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THE FORT WAYNE BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL BULLETIN

VOL. I.

Fort Wayne, Indiana, January, 1910.

NO. 2.

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All correspondence should be addressed to Rev. D. Y. Schultz, Sup't., Fort Wayne, Indiana.

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THE BULLETIN.

The first appearance of The Bulletin was made in October. The weeks have quickly sped by, the first quarter has hastily drawn to its close, and the second number is going forth on its round of visitation on the increasing Bible School parish.

The Bulletin is a quarterly publication reporting the leading events of the School, giving account of the various departments of the institution, making important announcements, mentioning matters of personal interest including those of present and former students, teachers and visitors, setting forth some of the work of the classroom and emphasizing the purpose of the Bible Training School.

We trust to make each number better and more interesting than the preceding one. The paper is hoped to become a most potent

factor in furthering the interests, progress and extension of the work. We desire the aid of any student or other friend of the School in sending any proper information respecting any former member of the School that might be of interest to the others. The School is conducted on the family plan as much as possible and the members of this growing family, already consisting of several hundred members, should know about one another for purposes of personal interest and fellowship and prayer. Any who wish to keep in touch with the School in this intimate way will do well to subscribe at once.

There is no reason to doubt the most hearty welcome given the first Bulletin, judging by the words of appreciation which have found their way back to the editor's desk.

One good brother in Michigan writes: "We enjoy very much to read it."

A father of one of the former students in Indiana says: "I think it a fine paper,"

and is glad for it for the sake of having his daughter become better acquainted with the Bible School family and its work.

An Ohio sister gave the following expression: "I was glad for it. I read it from beginning to end as soon as I got hold of it. It did not take me long to decide that I wanted it. You will find 25 cents enclosed for subscription."

The above are a few of numerous testimonies of the same import.

THE FAMILY LIFE.

The Bible School Family of the Winter term is increased by about a score of new arrivals representing the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. All these have entered into the spirit and fellowship of the home life and it does not seem as if they had not always been with us.

It has been remarked a good many times by outside friends that the School seems composed of such noble and intelligent-looking young men and women. The general health of the household of faith has been exceptionally good. A deep earnest and joyfully serious spirit possesses these student minds and hearts. A noticeable growth in grace and settling in God and His word is evident. That they have come and are studying for a purpose is most observable.

The manifest co-operation on part of a good many of the parents in the scholastic welfare of their children can not be too highly commended, and it has a telling effect, for when children realize that their parents are backing them up with believing prayer and a warm heart-interest, they are encouraged and inspired to make the best of their God-given and fast-fleeting Bible School privileges.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSROOM WORK.

Chapter Studies is a course which is continued from last term. The epistle to the Romans is given a thorough exposition. Dispensational Truths is a line of teaching that is continued. Homiletics this term takes the place of Personal Work last term. A condensed course in Church History is a new study. Bible Doctrine extends over the whole year. The book of Jeremiah is arresting much interest, and Bible Geography and History demand the diligence of eager learners. The International Sabbath School Lesson is given every Sabbath morning. The needs of the literary department are met by the service of several faithful instructors. The musical and practical courses are taken up in other columns of this issue.

AN ENCOURAGING WORD.

A certain man of God who holds a responsible position in the Lord's work and who has visited us a few times, is known to have said to an intimate friend respecting the School, that he was very much impressed with the spirit of the School and that nowhere else in all his extended trip this Fall did he so much realize the Spirit of the Lord as at this place.

THE LIBRARY INCREASE.

Several missionary volumes were recently sent by kind friends and placed on the shelves, and a donation in money available for the purpose was turned into a number of most helpful books. We are thankful for this small increase, and hopeful for a yet larger increase.

It is surprising how far money can be made to go in producing real large and constant results when invested in wisely-selected books. Books are silent teachers that are accessible at all times. They need no support and the original cost is the only expense. It is well to consider such points in connection with the wise and economic application of God-given means.

Since writing the above and just before going to press, we received from Mr. W. J. Amstutz, one of our former students, a ten-dollar money order for an Unabridged Dictionary for the Library. This is a donation from the churches at Swanton and Spencer, Ohio, of which our brother is pastor. Such kind help and good interest is highly appreciated.

THE MISSION BAND.

The election of officers of the Students Mission Band for the Winter term took place on the first Tuesday evening of the term, according to the custom of former years, and resulted as follows: George M. Hostetler, president; Minnie Hilty, secretary; Menno S. Hirschy, treasurer; John H. Jancen, chorister; Dora A. Kriege, pianist. The program committee consists of the president, the secretary and the treasurer.

