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THE CHRISTIAN EVANGEL



Special Number in Honor of Our Soldiers and Sailors.

No. 255

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September 21st, 1918

NAPOLEON I. AND THE SOLDIER.

The Emperor Napoleon I. was once reviewing some troops on the Place du Carrousel in Paris, when, in giving an order, he thoughtlessly dropped the bridle upon the neck of his horse, which instantly set off at a gallop. At this moment a private soldier of the line sprang before the horse, seized the bridle and handed it respectfully to the Emperor. "Much obliged to you, Captain," said the Emperor. The soldier, standing erect and saluting asked "Of what regiment, sire?" Napoleon, charmed with the soldier's faith, replied, "Of my own guards!" and galloped away.

In a few brief moments a private soldier had been twice promoted, viz., made a captain and an officer of the Emperor's guards.

Now what did the soldier do, think you, comrade? Did he believe the Emperor's word and act upon it? Indeed he did! As soon as the Emperor had gone he laid down his gun, and instead of returning to his comrades in the ranks, he joined a group of Staff Officers. "What does this fellow want here?" scornfully asked one of the officers. "This fellow," replied the soldier, proudly, "is a captain of the Emperor's guards!" "Who said so?" said the officer. The newly promoted Captain made answer, "He said so," pointing at the same time to the retreating figure of Napoleon in the distance. "I beg your pardon, sir," said the officer, "I was not aware of it." The soldier believed the word of his Emperor and acted upon it; his word was to be relied upon.

Dear comrade, as you read this story, is your heart not touched by the simple faith of the French soldier? Did he doubt his promotion? Not a bit of it! He knew that it was in Napoleon's power to make him an officer and he believed him explicitly. It is the kind of person that you put your faith in that gives effect to the word.

My dear friend, let me speak to you for a moment of Jesus, the Son of God, and the value of His precious Word and Work. He says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me hath everlasting life" (John 6:46). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23), "but Christ Jesus

came into the world to save sinners" (I. Tim. 1:15). What stronger proof can you have that God loves you than this blessed fact, that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life," John 3:16.

Christ in the Trenches



He is able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him.

THE ROYAL INVITATION

Have you accepted it?

Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, Matt. 11:28.

Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else (Isa. 45:22). I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no Savior (Isa. 43:11).

CHRIST IN THE TRENCHES.

In His love for the sons of men, for human souls, eternity bound, He is near everyone who needs Him, and needs Him now. In the trenches He hovers over the one nearest death, ready to hear the call from every soul for help. He tasted death for every man, and every man may share the benefit of His atonement and be made one with Christ. Though far from home and loved ones, you are made nigh unto God by the blood of Jesus.

Sin is the only thing that can keep you out of heaven, and if we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life—John 3:16—for God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed on the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:17, 18.

Jesus said: "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28. "Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." Again He is able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him. If in this life only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable, but we have a hope in Christ Jesus, an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast. Heb. 6:19. Give your heart and life to Him and all will be well.

Lord Roberts penned just before His death: "I ask you to put your trust in God. He will watch over you, and strengthen you. You will find in this little Book (speaking of the Bible) guidance when you are in health, comfort when you are in sickness, and strength when you are in adversity.

Will you say this from your heart—Being convinced that I am a sinner, and believing that Christ died for me, I now accept Him as my personal Saviour, and with His help I intend to confess Him before men?

WHAT GOD SAYS TO HIS SOLDIERS.

Reveille.—"Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Eph. 5:14.

The Roll Call.—"I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine." Isa. 43:1. "And He called His own sheep by name." John 10:3.

Quick March!—"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:14.

When a prisoner.—"Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God." Isaiah 41:10.

Stand-at-Ease.—"I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28.

When on Guard.—"Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation." Mark 14:38.

When in Camp.—"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." Psa. 34:7.

When fighting.—"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life." 1 Tim. 6:12.

Halt!—"Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord." Ex. 14:13.

Attention!—"Look unto ME, and be ye saved." Isa. 45:22.

When Wounded.—"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Isa. 40:31. "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." Isa. 30:15.

In the Hour of Death.—"Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in ME." John 14:1. "When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee." Isa. 43:2. "I WILL NEVER LEAVE THEE." Heb. 13:5.

The Last Post.—"Watchman! what of the night?" Isaiah 21:11. "I heard a voice from heaven, 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord;...that they may rest from their labors.'" Rev. 14:13.

In the Grand Review.—"Well done! thou good and faithful servant...enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21. H. W.

A BIBLE USED FOR PIPE LIGHTS.

Some time ago as a number of soldiers were about to leave _____ to go to the front, a servant of God who was interested in their spiritual welfare, distributed amongst them copies of the Holy Scriptures. Among the number of recipients was a young soldier who received a Bible with a loud laugh, adding as he turned aside to his comrades, "We are likely to be short of paper; this will make pipe-lights for some time to come." Several of the careless in the ranks joined in the laughter, and amidst their jeers their benefactor walked away. In a little while away went the soldiers, and away went the Bible in its new owner's safe keeping.

A short time afterwards these men took part in a fierce battle, and many were killed and wounded, but our soldier was mercifully preserved. True to his word, he had been using the leaves of God's precious book for pipe-lights, and very soon but few of them remained. Noticing one day how rapidly the book was decreasing, the young soldier lightly remarked that if he was to know what it was like he must begin to read it. Suiting the action to the word, he looked at the first remaining page and began to read: "Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation (judgment)."—John 5:28, 29.

