

THIS MORTAL

MORTALITY and immortality is the distance between redeemed and unredeemed manhood. Mortality must ever exist in the absence of the immortal One, and immortality will ever follow union with him.

Mortality is a state of death, due to separation from him who is life. Where God exists death can not. It was Deity imparted to man in Eden that made him a living soul and the same result must follow in any land, in any world in any clime.

Man's normal condition is in union with God, all his powers and faculties permeated with Deity; the imprint of Jehovah is on, and in all that makes man. It is man being one with God.

When this condition ceases, then man dies; dies to his God-ordained union, relation and condition in life; dies to his harmonious existence, to all good and the seeds of death imparted to every power of his being.

Death and mortality properly mean separation; separation from a rightful harmonious, or God-ordained condition. Separate the tree from the earth and it must die, separate the fish from the water and it dies, separate the gear from a great machine and it is dead, separate soul and body and man as to an earthly existence dies, separate man and God and man is dead; dead to that life which God gave him. He is not annihilated, he is in existence, but has ceased to be what he was, what God intended that he should be that he might be in eternal repose, happiness and righteousness. To all these conditions he is dead they are not his, he is separated from them. This is true death, this is the deepest death; this is the death that annihilates, not our personality, existence, but our goodness, righteousness, holiness, purity and union with God. It annihilates the life of God in us, and thus all that is most desirable, abiding, and eternal. It kills, kills, kills, yes, to our rightful heritage, home, happiness, protection and life. We are dead absolutely to what God made us, intended us and would have us be. This is mortality, this is death in its true and most awful sense.

It is easy to see that if death and mortality is separation from God, then immortality and eternal life is union with God. God-life, or a life in union with God is man's rightful heritage and home. Man was created in the image of God, and does not; nor can not meet the wishes of his Creator and be man, such as God intended, except in union with God.

Deity is the great restorative and preservative, absolutely nothing else will do. Not his strength, not his wisdom, not his love, nor any gift that he might bestow upon men but his own life imparted.

Thy gifts alas, can not suffice,
Unless thyself be given;
Thy presence is my paradise.
And where thou art is heaven

Mortality must exist where God does not, and immortality ever reigns where God does. Here is cause and effect in its most exalted realm. Union with God is immortality possessed, and separation from God, is mortality enthroned.—Alpha and Omega.

Brake the News to Mother.

While the shot and shell were screaming upon the battle field
The boys in blue were fighting, their noble flag to shield,
Came a cry from their brave captain, "Look boys! our flag is down!
Who'll volunteer to save it from disgrace?"
"I will!" a young voice answered, "I'll bring it back or die!"
Then sprang into the thickest of the fray;
Saved the flag, but gave his young life all for his country's sake;
They brought him back and heard him softly say:

CHO. "Just take the news to mother,
She knows how dear I love her,
And tell her not to wait for me, for I'm not coming home
Just say there is no other,
Can take the place of mather
And kiss her dear sweet lips for me,
and break the news to her,"

From afar a noted general had witnessed this brave deed;
"Who saved the flag? Speak up lads—"twas noble brave indeed!"
"There he lies sir," said the captain, "he's sipping very fast."
Then slowly turned away to hide a tear.
The general in a moment knelt down beside the boy,
Then gave a cry that touched all hearts that day;
"Tis my son—my brave young hero! I thought you safe at home!"
"Forgive me, father, for I ran away."

God is Light.

"God is light."—I. JOHN i. 5.

GOD is Spirit. God is love. God is light. These are several suggestive Bible definition of God. No one definition can tell us all about God; but let us notice this one, "God is light," and gather a few of its teachings regarding our Heavenly Father. "God is light."

I. *Light vivifies.* Down in the dark cellar nothing grows well. But bring that sickly plant up into light of the sun and how soon it begins to freshen up and grow and take on rich colors. It is the result of the vivifying power of light. So when God, who is the light of men, begins to shine into our hearts, we begin to grow strong and beautiful and useful. The reason there are so many puny Christians is because they hide themselves away from God, who is light. They live in the dark. They keep themselves too much away from where the light is shining.

II. *Light reveals.* You are going along a dark road at night, wondering where to put your foot next. A flash of lightning will reveal to you, in an instant, not only your particular road, but the whole landscape. You are groping your way in a dark mine. Suddenly the miner's lamp flashes in the passage, and you see clearly. You are in a dark garret. You know not what there is in it. You open the shutter, let in the light, and instantly see all it contains. Even the dust on the furniture is clearly revealed. God is light; and when He shines into your soul, you see in a moment all that is there. Evil thoughts, evil purposes, all evil is revealed. His light shows us our sins, shows them as nothing else can, and shows them in all their evil instantly. The man who does not think he is very bad only thinks so because he has not yet had the light of God shine into his heart.