MUSIC.

Instrumental and vocal music instruction is in charge of Mr. Ezra Rupp. He has been having classes in Notation and Chorus training, also in Conducting, with marked success. The School this year has a large proportion of students of musical talent and training, and it is a rare delight to watch the unfolding of these gifts into actual gospel effects.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Catalogues and other literature of the School will be mailed to any address on request. Information respecting the School will be cheerfully given to inquirers. Young people especially are invited to open correspondence. The Bulletin will be an excellent channel through which to bring the School to the attention of many Christian friends. Names and addresses are solicited. Many subscriptions are expected. Every one can lend a helping hand. A Bible student won may mean a worker whom God will use to save many souls. Students are admitted at any time and applications given prompt attention. Always address the Superintendents, Rev. or Mrs. D. Y. Schultz, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

THE BIBLE SCHOOL FAMILY CIRCLE.

Only present and former students are mentioned under this heading.

Rev. H. H. Amstutz has accompanied one of our brethren on a trip to Kansas in the financial interests of the School.

Mr. and Mrs. John Merryman and children, formerly of Carlock, Ill., now reside at Berne, Ind.

Edwin Steiner was home at Pandora, Ohio, over the holiday season and assisted in the special revival meetings held at the time.

Ernest Kuhnle, who is in charge of church and mission work in Detroit, Mich., was recently ordained to the full ministry. God is richly blessing his gospel efforts.

Anton Locker was a welcome caller at the School. Our brother expects to leave Berne, Indiana, where he has been the last year, and go to Chicago.

Rev. S. D. Burkey, of Peoria, Ill., expects to conduct a series of special gospel meetings shortly after New Year and requests the prayers of praying people.

John R. Regier, of Detroit, Mich., is spending several days at the Bible School. In connection with his occupation in Detroit he has been rendering much helpful service in Sunday School and Mission work.

Joseph C. Switzer, one of our present students, recently visited a relative at Grabill, Ind., and was asked to give a message morning and evening in the M. and M. church.

Miss Matilda Lehman, of the Chicago Hebrew Mission, passed through the city the other day to visit her home at Berne, Ind. We expect her to make a brief stop on her return.

A. H. Gautschy, until now engaged in the Light and Hope Mission in Cleveland, Ohio, is making a change in favor of a large open door of usefulness in Chicago. We enjoyed his visit on Christmas day.

Mrs. Walter H. Lugibihl tarried over night on her way to visit her parents at Berne, Ind., over the holiday season. She was not accompanied by her husband whose duties demanded his presence in their mission work at Milwaukee, Wis.

H. C. Theissen, pastor of the Missionary Church at Pandora, Ohio, has recently had the pleasure of seeing a great deal of good done in that town and vicinity through the excellent gospel work by gifted singing and preaching evangelists.

Miss Bertha Canfield has just closed her work in the Rescue Home and Mission of this city and returned to Pettisville, Ohio. After a period of cessation from public activities we trust she will be physically able to resume mission work.

Miss Affie Smoots, connected with the Door of Hope work at Lima, Ohio, and Miss Agnes Sprunger, of Berne, Ind., have had some encouraging providences in favor of procuring their outfit and have good reasons to believe that they will soon go out as missionaries to the Congo.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Patterson were put in charge of an Indian orphanage work several months ago at Unchuka, Okla., and are reported doing very well. Mrs. Patterson having come to Fort Wayne on account of the sickness of a near relative called at the School recently.

Miss Nellie Bowen, who spent two months in New York, returned and visited several places in Ohio and Indiana, came for the last time to the Bible School and gave her farewell address on Sunday the 12th of December. She left Fort Wayne the following Tuesday and sailed from Seattle, Wash., on the 22nd of the same month.

The Pandora (Ohio) Times has this to say of two of our students who this Fall went as missionaries to Arizona: "Emil Schwab and wife, our missionaries to the Navajos Indians in Arizona, write that they are enjoying their work very much and that there is a great field of work among those ignorant people." A recent letter from them confirms this statement.

PERSONALIA—OTHER THAN OF STUDENTS.

Rev. and Mrs. T. J. Keith, of Providence, R. I., delighted us with a fragrant Christmas greeting. The students added since three years ago should know that for a season our brother was one of our beloved Bible instructors.

Rev. A. C. Gaebelien, of New York, leaves us to expect that some time he may visit us and give a portion of things new and old out of the precious word.

Rev. J. H. Burrige, of Bristol, England, will, the Lord willing, be with us several days beginning January 9th and deliver several Bible studies.