These words seemed to speak to him as a voice of thunder, and he trembled at the thought of meeting the rejected Son of God in his sins. Becoming alarmed at his condition and danger, he carefully

read on about the story of God's matchless love in giving Christ to die for the ungodly, and of the pardon and forgiveness of sins to all those who believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross. The young soldier's heart of stone was melted, and he gladly rested his guilty soul upon the Savior of sinners, the one he had so long despised and rejected. "Very blessed for him it was so."

Shortly afterwards another battle took place, and amongst the wounded of that day's fight was the newly-converted soldier. After examination he was found to be mortally wounded, and he was brought home to his friends to die. The servant of Christ who had given him God's word went to see him, but arrived only to see his shattered body, for the precious life had fled, and the ransomed soul had departed to be with Christ.

Before passing away the soldier had written inside the cover of the Bible his name and when he received it; he also described why the greater portion of it was missing, and the result to him of reading what remained. This was the only Bible the soldier had ever possessed, but mutilated though it was, he had read what remained, and through the reading of it, by God's grace, had learned to trust Christ for salvation. His closing days amidst much suffering were marked by the triumphant testimony which he bore to the saving value of the blood of Christ. For him it was indeed a home-going. He could say:

"Farewell mortality, Jesus is mine, Farewell eternity, Jesus is mine."

Dear reader, let me ask you, could you give such an experience on your death-bed?

Remember John 5:28 29..

—J. J. P

"FIRE IF YOU DARE!"

We do not remember a more striking illustration of the sheltering value of the Savior's blood than the following incident, which occurred some few years ago:-

In one of the Spanish-speaking towns in South America, a British subject was arrested for joining in some local riot. He was condemned to be shot and brought out before a file of soldiers for that purpose. Without avail the British and American consuls protested against the act. Suddenly, just as the officer was about to give the word "FIRE," the British Consul rushed to the side of the condemned man, wrapped him in the British "Union Jack," and cried, "FIRE IF YOU DARE!" The American consul also wrapped him in the "Stars and Stripes," and stood on the other side. The result was that the arms were grounded, and the man delivered over to the British protection.

The sinner who believes in Jesus is saved by being covered with the robe of Christ's righteousness; for there is "no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." He is redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, and protected as one of God's children.

THE PRAYER BEHIND THE BARN.

Early one cold morning there came a knock at the door of the preacher's home. There stood the father and mother of a boy who was dying in the camp. They said to the preacher, "Won't you go with us to see our boy?"

The preacher took them in his car and reached the hospital just in time for a farewell word. But how precious were those last words. The preacher said to the dying boy, "Son, you are very sick. Should you die soon, are you prepared to go?"

The boy turned to his father and said, "Father, don't you remember the last night I was home before entering the service? you said, 'Son, this is your last evening at home, let's go behind the barn.' So we went and we prayed. In all my affliction the memory of that prayer behind the old barn has filled my very soul with joy that I have never known before."

The boy then passed on to Jesus, to Him who is able to save to the uttermost all that come to Him.

Remember the prayer behind the barn.

NO MORE BURDENS.

A Christian soldier serving with the B. E. Force, and who has distributed thousands of khaki-colored Testaments, gospels and tracts, was one day going into the trenches laden with them for distribution amongst his comrades, when one of them laughingly remarked, "My word, Jimmy, you're carrying a burden."

"Yes, I am," was the reply, "but thank God I am not carrying my sins, they were all laid on Jesus, when He died for me, and He would relieve you of yours, if you would only let Him."

"THE MUSTER ROLL"

An Incident of the late American War.

A battle had been fought,
And on the plain, unmindful of defeat
or victory,
The slain and wounded lay.
Grim death was busy still, unsatisfied,
Gathering the remnants of that sad
day's spoil.

As night drew on,
Two men of God were seen moving amid
Those scenes of death and dying agony.
As, nerved by heavenly strength, and
tender care
For souls, they sought to comfort dy-
ing saints
By whispering in their ears His promises
From Whom nor life nor death can sep-
arate;
And to the Lamb of God whose precious
blood
Can cleanse from every sin, to point
the gaze
Of those, whose day of life was almost
past,
Their sins yet unforgiven.

And now they stand
Beside a manly form, outstretched,—
alone;
His helmet from his head had fallen;
His hand
Still firmly grasped his keen but brok-
en sword;
His face was cold, and, thinking he was
gone,
They were just passing on, for time was
precious.
When a faint sigh caught their attentive
ears.
Life was still there, so bending softly
down,
They whispered in his ears most
earnestly,
Yet with that hush and gentleness with
which
We ever speak to a departing soul:—
"Brother! the blood of Jesus Christ,
God's Son,
Cleanseth from all sin."

The pale lips moved,
And gently whispered, "Hush!" then
they closed,
And life seemed gone:—
But yet once more
They whispered those thrice blessed
words, in hope
To point the parting soul to Christ in
Heaven—
"Brother! the precious blood of Jesus
Christ
Can cleanse from every sin."

Again the pale lips moved;
All else was still and motionless, for
Death
Already had his fatal work half done;
But gathering up his quickly failing
strength,
The dying soldier, dying victor, said:—
"Hush! for the angels call the Muster
Roll;
I wait to hear MY name."—

They spoke no more:
What need to speak again! for now full
well
They knew on Whom his dying hopes
were fixed,
And what his prospects were; so hush-
ed and still,
They kneeling, watched.
And presently a smile,
As of most thrilling and intense delight,
Played for a moment on the soldier's
face,
And with his one last breath he whis-
pered, "HERE!"
Oh! Grand
And blessed death. Quite ready for the
call,
He heard his Captain's voice; life's bat-
tle fought,
Life's victory won, the soldier thus re-
ceived
His welcome and his crown!