III. *Light Purifies.* Air purifies, but in the

process it becomes foul. Water purifies, but is polluted in the doing. But light purifies and is never polluted in the process. Let it into that dark cellar, let it into that musty parlor let it into that germ-filled sick room. It purifies each but goes on its way again just as pure as when it entered. So it is when God comes into a human heart. No matter how polluted it is, His presence will purify it. Open wide the windows of your soul and let in the light.

IV. *Light gives power.* All sources of power are directly from the sun, coming in rays of light. Light is comforting. A dark day is always a gloomy day, but a burst of sunshine gives cheer. Light is beautifying. A garden or a bird of glorious plumage is not beautiful in the dark; but in the light of the sun how exquisite they are. As some one has said: "Therefore God is living, since light is the nourisher of life; therefore God is intelligence since light is that by which we perceive therefore God is beauty, since light is that which hangs the world with color; therefore God is happiness, since light is that in which the world rejoices; therefore God is truth, since light is that which shows us things as they really are, therefore God is holy since light is purity; therefore God is in contact with us, since light comes to us and wraps us round. Using light as a lens, we get various and ennobling conceptions of God." Let us love the light. Let us come to the light, Let us "walk in the light."—Rev. G. D. R. Hallock.

How the Grumbler Was Cured

HIS story is taken from Moody's anecdotes: Some years ago, a pastor of a little church in a small town became exceedingly discouraged, and brooded over his trials to such an extent that he became an inveterate grumbler. He found fault with his brethren because he imagined they did not treat him well. A brother minister was invited to assist him a few days in a special service. At the close of the Sabbath morning service our unhappy brother invited the minister to his house to dinner. While they were waiting alone in the parlor he began his doleful story by saying:

"You have no idea of my troubles; and one of the greatest is that my brethren in the church treat me very badly."

The other pronounced the following questions:

"Did they ever spit in your face?"

"No; they haven't come to that."

"Did they ever smite you?"

"No."

"Did they ever crown you with thorns?"

This last question he could not answer but bowed his head thoughtfully. The other replied:

"Your Master and mine was thus treated, and His disciples fled and left Him in the hands of the wicked. Yet He opened not his mouth."

The effect of this conversation was wonderful. Both ministers bowed in prayer and earnestly sought to possess the mind which was in Christ Jesus. During the ten days' meeting the discontented pastor became wonderfully changed. He labored and prayed with his friend, and many souls were brought to Christ.

Some few weeks after, a deacon of the church wrote and said, "Your late visit and conversation with our pastor have had a wonderful influence for good. We never hear him complain now, and he labors more prayerfully and zealously."

Activity is only beautiful when it is holy; that is to say, when it is spent in the service of that which passeth not away.—Amiel.

When Pride is Sinful

WHEN is pride sinful? when it becomes the excess of the underlying virtue. Wrongful pride is the undue exaltation of self. It is regarding one's self from a mistaken point of view in reference to one's abilities, characteristics or disposition. It is centering thought upon self to the exclusion of others, their interests and obligation which one sustains to them more than is consistent with duty to them. In other words, it is selfish, whatever is selfish is so far sinful. The false notions which thus are begotten about ourselves lead to false adjustments of our lives to the lives of others.—Congregationalist.

A Boy Stronger Than a Man.

THE conscience is one part of man which is not always developed in proportion to his age or size, and the reproof of a certain boy was very just to some men who knew better than take the name of their Maker in vain.

A lad in Boston, rather small for his age, works in an office as errand boy for four gentlemen who do business there. One day the gentlemen were chaffing him a little for being so small, and said to him:

"You will never amount to much: you can never do much, you are too small."

The little fellow looked at them.

"Well," said he, "as small as I am, I can do something that neither of you can do."

"Ah what is that?" said they.

"I don't know as I ought to tell you," he replied.

But they were anxious to know, and urged him to tell what he could do that neither of them was able to do.

"I can keep from swearing," said the little fellow.

There were some blushes on four faces, and there seemed to be no anxiety for further information.

The Wrong Way to Work.

SUPPOSE some cold morning you should go into a neighbor's house and find him busy at work on his window, scratching away, and should ask him what he was doing, and he should reply:

"Why, I am trying to remove the frost but as fast as I get it off one square it comes on another."

Would you not say; "Why, man, let your windows alone and kindle a fire, and the frost will come off?"

And have you not seen people try to break off their bad habits one after another without avail? Well, they are like the man who tried to scratch the frost from his window.

Let the fire of love to God, kindled at the altar of prayer, burn in your heart, and the bad habits will soon melt away.—Standard.

True Love Constrains

LITTLE JOHN came home from school and was telling his mother that he loved her very much. "How much do you love me?" she asked. "Oh, mama, I love you just awful much. When I want to do something naughty I think of you and I love you so much that I just can't do it." "Do we love God as much as that?" He wants to constrain us by love so that we cannot sin against Him, because we love him so much.—Selected.

