

was walking on yonder hill. I saw a gravel-pit fall in and bury three human beings alive. I lifted up my voice for help so loud that I was heard in the town below, at the distance of a mile; help came, and rescued two of the poor sufferers. No one called me an enthusiast then; and when I see eternal destruction ready to fall upon poor sinners, and about to entomb them irrecoverably in an eternal mass of woe, and call aloud for them to escape, shall I be called an enthusiast now? No, no!"

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men . . . Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For He hath made Him (Christ) to be sin (to bear the penalty of sin) for us, (Him) who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (11 Corinthians 5:11, 20, 21).

THE ONLY SOLVENT

In the chemistry class we learned how acids act on different substances. In the course of our experiment the professor gave us a bit of gold and told us to dissolve it. We left it all night in the strongest acid we had, and tried combinations of acids, then finally told him we thought gold could not be dissolved. He smiled.

"I knew you could not dissolve gold," he said; "none of the acids

you have there will attack it; but try this." And he handed us a bottle labeled "Nitromuriatic Acid (Aqua Regia)".

We poured some of its contents into the tube that held the piece of gold; and the gold that had resisted all the other acids quickly disappeared in the "royal water."

The next day in the classroom the professor asked, "Do you know why it is called 'Royal Water?'" "Yes," we replied, "It is because it is the master of gold, which can resist almost anything else that can be poured on it."

Then he said, "Boys, it will not hurt the lesson today if I take time to tell you that there is one other substance that is just as impervious as gold; it cannot be touched or changed, though a hundred attempts are made upon it. That substance is the sinful heart. Trial and affliction, riches and honor, imprisonment and punishment will not soften or master it. Education and culture will not dissolve and purify it. There is but one element that has power over it—the blood of Christ the Saviour, the aqua regia of the soul."

As it is written: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He (that is, the God to whom we confess them) is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8, 9). "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). R. R.

TRUE GOOD NEWS VS. FALSE BAD NEWS

A friend of mine with a developed sense of curiosity, on a visit to Chicago, attended a service in a Buddhist-Temple. They gave him some tracts to take home.

One of these tracts was a pamphlet of Daily Thoughts for a month, each Thought consisting of a selection or verse from the Buddhist Scriptures. The first Thought deserves our thought. It said,

"By oneself evil is done, by oneself one suffers; by oneself evil is left undone, by oneself one is purified. Purity and impurity belong to oneself; no one can purify another."

To begin with the last phrase first: what terrible news is this! This is not Good News, this is not the Gospel. We must all suffer for our sins, the Buddhists say; no one can atone for them, no one can expiate them, no one can propitiate God for us. The full wrath of a holy God must be borne by ourselves alone!

Fortunately no one need be a Buddhist if he knows Christ. No one need accept this false bad news, if he has heard the true Good News. Let us loudly and constantly proclaim the Good News that God hath made Christ "to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." For Christ "His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins should live unto righteousness" (1 Peter 2:24).

"Weary of earth and laden with my sin,
I look at heaven and long to enter in;
But there no evil thing may find a home.
And yet I hear a voice that bids me, 'Come!'"

G. H. C.

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