—E. J. O.

A SOLEMN FACT.

There is a way for any sinner to keep
out of hell,—but there is no way to
get out of hell.

Jesus says, "I am the Way." But the
rich man in hell was told that there
was "a great gulf fixed."

THE LAST CALL.

You must be converted to God! You
must be saved by the blood of Christ!
Open your heart and receive this grac-
ious, royal invitation to come. The
world can never satisfy the heart. Think
then, of God's wondrous love to you,
and—

"Look away from self and sin,
Look and live.
Look at what the Lord has done,
Look and live."

Christ died for the ungodly, and they
are found in every class of civilian life,
as well as in the army and navy (all
have sinned). Unconverted soldier, sol-
dier, sailor, civilian, old and young, you
had better hurry up.

There's no time to lose.

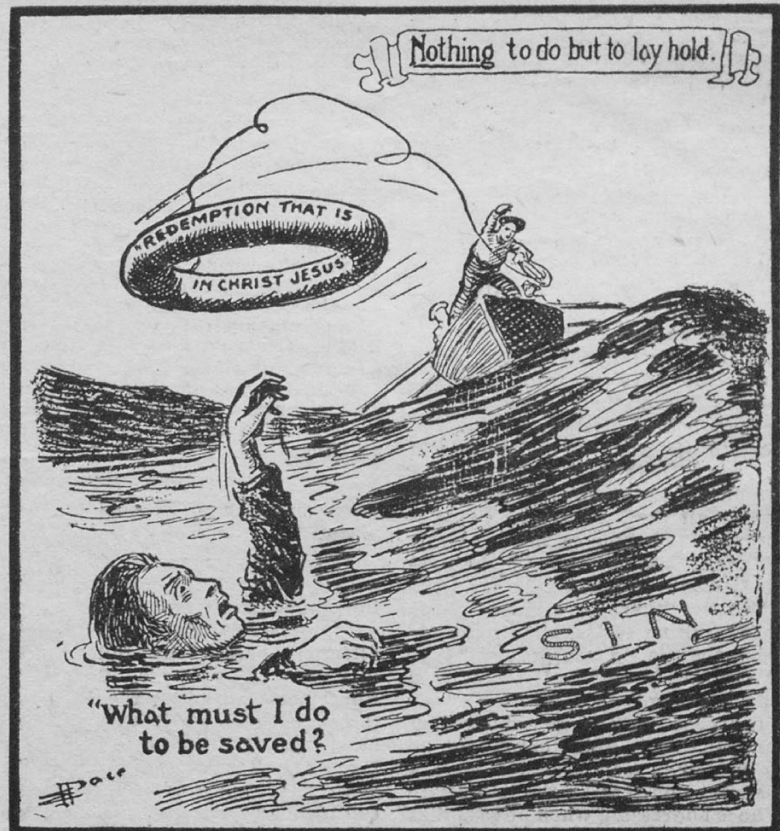
Luke 14 gives the invitation to
"Come," for all things are now ready.

Luke 15 tells of one who came to
himself in Time.

Luke 16 of one who came to himself
in Eternity (too late)!

The Lord Jesus Christ is now seated
on the right hand of the Majesty on
high; He may rise up at any moment,
and then the door of mercy will be
closed. It mattered little whether the
rejectors of Noah's testimony were thirty
yards or thirty miles away when the
door of the ark was shut—"they were
outside."

All need salvation; Christ, and Christ
alone can give it.



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THE NATIONS' GREATEST ASSET IS GOD'S FAVOR.

This is self evident and needs no argument, to all who believe in God; and before this conflict, now raging is over, the most skeptical will be convinced. We shall not belabor ourselves to do what only God can do, but Jehovah will convince the high headed kings as he did Nebuchadnezzar of old, that His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom and His dominion ruleth over all. Dan. 4: 3. He doeth according to His will in the army of Heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay His hand or say unto Him, "What doest thou?" Dan. 4:35. So, if the nations will do as Nebuchadnezzar was admonished to do break off sins by righteousness, the Divine favor will be an asset that will count for more than all army equipment.

It is reassuring to know that some of our greatest men believe in prayer. When we made Decoration Day a day of intercession, at President Wilson's suggestion, we only fell in line with our allies in Europe, whose leaders have given evidence of their belief in the power of prayer. England is exhorted to a stricter "spiritual discipline" by Mr. John Oxenham, the novelist, who sees that "something more than even mental, moral, and bodily discipline is needed if we are to win what we set out to win in this war." While the Government calls upon all its people to put themselves and all they possess at the disposal of the State "for salvation in this time of need." Mr. Oxenham, in the London Daily Chronicle, reminds the British public that "there are Higher Powers still only waiting to be called upon for the help that is so sorely needed to assure the speedy and final triumph of right over wrong."

He concedes for the generality that at heart all this is well known, but he points out what may probably have a wider application than to the immediate public he is addressing when he says that "we are a careless, free-and-easy self-willed lot, and we have wandered our own primrosy ways so long that we

find it not easy to get back to the solid bed-rock path, tho we recognize that it is a s. fer road to travel." Still more so he shows, do the "great leaders on land and sea know and feel it."