He does not rightly love himself who does not love another more.

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WHEN renewing please say renewal.
"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning;—he fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Two more boys entered our home and school in Feb., so our family is increasing, therefore more food and clothing will be required.

We kindly ask our dear friends and co-workers to remember our needs in their prayers and ask God, who has promised to supply our needs, to verify His promises.

We greatly appreciate, and use, every mite that is sent us to the glory of God.

God is sending us the children, so we will trust Him to supply food for their support.

Pray for us that we may not be faithless, but believing.

It means much to carry on this work without any visible means of support but God has never, yet, failed his true followers.

A boy, who has to help support his widowed and invalid mother, very much desires to attend school, but cannot for lack of a bushel of meal per month. What shall we do with this boy? So bright and desiring to learn and yet kept back for such a trivial amount.

Dear friends, can we afford to let a fellow traveler grow up in almost total ignorance for want of a little meal or help for his mother? Let us, together, ask God about it.

Trust in the Lord for He will fully reward them who rely on Him for the blessings of this life and that to come.

I feel sure many hearts would be touched with sympathy if they could have the privilege of stepping into this boys home? as I did yesterday.

I said "My God, help me to help this poor mother and boy." "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord." Prov. 19:17.

"The Holy supper is kept indeed, In what we share with another's need. Not what we give, but what we share, For the gift without the giver's bare. Who gives himself with his alms feeds three—Himself, his hungering neighbor and me,"—Lowell.

Prayer makes the darkened cloud withdraw;
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw
Gives exercise to faith and love;
Brings every blessing from above.
—Anon.

"A wise man will hear and will increase learning;—The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Anyone receiving a sample copy of this paper are requested to subscribe and this is a kind invitation for them to do so

I arrived here but recently, on this mission, as bible Colporter, and have made one short trip in the bible cause

I took all the bibles and testament I could on horseback. I found quite a number of people that had no bible, and many both adults and children, quite anxious to possess a copy, but some were too poor to buy; soon my supply was exhausted by sales and gifts, and all that got a copy seemed to be very glad to have a bible or testament of their own.

I thank that great good can be done by family visitation, preaching and the distribution of the word of God.

I feel that the blessings of God will rest upon those who have so kindly contributed of their means and made it possible for many to possess the word of life that otherwise would be destitute. "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these ye have done it unto me."

I have met many warm friends and have been treated with great kindness by many of the people, both in this village and in the country.

I found Bro. and Sister Tomlinson (Through whom this mission has thus far been established), at their post and full of hope in a prosperous ORPHAN'S HOME AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, soon being fully established, and expressing feelings of deepest gratitude to those through whose financial liberality this work has progressed so well.

I have me, frequently, with the children in the school room, and have been surprised to find them so far advanced in the knowledge of the word of God. I think more so than any school I ever visited. I am certain these children are having the word established in their hearts, which shall not return unto him void."

What, in the future, with the harvest be?

Surely God is using His truly devoted handmaid, Sister Overstreet, who is the school teacher as an instrument in His hands in bringing up these children in nurture and admonition of the Lord."

I find the spirit of sacrifice and full consecration to the cause of Christ being practically manifested by Bro

and Sister Tomlinson, Bro. and Sister Overstreet, and believe that God will bless and prosper this work to His glory. Yours in Christ. J. W. BELL Colporter, Culberson, N. C.



"SUFFER little children to come unto me and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

As we are much interested in the welfare of the children, we want to devote, at least one column to the printing of short letters from our little friends.

We hope the parents, who read this, will encourage their children to write, and in this way, the little ones will become more acquainted with each other, and it may, also, tend toward their becoming more interested in mission work.

We wish to place this department in the care of our little girl, "Halcy."

Halcy was born in Indiana March 18 1891 She will be much pleased to hear from her little friends in America. Address her thus—Halcy—"Samson's Foxes, Culberson, N. C.

Dear Friends: I was glad to hear from a few of you, and hope to hear from more next time. I am going to school now.

I am in eight studies. My teachers name is Mrs. Eliza Overstreet, she is a very good teacher.

I will ask you, all, some questions, and hope I will receive several answers.

How many times is "hammer" found in the bible?

What is called the love chapter?

How many verses in the Old Testament?

Who cut the word of God with a pen-knife and cast it into the fire?

This is all I will ask this time and I hope to hear from you soon.

We had one conversion in our home last week, an orphan boy about 16 years old.

I have one sister and one brother. My sisters name is Iris and brother's name is Homer. I will close. From your true friend.—Halcy.

Dear Halcy:—I sent myself, with pleasure, to tell you of my conversion. Just the other day as I was sitting by the fireside Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson was talking to me about my sins, and we knelt down, upon our knees, and asked God to forgive me and as I arose I could feel my burdens roll away, and now it is no trouble for me to live a christian life.