Miss Elisa VonGunten, Central China missionary, made her final visit to the School and gave her farewell address about the middle of December.

Miss Louise C. Blume, of Edwardsville, Ill., a school teacher of an established reputation for many years, was evidently sent of the Lord as teacher to have charge of several classes.

Mr. E. F. Yarnelle, of this city and director of the Winona Assembly, will both sing and speak for us one Sunday afternoon. It is needless to say that his messages will be greatly enjoyed.

Mr. W. R. Johnston, Field Superintendent of missionary work among the Navajos Indians in Arizona, visited the School about the middle of November and addressed the students a few times.

Mr. Emil Erhart is at present soliciting funds toward defraying the balance of the indebtedness which still rests upon the building. He is at present in Kansas. He is affectionately commended to the prayers of God's people for this particular purpose.

Rev. J. E. Ramseyer, evangelist and president of the Missionary Church Association, recently spent several days in our midst and gave several messages. Rev. Geo. R. Schroeder, who accompanies him in evangelistic work, also afforded us the pleasure of his fellowship and a lesson from the Word in morning worship.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT.

The benefits of musical training are evident and the casual observer, even, soon sees the importance which music plays in effective Christian work, and the Bible student in active service can not fail to realize the benefits to himself and his work, of a personal knowledge of, and training in music.

The methods employed in this School, in class work and private instruction, are such as prepare the student especially for gospel singing and playing. Special attention is given to expression and interpretation.

A marked interest was shown by the students during the Fall term in classroom and private work, which included classes in Elementary Notation, Conducting and General Chorus training. These are being continued in the Winter term with a class in Advanced Notation added.

The time given to the class in Elementary Notation is two hours a week and the work consists of a study of the Rudiments and all the Major Keys.

The work done by the Advanced Notation class, one hour a week, will cover a study of Chromatic Tones, Intervals and Minor Keys.

The Conducting class holds the interest of the students and promises to become a success and a great help to them in their gospel work. The purpose of the class is to qualify every student for conducting a gospel song service and to train for Choir conducting and Chorus leading.

The General Chorus class gives especial attention to the study and interpretation of Hymns.

The approval of the Lord has been resting upon the efforts of the Music Department. The students have been manifesting a joy in the work and been making good progress. We are grateful to God for His blessing and trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide and hold in His power and use for His glory the instruction and training of this department. Seeing its importance in the Lord's work, we desire that the prayers of His people may be offered in its behalf.

E. A. RUPP, Instructor.

THE GOSPEL MISSION.

Rev. and Mrs. T. P. Potts, Sup'ts.

There has been special activity in Gospel mission work during the last term. God has given blessing and we believe that there has been much fruit gathered for eternity. In this line of Christian service one has to believe for much more than is seen, as there are so many that come into our Mission but once, and then pass on to another city or place and are lost sight of by those who have prayed with them or spoken to them.

The three months which have elapsed since the opening of the Mission have proven that the location of the Gospel Mission on Calhoun street is one of the very best that could have been chosen. We have had an unusually large number of railroad men come into our meetings. Many of these continue to come as often as they can. They are at the meetings when they are in the city between "runs." A number of these have been prayed with and many have made promises that they would live better lives. There have been between sixty and seventy people personally talked with or prayed with in these three months past and their names and addresses taken down for future reference.

Much valuable service has been rendered by the students of the Bible Training School in singing and in doing personal work. Some visitation work has been done among the families with whom we have come in touch in the meetings, and this has resulted in good. Much more of this kind of work is needed but the superintendents of the mission and

the students being so busy in other lines of work have been prevented from doing more.

The Gospel Mission offers to the student body of the School one of the greatest possible opportunities to get training in personal work and soul winning. This is the kind of work that brings the Christian worker into contact with all classes of people and with all the excuses, objections and difficulties which men offer for not living the Christian life. The space allotted to this article will not permit us giving many incidents, but we shall relate one to illustrate one side of this work. One evening there was passing by the door of the Mission a young man, who was invited to come into the meeting by one of the lady students standing at the door. He had not intended to come and had passed by that way at other times as he told us afterwards. But this young man was impressed to come into the service in response to the invitation of the worker, although not at all interested. He had been drinking some. He sat down and remained for some time while the meeting was in progress and then got up to go out when one of the workers stopped him and brought him back, and one of the young men sat by him to keep him in the meeting. After a time the leader came to him and began to talk with him. After some considerable conversation with the young man the leader found out many things in regard to his life, and before long the young man had become interested and had opened his heart and told much of his past life. He was not more than twenty-three or twenty-four years of age. He had been an orphan from the time he was quite a lad and had been a news-boy in Chicago for a number of years and is now in the city of Fort Wayne learning a trade. He said he had not been inside a church for some ten years and had not really thought anything about his soul's salvation. He said no one had ever seemed to take any interest in him, and that no one had before spoken to him about his salvation in this personal way. He said in his contact with the world he had simply come to think that the thing to do was to look out for himself and let everybody else do the same for themselves. Before he left the Mission room his heart was tender and he prayed and asked forgiveness of God and said he would try to live a Christian life. This is only one among many of the same kind.