"It is on record that when the triumphant German hosts were sweeping on Paris in 1914, and suddenly swerved and gave it up, Lord Roberts was sitting with Lord Kitchener when the telegram announcing their unlooked-for retreat was handed in. Lord Roberts, a firm believer in prayer, exclaimed, 'Only God Almighty could have done this.' 'Somebody must have been praying,' said Lord Kitchener. Neither of

WHAT JESUS WILL DO FOR YOU.

The prophet Isaiah declares, "All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way (and that is the very essence of sin); and the Lord hath laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all." The reason that the sheep can go free is that the Shepherd Himself was smitten on their behalf. Our shepherd met the darts of the wicked one. All the billows of the wrath of God went over Him, the billows of death and judgment. The billows of death covered Him up. And He tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9). Oh the bitterness and anguish of His death! No one can taste it as He tasted it.

He met and embraced death and death embraced him. And He made His grave with the wicked. But God did not suffer His Holy One to see corruption. God suffered Him to go to Calvary and to Hell, but not to see corruption. The one who has not seen Jesus will see death and corruption. He tasted death for every man. But He stops there. It is for you to accept His death for your death. It is appointed unto men once to die and after that comes corruption and judgment. Where do you stand today? Have you within you the seeds of death and the seeds of corruption? Jesus can take out of you the seeds of death and place within you eternal life. He gave His life in order that He might give you eternal life. He paid the penalty of sin, and paid the price of giving you eternal life. And it is a free gift from Him.

them mawkish or canting men, if you please.

"And a day or two ago I cut out from a daily newspaper—not given to dilating on such matters, and inserted simply as interesting items of news on two different pages—the following: 'Victory depends on prayer. General Sir W. Robertson, in a letter regarding the Intercession service at Queen's Hall on May 7, says, 'It is only when the whole Empire unites in prayer as well as in work that we can look forward with confidence to a successful conclusion to this tragic war and to a just and righteous peace.'" Weighty words from such a man!

"The second paragraph runs: 'General Foch and Prayer—A Frenchman who knows General Foch tells me that he is an ardent believer in the power of prayer. "We shall be saved by it," he says, "and it will not be the first time in this deadly struggle.'" I believe I am right in saying that Lord Jellicoe, Sir David Beatty and Sir Douglas Haig hold firmly to that belief also.

"And all these are men whose very names carry weight with us all. It is worth our while to give heed to them. The knowledge that the whole nation was doing so would quadruple their confidence and that of every man in the fighting lines on land and sea.

"I remember an old story of a particularly disreputable sailorman who, when his ship was in the last extremity and all the rest were laboring hard to save her, suddenly fell on his knees and began praying, and the captain, finding him at it, kicked him back to duty with a scornful 'Keep your prayers for fine weather!' Foul-weather prayers evoked only by an acute sense of danger, can not count for much. And formal Intercession services do not seem to me likely to be of much greater avail.

"Unless the nations' prayers for deliverance from peril come spontaneously from hearts earnestly desirous of aligning themselves with God—of cleansing themselves of the old concretion that have clogged them like the barnacles, on a ship's bottom—of substituting new guiding lamps for the old misleading will-o'-the-wisps—of casting aside the false gods we have followed and turning steadfastly to the True—they are not likely to serve. It is no good asking God to fight on our side unless we first make our side fit for Him to fight on. As a nation, we have a terrible amount of leeway to make up. Are we, as a nation, making any real effort thereto? Until we genuinely do so our tribulation may have to go on."—From the Literary Digest.

I thank God for such men—God give us more like them. We have the information that at midnight after the inauguration of President Wilson he called his family, and his faithful body guard, Wm. McDonald, into his room, and after reading some Scripture, knelt down in prayer and dedicated his family, himself and this nation to God. My own heart leaps with joy as I think of our having such a man at the head of our Government. So it was in keeping with this fidelity to God, that He called the nation to its knees in confession, humiliation and prayer on May 30th.

What these men with President Wilson want; is to know that the whole nation is with them in his belief. This faith in God will stimulate to most faithful activity and devotion to the cause of freedom as represented by the flag of the United States which has ever been the emblem of liberty and freedom. Let every knee go down and every Christian voice go up to God, for the glorious triumph of right over the power of the enemy.—A. P. Collins.

THE ROYAL INVITATION

Have You Accepted It?

DEAR SOLDIER FRIEND:- It was out of love for your precious, never-dying soul, that the Lord Jesus Christ came into this sin-stricken scene. He died for guilty man, and it is the same love which led Him to Calvary, that led Him to issue this glorious invitation, "Come unto Me." He could say, "He that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst," John 6:35. He is the Bread of Life, and the Water of Life! When Hagar was sent away from Abraham's house, she carried water in a bottle, but it was soon gone (Gen. 21:14, 15). After Abraham's death, God blessed Isaac and he dwelt by the well Lahai-roi (Gen. 25:11). This was much better, but the weary, heavy-laden one who comes to Jesus, gets rest and Living Water, a well of water springing up into Everlasting Life (John 4:14).

The unconverted, unrepentent sinner hews out cisterns (broken cisterns) that can hold no water (Jer. 2:13). Alexander the Great, after conquering the world, sat down and wept, because there were no more worlds to conquer! Poor man! He was still thirsting! "Come unto Me." What rest for the conscience. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me." What rest for the heart.

"Now in the Glory, Christ waits to impart,
Peace to the conscience, and joy to the heart!"

