplifting humanity. To His workers He says, "I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done."

There is a picture representing a bullock standing between a plow and an altar, with the inscription, "Ready for Either"—ready to toil in the furrow, or to be offered on the altar of sacrifice. This is the position of the true child of God—willing to go where duty calls, to deny self, to sacrifice for the Redeemer's cause.

—"Gospel Workers," pages 290-294.

A MESSAGE TO ALL THE SAINTS SCATTERED ABROAD

A home in that heavenly land of bliss, should be the central theme of every child of God. As we are drawing nearer to eternity, every effort should be exerted to make the necessary preparation to obtain an inheritance in that promised Paradise.

Men are today formulating doctrines for the purpose of

gain, and to satisfy their own selfish aggrandizements. They have also used the Holy Word of God to substantiate their erroneous claims; thus beguiling unstable souls. But continue ye in the things which ye have been taught, and be not tossed to and fro, and carried about with every kind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

The conflict of the ages is fast increasing. Skepticism, infidelity, atheism and superstition is spreading like wild-fire over land and sea; and about 90 per cent of the world are made drunken with their venoms. Crimes, vices, murders, wickedness and deceptions in its varied forms are pervading the land,—and many of the uninterested masses are aroused to action; joining their ranks in promulgating these mammoth enemies of the cross of Christ.

Many religious leaders and pupils deem it a strange occurrence, and are even led away by such sophistries which will eventually culminate into utter destruction. But the students of prophecy will not think strange of these things, for Holy Writ has depicted the transpiration of these events and the falsifying doctrines of men. Hence, according to the infallible Word of God and the trends of world shaping events, we must conclude that these phenomenons and occurrences reveal the speedy approach of our Lord in Glory; and the meridian of the reign of everlasting righteousness.

Therefore, it requires a steadfast faith, a strong resolution, a firm stand on the principles of eternal truth and a diligent study of God's Word, ere we can be sheltered from the winds of doctrines which are now blowing around our environments. Quit yourselves like men and fight. The building up of Zion is drawing nigh. Every thought, every action and every motive should be measured by the Word of God, and a thorough reconsecration of the life should be accomplished daily; if we are to stand in the presence of a Holy God on that great day.

Every petty sin should be con-

fessed, every little indifference should be removed, otherwise the race we are running will finally consummate into a complete failure. And hence the bitter and grievous cry, "THE HARVEST IS PAST, THE SUMMER IS ENDED, AND WE ARE NOT SAVED."

Dear brethren and sisters: What are you doing? Are you united in your efforts? Is peace, perfect peace reigning in your midst? Do you feel the love of God flowing in your hearts by faith? And do you feel sure that your condition of life meet heaven's approbation? Are you growing spiritually, or are you declining? Are you listening to the spirit's pleading, come up higher, come up higher,—none of self and all of Christ?

Consider the foregoing questions carefully and prayerfully, and if any one recognize that he or she fall short in any way, then go to Jesus by faith, and He will plant your feet on higher ground, and fill you with all the essentials to live the victorious life. So that when time shall glide away on its earthly pinion, we may share in the joy of the blest.

J. B. Mosley.
Port Limon, Costa Rica.

THE HOLY BIBLE PRESENTED TO M. L. IVORY BY ONE OF HIS STUDENTS

Inscribing these few lines in this sacred Book, it is my endeavor to express in firm belief that God has ordained you, from your conversation to instruct the Scriptures. I am convinced by what you have taught me in the Bible referring

I have learned more of faith in the past three years than in to faith.

all the previous fifty-seven years of my life.

Gracious God, I humbly beseech Thee, let this blessing fall on this man of God; that he may carry the Gospel throughout the earth.

Please ever gird and guide him. Grant him five score years and ten, and when that has been attained may he be even active as now.

For this I am ever praying, and trusting that it will be granted, is my sincere wish.

Mrs. J. T. Warren.

THE KEY THAT UNLOCKED HIS HEART

A kind word has a magic power. Many a person has been turned from wrong to right, from discontent and unhappiness to peace and happiness, by the winning power of kindness. Such was the experience of the old man in the following instance:

"Sir," said this old man one day to a minister, "would you like to know how it was that I, an old, gray-haired sinner, was instrumentally lead to become a Christian?"