I only wish that every boy and girl would do the same as I did. I am here in this mountain region where people very often cut a hole in the side of the house for windows and mostly leave it out.

I am going to school at Mt. Zion every day that I can go, and would advise every boy to do the same.

We must pray for what we want and thank God for it. I pray every night and morning and ask God to go with my spirit through the day. I wish everybody knew my feelings when I was converted.

As I must do some more writing I will stop —ROBERT BARKER.

Dear Little Friend:—I am only a little boy of nine summers, but will try to write some to the little readers of "Samson's Foxes," and if it finds its way to the west paper basket it is alright.

I am in school, and have seven studies with my bible lessons. Of course, you know, I have all my playmates and my teacher too, but she seems to know how to make a boy have good lessons.

When the weather is pleasant we have lots of fun playing ball. I like to read the children page and hope to hear from my little friends in different states. I love Jesus, for He is so good to me. Guess I had better not write too much Good by I am your little friend in. Jesus:—H. A. T

Dear Halcy:—I am a little reader of "Samson's Foxes" and enjoy reading the childrens letters. I am a little girl seven years old. I am in a second reader, arithmetic and spelling, I go to school. This is the piece I'm going to say next time—I had rather be dumb,

Than pray like some,

"Thy kingdom come,"

And then vote for rum,

I am reading the bible. If these few lines

don't find the way to the waste basket I will write again some time.—I. M. T.

Dear Halcy:—Again I write you a few lines from Tennessee. They call this the sunny south, but I think if it is like the past winter I don't know how they ever got the name I am a compostor and set type nearly every day. I have five brothers. Your friend—Pheba

Dear Halcy:—As I leasurly strolled along the bank of the Missouri river in the year 1893. I was very much surprised to see a large can, about the size and shape of a two gallon oil can floating up stream. It would move along very brisk for a short distance, sometimes as far as thirty or forty yards, and then stop and wave back and forth, as the current struck it, for a moment and then take another dash up stream, then stop again and start again, and so on. I learned afterwards that it was a fish can that had a fish caught to the hook that was fastened, by a line, to the can.

I have often saw children, who are starting on the journey of life urged on and on in sin but they, like the fish can, attached to some invisible power that pulled them on in the unnatural direction. Let every reader of this look and feel for any unseen foe that might lead them into the pitfalls of sin.—The Western Traveler.

STATEMENT.

Of money contributed for special Funds.
For the name "Mt. Zion" to be inscribed on the front of the Building.....\$ 2.00.
Wagon.....17.00.
Shingles.....3.00.
Bibles.....50.
Cook Stove.....1.00.
Gold Dollar Fund.....1.00.
Jerusalem Mission......50
Stereoptican......4.
School Desks.....0.00.

IF

If we noticed little pleasures
As we notice little pains;
If we quite forgot our losses
And remembered all our gains;
If we looked for people's virtues
And their faults refused to see,
What a comfortable, happy,
Cheerful place this world would be!

Religious School Notes.

Our soul praises God this afternoon for His love toward the children of men. The narrow way grows brighter and brighter. Jesus is always ready to make the rough places smooth and the crooked paths straight. Praise His holy name. None of us can avoid temptations and trials, but we can always find His Grace. Sufficient to help us live in the stormy and dark places as well as in the sun shine.

Christians, let's never under value God's Grace for it is blessed to live, So He can smile and approve of our ways.

Well as we advance and go on with God we find that He will show us not to simply cling to an experience, but to keep going on with Him for you know we will have new experiences every day as we go on to know Him alone. He is faithful to lead us from victory to victory and make us to rejoice and be happy in any place. Dear ones, it makes me so happy to trust in Him.

I am much safer with God and His loving care for me than I would be with a gold bank behind me. We can well afford to leave our dear friends parents, and home for His children which is for better than an earthly home.

We must let our friends know something about the school and children. The school is truly prospering. God smiles upon it and blesses us from day to day. We can not express how much joy it gives us to be with the dear children as I am with them from day to day my prayer is God bless the children. They are improving intellectually, to God be all the glory Jesus has led us safely along the way and He will lead us to the end. I am very thankful to the many dear ones who have helped me by their prayers. may God in His own way reward each one.

My desire is that God may be glorified in my life and that I may so live before the world and in the school-room that Jesus will be exalted. I love every thing. Some times it seems we have done so little for Jesus but I am thankful to know God has given me a place in His vineyard. May God help us to "esteem others better than ourselves." He wants self-denying Christians. God bless all the dear ones that have prayed for us so many times. Dear readers, please keep us on your prayer list.

I am yours in the bonds of Christian love.

Mrs. Jas. H. Overstreet. Culberson, N. C.