"For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

THIS MAN RECEIVETH SINNERS

The Pharisees and scribes of Luke 15: 2, murmured saying, "This man receiveth sinners." Did He deny it? **Has He received you?** The Great Salvation has been provided, the good news is still proclaimed, the Royal invitation to come is still going forth. The question for you to decide is, What are you going to do with Christ's blessed invitation?

"There's no repentance in the grave,
And brief is mercy's day."

Thank God, the Christian can look up with the eye of faith to the Throne of God, and see there the very self-same Savior, God's beloved Son, Who once hung upon the cross for his sins, and can sing,

"We wait for Thee, for Thou e'en here
Hast won our heart's affection;
In spirit still we find Thee near.

Our solace and protection;
In cloudless light and glory bright
We soon with joy shall greet Thee,
And in the air shall meet Thee."

A MOTHER'S LAST PRESENT.

In a village not far from the little market town in which I was born and

spent my boy-hood days, there lived a poor widow who had an only son. This lad gave his mother no end of trouble and anxiety, owing to his notoriously wicked and incorrigible ways, and although he attended a Sunday school, no one was able to do anything with him. When he became old enough, he ran

"GONE WEST."

("Gone West" is the expression used by the soldier for being killed in action.)

The commanding officer and a sergeant were making their regular inspection of the trenches when, rounding one of its tortuous angles, the commanding officer almost stumbled over the form of a young bugler. A glance at the bloody shoulder and the limp distorted form told the story to the practiced eye. The trench had not been properly prepared: there were only two thicknesses of sandbags at the top of the parapet, instead of the required four, and a chance bullet had torn its way through, horribly wounding the fair young body in which it found lodgment.

"Done for?" queried the sergeant.

"Yes" answered the officer, "the poor lad's gone West."

Through some unaccountable vagary of fate the mind of the dying lad registered the spoken words. A sudden momentary surge of vitality moved the still figure. There was a flutter of eyelids, and the officer bent to catch the words that came faintly and with difficulty from the purple lips:

"Gone West- * * * Yes, sir * * * but * * * not done for! It is only * * * just beginning * * * I see Him! * * * and * * * and mother!" With the last word a wondrous smile illumined the pale face and the tired head dropped back into the blood-besmeared mud of the trench. But a few weeks before, in a Salvation Army hutment within sound of the rumbling guns, the bugler boy had found the Christ of Calvary, and to him it was just a peaceful journey, and as the officer bent again over the huddled figure, he realized the sweet boyish lips had said their last and the brave soul had "gone West"—Evangeline Booth.

off and enlisted as a soldier, and not long afterwards went "overseas" with his regiment. After his departure abroad, his poor widowed mother became ill. She, however, managed to pay her son's Sunday school teacher a visit and asked him if he would give her a Bible. "I want to send it to my poor boy," she remarked, "and who can tell what it

may do for him." A copy of God's precious Word was gladly given to the poor mother, and she entrusted the delivery of it to a Christian soldier, who was shortly leaving this country and going with his regiment to the same place as J. K. was stationed. On arrival, and as soon as opportunity was given, the Christian soldier sought out the widow's son and found him to be the very leader of his regiment in every description of vice. Making himself known, he said, "J— your mother has sent you her last present."

"Poor old soul, so she's gone at last, has she? I hope she sent me some cash," he went on in a careless manner.

"She has sent you something of far more value than gold or silver," replied his Christian comrade, at the same time handing him the Bible with his mother's last request, "That he would read one verse of the book every day."

"You will not refuse, will you, J—?"

"Well, it isn't much to ask anyhow, and I may just as well get on with it, so here goes." He opened the Bible and the first words his eyes alighted on were, "Come unto Me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

The Savior's Invitation.

"This is a strange affair," J— went on. "I have opened at the only verse in the Bible that I could ever learn by heart. I never could for the life of me learn another by heart when I went to the Sunday school. But who is this Me?"

"Don't you know?" replied his comrade. This then was the God-given opportunity to explain the glorious Gospel invitation contained in those precious words that fell from the lips of Him Who spake as never man spake, and J—'s heart was turned to the Savior of sinners. J— K— saw that in wondrous grace God could forgive him, a guilty sinner, and he rested in the finished work of Christ for Salvation, and instead of wretchedness, found rest in Him.

Only a short time elapsed after J—'s conversion before his regiment engaged the enemy in a stubborn fight, and after the battle he was amongst those missing. The Christian comrade who had brought him the Bible, found his dead body shortly afterwards under a large tree, his head resting on his Bible, which was opened at the passage: "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11: 28. J— had gone to his eternal reward.

This is a special edition for Soldiers and Sailors, and is not the regular edition of The Christian Evangel, which is a 16 paged bi-weekly paper.

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SALVATION FOR ALL.

THE NEED OF SALVATION.

1. "By nature children of wrath," Eph. 2:3.

"There is no difference; for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:22, 23.

"Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." Jas. 2:10.

God says that I am a sinner by nature and by practice, therefore, in His sight I am guilty and unfit for His presence.

2. "The wages of sin is death." Rom. 6:23.

"After this, the judgment." Heb. 9:27.

"Those who know not God, and obey not the Gospel, shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the presence of the Lord." 2 Thess. 1:8, 9, R.V.

From these texts I learn that because I am a sinner I deserve to be judged, and therefore in danger of banishment from God's presence forever. How then can I get my sin put away?

3. "Repent ye and believe the gospel," Mark 1:15.

"The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked; but now He commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent." Acts 17:30, R.V.