"Yes," replied the minister, "I would very much like to know."

"Well, sir, I was walking in the street one morning, when I met a bright-eyed boy. The fellow stepped up to me, and, in the most polite manner imaginable, said, 'Please, sir, will you have a tract? And, please, sir, will you read it?' Now, I had always hated tracts, and when anyone offered them to me I generally got angry. But that 'Please, sir,' overcame me that morning. I could not say no to that gentlemanly little fellow, with his kind 'please sir.' No, no; so I took the tract and thanked the boy. As I had promised him that I would read it, I did read it. By God's mercy the reading of that tract led me to see that I was a sinner. It was the means of bringing me to Christ. That 'please, sir,' was the key that unlocked my hard old heart."—Selected.

"The world, it is said, is always looking for men who are not for sale; men who are honest, sound from center to circumference, true to the heart's core; men whose consciences are steady as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right if the heavens totter and earth reels; men who can tell the truth, and look the world and the devil right in the eye; men that neither brag nor run; men that neither flag nor flinch; men who can have courage without shouting to it; men in whom the courage of everlasting life runs still, deep, and strong."

"Before a person can lift, he must stand fast himself."

MY HAND WRITING A TRIBUTE TO MR. M. L. IVORY; IN HIS HOLY BIBLE

Milwaukee, Wis.,
July 8th, 1927.

The Bible is the word of life. I implore all to read it. God's Son, Jesus Christ, says it is the Word of God. Then you owe it to yourself to read it. Jesus commanded all men everywhere to "search the Scriptures," "they are they which testify of Me."

The Gospel of John deals with the problems of Salvation, and eternal life and discloses to all men everywhere how they can be saved. What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Mark 8:38.

A. T. Dierolf.
To all whom it may concern:

In honor of our heavenly Father, I highly appreciate these words of encouragement from these new born in Him.

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

M. L. Ivory.

"But he who would succeed must pay the price. He must not look for a 'soft job.' Into work which he feels to be a part of his very existence he must pour his whole heart and soul. He must be fired by a determination which knows no defeat, which cares not for hunger or ridicule, which spurns hardships and laughs at want and disaster. They were not men of luck and broadcloth, nor of legacy and laziness, but men inured to hardship and deprivation, — not afraid of threadbare clothes and honest poverty, men who fought their way to their own loaf,—who have pushed the world up from chaos into the light of the highest civilization. They were men who, as they climbed, expanded and lifted others to a higher plane and opened wider the doors of narrow lives."

"The world will not be convinced of the sweetness of your faith by the sourness of your face."

"Religion presents few difficulties to the humble, many to the proud, and insuperable ones to the vain."

SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS

A study of statistics reveals the terrible fact that nearly one-half of all the human beings born into the world die before the age of five years. In the city of Stetten, Germany, nearly one-half—473 out of every thousand—die during the first year of their lives. In Ireland, Scotland, Norway and Sweden, where children are given better care, have more outdoor life, and more intelligent attention is paid to feeding, the number of deaths is only one-fiftieth as many as in the city of Stetten, being 10 per cent.

Physicians are coming to recognize that the use of cow's milk which is infected with the germs of tuberculosis is one of the most active of all causes of death among young children. This should be remembered in the artificial feeding of infants. The milk should be either boiled or well scalded before being fed to the infant. This rule should be universally observed for adults as well as for children, and, if applied, will save thousands of lives annually.—Good Health.

"There is one thing that is almost as sacred as the marriage relation,—that is, an appointment. A man who **fails to meet** his **appointment**, unless he has a **good** reason is practically a liar, and the world treats him as such."

"When President Washington dined at four, new members of Congress were invited to dine at the White House would sometimes arrive late, and be mortified to find the President eating. "My cook," Washington would say, 'never asks if the visitors have arrived, but if the hour has arrived.'

"We must strive after accuracy as we would after wisdom, or hidden treasure, or anything we would attain. Determine to form exact business habits. Avoid slipshod financing as you would the plague. Careless and indifferent habits would soon ruin a millionaire. Nearly every very successful man is accurate and painstaking. Accuracy means character, and character is power."