"Turn thou us unto Thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned." Lam. 5:21.

Repentance I learn is a recognition of being in a wrong path and a turning from that broad wrong highway that leadeth to destruction and a turning to that strait gate and narrow path that leadeth unto life.

4. "Through this man (the Lord Jesus) is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins, and by Him all that believe are justified." Acts 13:38, 39.

"I write unto you my little children, because your sins are forgiven." 1 Jno. 2:12, R.V.

"There is now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." Rom. 8:1.

God says that if I believe on the Lord Jesus, all my sins will be forgiven and I will become one of His children. Then He will never condemn me.

What then does it mean to believe on the Lord Jesus?

How may I become one of God's children?

THE WAY OF SALVATION.

As many as received Him (the Lord Jesus) to them gave He the right to become children of God, even to them that believe on His name.

John 1:12, R.V.

God says: To believe on the Lord Jesus is to receive Him, and that by receiving Him I become one of God's children, and so have all my sins forgiven.

What does it mean to receive the Lord? To "receive" means to accept, to take, to welcome. To receive the Lord Jesus means to take Him to be to me all that God offers Him to be to everybody.

What does God offer Jesus to be?

Three things. Just the three I need.

FIRST — SIN BEARER.

1. "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Isa. 53:6.

2. "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh (beareth) away the sin of the world." John 1:20.

3. "Who His own self bare our sins in His body on the tree." 1 Pet. 2:24.

When the Lord Jesus died on the cross, God laid all my sins on Him. To receive the Lord Jesus as Sin-bearer means that I accept this fact, and confessing that I am a lost guilty sinner, I ask God and trust Him to pardon me from all my sins, not because I deserve it, but because Jesus bore them on the cross.

SECOND — SAVIOUR.

1. "He is able also to save them to the uttermost (to the end) that come unto God by Him seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25.

2. "Able to keep you from stumbling." Jude 24.

3. "The Spirit of Truth . . . shall be in you." John 14:17.

The Lord Jesus not only died, He arose again. To receive Him means to take Him to be my living Saviour, who will keep me from the power of sin day by day, and give me strength to live the Christian life by His Holy Spirit, who will dwell in me.

THIRD — SOVEREIGN.

1. "God hath made Him both Lord and Christ (King), this Jesus whom ye crucified." Acts 2:36, R.V.

2. "To this end Christ both died and rose * * * that He might be Lord." Rom. 14:9.

To receive the Lord Jesus as Sovereign means to surrender to Him the control of my whole life and to serve and obey Him in everything.

How then can I receive the Lord Jesus into my heart and life, to be my living Savior and Sovereign?

3. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in." Rev. 3:20.

I must open the door. That means, I must welcome Jesus, and then believe

that He comes in, not because I feel it, but because He has promised, "I will come in."

A CONFESSION.

Realizing that I am a sinner, that my heart is utterly corrupt, and recognizing that as the Scriptures declare I am shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin, that I have sinned against God, and that I have continually done that which was evil in His sight, I come to Thee, O God, with the humble prayer of one who of old committed adultery, but who sought and obtained forgiveness of God.

"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquities, and cleanse me from my sin . . . Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." For Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.

I utter this prayer with all sincerity and I believe He who pardoned David's sin pardons mine also. I will tarry at His footstool until He gives me the full assurance of sins forgiven. He declares that "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I believe the blessed truth that as I look to God for cleansing, the precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me right now from all sin.

RECEIVING CHRIST

As I see that the scriptures plainly declare that "As many as received Him, (Jesus) to them gave He power to become the sons of God even to them that believe on His name," I come to Him now and take Him as my Sin-bearer, Savior, Sovereign.

I take Him now as my Sin-bearer, and confessing to God that I have been a guilty sinner, I trust God that He has pardoned me from all my sins because Jesus bore them on the cross.

I take Him now as my Savior and Sovereign, and opening my heart's door I welcome Him in to live with me day by day as the Savior who will keep me, and as the Sovereign whom I will obey.

Having thus received Jesus, I need not wait for any feelings, but on the authority of God's Word I now know that I am pardoned and made a child of God.

"Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.

"If any man open the door, I will come in."—Rev. 3:20.

"These things have I written unto you . . . that ye may know that ye have eternal life."—1 Jno. 5:13.

(Signed)

Name

Address

Date

—Arranged by G.R.H. and F.R. Wood.

Faithful Unto Death.

When the Emperor Licinius was persecuting the Christians in Armenia, the Thundering Legion was stationed at Sebaste. Forty men in that Legion declared themselves Christians, and were sentenced to be exposed naked all night on a frozen pool—for it was winter, and bitterly cold. In a house on the edge of the pool a large fire was kindled, and food and wine and a warm bath was prepared under the charge of Sempronius, a centurian, and a guard of soldiers; and it was announced to the forty, that if any of them left the pool and entered the house, they would be considered to have denied Christ. So night came on, and the keen wind from Mount Caucasus made the citizens close their windows and doors more tightly, and heap up the fuel on their hearths. And on the frozen pool were the forty warriors, some standing lost in prayer, some walking quickly to and fro, some already sleeping that sleep which only ends in death. And ever and again, as the hours went slowly by, they prayed, "**O Lord, forty wrestlers have come forth to fight for Thee; grant that forty wrestlers may receive the crown of victory.**"

And now, as the cold grew more intense, one of the forty could endure no longer, and he left the pool and came to the house where Sempronius and his men were keeping guard. But still the martyrs' prayer went up to heaven: "**O God, forty wrestlers have come forth to fight for Thee; grant that forty wrestlers may receive the crown of victory.**" And the prayer was answered. Sempronius, the centurian, was touched by his comrades' bravery. He declared himself a Christian, and took his place upon the frozen pool. And when the cold had done its work, and forty corpses lay upon the ice, forty glorious spirits, with Sempronius among them, entered into the presence of their King.

HOW LINCOLN WAS SAVED.

There was a preacher assigned to a charge in Springfield, Ill. He did not like the appointment, as Springfield was the State Capital, and the Legislature met there; also it was a literary city. But he had to go and the incident we are about to relate occurred in the second year of his ministry there.

One Sunday morning he was standing on his veranda, when a boy came running and said, "Abraham Lincoln sent me to find out if you were going to preach this morning." The preacher scarcely believed the boy and replied rather curtly, "You tell Mr. Lincoln if he wants to know if I am going to preach to come and see." The little fellow's hand began to shake as he said excitedly, "But Mr. Lincoln said he would give me twenty-five cents if I'd find out." Then the preacher thought if he could help any one surely he would do so; and gave this reply: "Tell Mr. Lincoln I am going to try to preach this morning at eleven o'clock."

The church was unusually crowded that morning, and when the President came, he was accompanied by the Governor of the State and his wife. There was no place to seat them, only to give them chairs from the platform. The minister felt very much intimidated; but inwardly imploring Divine aid he read his text: "Ye must be born again," and preached a very earnest sermon, emphasizing the truth of the text. The next morning Mr. Lincoln called on the minister, saying, "I heard your message yesterday morning with great interest, and have come to have a further interview with you on the subject."

Hour by hour the man of God talked and explained the Scriptures and the new birth to Mr. Lincoln who eagerly said, "That is just what I want—the new birth." They knelt in prayer and the pastor said he never before witnessed such a bright conversion. It was genuine! Good, honest old "Abe" Lincoln thus became a Christian.—S. S. L. Illustrator.

NO FELLOWSHIP WITH DARKNESS

At a Lincoln meeting held some years ago by the Civil War veterans in a Michigan city, after many incidents had been related, a battle-worn soldier arose and said: "We have heard much of what Lincoln did for the soldiers; now I want to tell what he did for me. I was a private in a Western regiment that was one of the first to respond to the call for 75,000. We had marched through the streets through crowds of cheering people, and when we had encamped for the night, were given permission to see the town. Like many of the others the saloon or tavern was the first thing we sought. With a number of the others, I was just about to enter one of these places, when I felt a hand upon my arm. Looking up, there was the face of President Lincoln, from his great height looking down upon me, a mere lad, with his kindly eyes and pleasant smile. He held out his hand, and as I took it, shook it in a strong western fashion, and said: 'I don't like to see our uniform going into those places.' That was all. Then he turned away and was lost in the crowd. Not one of us would have entered that place for all the wealth in Washington City. And that was what Abraham Lincoln

did then and there for me. I never go near a saloon, or think of entering, but I see again that kindly face and hear those strong words. That experience has been the means of salvation to my life."—S. S. L. Illustrator.

WITNESSING FOR CHRIST

"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto Me." These are the words of Jesus, and it is His will that you shall receive this power, and if you fall short of this, you fall short of His revealed will. The Divine Command, "Be filled with the Spirit" is just as imperative as the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal."

Seek Jesus then for this wonderful gift. He is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit. He is no respecter of persons and will make no difference between you and those at the beginning, that "upper room" company who received the Spirit of God in all His fullness on the day of Pentecost.

FOR GOD AND THE SOLDIERS.

We are glad to report that God is wonderfully blessing the work being done by the United Prayer and Workers League, the headquarters of which is at Houston, Texas, of distributing gospels and tracts and holding meetings in and near the camps for our Soldiers and Sailors. It encourages our hearts to press on in this work as we see scores of "mother's boys" confess Christ, going "over there" with a burning testimony in their hearts. The League will be glad to hear from Soldiers and Sailors who would like to get in touch with some of the Pentecostal meetings near them, or would like to have some of their tracts for themselves and to hand out to other men. We covet the prayers of God's children everywhere for this good work.—Raymond T. Richey, Supt.

A WELCOME IN LONDON.

Mrs. Cantell of 73 Highbury New Park, Highbury, N. London, England, is an American lady who will be pleased to welcome any boys of the U. S. A. detachments to her home and meetings.

• **A Broken Bridge.**—He that cannot forgive others, breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself.

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON THAT

WHOSOEVER
PUT YOUR NAME IN HERE

BELIEVETH ON HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT
HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

NOW OR NEVER!

"With most it is NOW or NEVER!" So writes one of the boys from the danger zone somewhere in France.

A machine gunner in the ——— testifies, "I was a bad lot from boyhood upwards. When I joined I was simply a wastral with no regard for the hereafter. I was soon looked upon as the worst of our mob—and they were a hard swearing, gambling, drunken lot. On the day I got hit I was the same as usual, without fear or care. Bye and bye Fritz began 'strafing' us and horror of horrors! got range of our battery. Within five minutes the battery was knocked out and every one of my mates killed by a direct hit. Then, for the first time in my life I realized my weakness, and instinctively—almost unknowingly—prayed! During my sojourn in hospital in France I have got to know more of my new Master and intend serving Him faithfully forever." With that gunner it was a case of yielding to God NOW or NEVER.

A Banquet of the Best.

God is sending you an invitation to a feast and the word has gone forth, "Come, for all things are NOW ready!" When you receive an invitation to a banquet it is not good form to keep your host waiting, especially if he is a person of importance. In this case the host is no less a person than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. If it is bad form to keep man waiting how much worse is it to keep God waiting? He is not inviting you to a funeral but to a feast. Some of us have had our feet under the heavenly banquet table for years and we heartily recommend the fare. Come along and help yourself.

We know of one man who put off accepting Jesus. He said there was plenty of time and if the worst came to the worst he could make his peace with God on the last day of his life. He got killed suddenly and unexpectedly, and did not have a moment in which he could repent. God says, "He that, being often reproved, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." God says, "NOW is the accepted time, NOW is the day of salvation." The world says "There is plenty of time." Who knows best? Neglecting this great salvation now means that you will inevitably be lost.

The Day of Judgment Fixed.

Paul was at one time at Athens and he told those Greeks that gathered round him that God had fixed a day when He was going to judge this old world, and Jesus was the One He had appointed to be the Judge. John tells us that Jesus is now our Advocate, but Paul warns us that the day is coming when He is going to be our Judge. He is a wise man who secures Him now as Advocate. Such will have nothing to fear when He moves up to the Judgment throne. Paul pressed his audience to

immediate decision, for he told them that God "NOW commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Some of the crowd mocked but some of them stayed right with the preacher and gave heed to his message. If God NOW commands it is ours NOW to obey. Woe to the man who refuses to obey orders that come from our Heavenly Headquarters.

Past, Present and Future.

Some of us have obeyed and we have no fear for past present or future. The past is pardoned and is covered with the blood of God's dear Son. God says "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud thy transgressions, and as a cloud, thy sins" (Isa. 44:22). We have no fear for the future, for God has said "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb. 13:5). In simple faith we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in

ETERNAL LIFE.

For God so loved the world that He gave—Oh! incomparable gift—His only begotten Son—the one for the many—that whosoever believeth—the simplest thing God could think of—in Him should not perish—yes, God says that we were perishing—but have everlasting life. God wants to give rather than destroy life. The enemy came to destroy and to kill. But Jesus says "I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly." Let Jesus have full control of your life and you will make eternity ring with the praises of Him who has given unto you eternal life.

the house of the Lord forever." In the present we are testifying, "NOW—not at some future time—now we are the sons of God."

Now or Never!

In one of the best sermons John the Baptist ever preached he said, "He that believeth on the Son (Jesus) HATH everlasting life; and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life (that means he shall NEVER taste any of the joys of heaven): but the wrath of God abideth on him." If the wrath of God abideth on the unbeliever it means that there is not one iota of a chance for him here or hereafter. But you can come to Jesus now and if you come His own word guarantees that He will not cast you out.—Stanley H. Frodsham, 1325 Broad St., Springfield, Mo. (The writer will be pleased to correspond with any who are enquiring more fully the way of salvation.)

"Where is hell?" asked a scoffer at one time. A Christian replied, "You will find it at the end of a godless life."

THE SIN AGAINST THE SOLDIER AND THE SAVIOUR.

A soldier said to a Christian the other day, "They tell us if we die in battle we shall be sure to go to heaven." Thus advantage has been taken of the undoubted bravery and self-sacrifice of our soldiers to minimize the work of the Redeemer. The sacrifice of these human lives is set forth as being sufficient to merit heaven without the atoning work of Christ. What an awful departure from the truth of God is this! To show how this heresy is spreading we hear of a preacher telling his audience that "in the presence of the dead soldier we are standing on holy ground," that to die in such a war as this is "a passport to heaven," that death in such a cause "is but a modern re-enacting of the sacrifice of Christ Himself."

Soldiers of this Great Land.

You know there is no salvation apart from Christ. He is the only way to heaven, and the Door. He says, "No man cometh unto the Father but by Me." If what this preacher says is true, there is no need for any Chaplain or Minister of God, to go and work among you; there is no need of any of these splendid gospel efforts that are being made for you at home or abroad. This preacher tells you that death in battle is "a passport to heaven," and "a modern re-enacting of the sacrifice of Christ Himself!" What an awful thing to send you into battle with this sin against Christ ringing in your ears! The Mahomedan leaders have said to their soldiers, "The gates of Paradise are under the shade of swords; he who dies fighting for the faith will assuredly gain admission there." And men today would send you forth to fight, telling you that your death will be an expiation for all your sins, and a modern re-enacting of the sacrifice of Christ!

You will not be deceived. Brave and gallant as you are, you know you cannot save yourselves. **You need a Savior.** You feel it in the trenches and in the hour of battle; you feel it when you read that your mother is praying for you at home, and when you kneel in prayer face to face with death. Thousands are praying for you. We love you too well to seek to give you comfort by a lie against your Redeemer. We know He is near you wherever you are. He is saying, "Come unto Me. * * * and I will give you rest."

Two men were fighting side by side. One morning one was hit and fell mortally wounded. His comrade knelt beside him and asked him if he could do anything for him. "Yes," he said, "in my pocket there is the address of my father and mother; if you live to get home, tell them how I died, and tell them the religion of Christ was good for me away from home in the trenches, and death has no fears for me." "I said, 'Yes, I'll tell them.' Then he opened his eyes and pulled me down. 'Supposing a shot came for you next,' he said, 'how would it be with you?' And although he only lived five minutes longer, he talked to me all that five minutes about my soul."