The work among the children has been wonderfully blessed. Over sixty children have been enrolled in the Saturday afternoon class. Here there is a graded course of Bible study with pictures and books to interest the children and also an hour's instruction in sewing. Many of these children come from homes where Christ is not honored and we trust that by means of the chil-

dren's work many of these homes will be won for Christ.

The great need in the Christian world today is that passionate passion for souls which was the very essence of our Saviour's life and ministry. It is the very same passion that has inspired every successful Christian worker since the days of our Lord's ministry upon earth.

"Oh for a passionate passion for souls!
Oh for the fire that burns!
Oh for the love that loves unto death!
Oh for the pity that yearns!"

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

Joshua.

1. Explain the typical meaning of Canaan.
2. For what do Moses and Joshua each stand?
3. What has Moses' death to do with entering the land?
4. Of what is Jordan a type? What does it mean here?
5. What does the ark in Jordan signify?
6. Explain the stones in Jordan, and in Gilgal.
7. What is meant by the reproach of Egypt?
8. How do manna and the old corn differ?
9. For what does warfare in the land stand?
10. What do the victory at Jericho and defeat at Ai teach us?

Hebrews.

1. What is the theme of Hebrews?
2. How is Christ's exaltation shown in chapter I?
3. Why was He made lower than the angels?
4. How is Christ greater than Joshua?
5. Of what is the Sabbath a type?
6. Explain the fatal apostasy of chapter VI, 4-6.
7. How is our hope made secure?
8. How is Melchisedec a type of Christ?
9. How does the Melchisedec priesthood differ from the Aaronic?
10. Explain the two covenants.

Personal Work.

1. What is included in the department of personal work?
2. Name four or five necessary equipments of a personal worker.
3. Name at least five important rules about dealing with souls.
4. Name at least eight distinctive classes of people one meets in mission and personal work.
5. Name several objections and excuses that people present as a reason for not coming to Christ, and give a text or give in a sentence how you would meet the objection.

6. Define atheist, pantheist, polytheist, infidel, and evolutionist.

Bible Doctrine.

1. Forgiveness: What is it? Describe the two aspects.
2. Faith: Give five marks of saving faith. How is faith obtained?
3. Redemption: From what are we redeemed? When is redemption obtained?
4. Regeneration: What is it? Why is it necessary? What is the nature of the new life?
5. Repentance: Give proofs of its importance. How is it produced?
6. Justification: How is one justified? What is the ground of justification? What is the extent?
7. Sanctification: What three parts constitute sanctification? How is it related to justification? Distinguish between positional and practical sanctification.
8. Adoption: What is meant by adoption? Experimentally considered, what change does it produce in the believer?
9. Assurance: Name five points in which assurance may be had. How is assurance of salvation obtained? Assurance of hope?

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE.

Rev. G. P. Pardington, Ph. D.

Second only to the importance of Bible study is the question of method. But here it is a case of many men many methods. Every Bible teacher is apt to have some favorite method of study, from which he has reaped a fruitful harvest of Scriptural knowledge and spiritual profit. And naturally this method he is ever ready to recommend to others. There are, however, several valuable, one might almost say indispensable methods of Bible study, with which every student should be familiar. Some of these are telescopic, while others of them are microscopic; some range horizontally over wide tracts of Scripture, and others perpendicularly explore "the veins of truth in the mines of God."

In the forefront stands the Devotional study of the Scriptures. But someone will say, surely reading the Bible for spiritual profit should not be reduced to a method. On the contrary, we think that it should be—if the best results are to be secured. In family worship we would encourage the reading of a book of the Bible in course. And in private devotion the practice of George Muller cannot be excelled. After prayer for illumination and guidance he was accustomed to open his Bible and read continuously, chapter after chapter, until his heart overflowed with thanksgiving and praise.

Again, there is the Homiletical study of the Scriptures. This will naturally appeal to ministers and Christian workers. It should not be confused with the devotional study of the Bible—the hour for which should be held sacred to spiritual profit. The homiletical method consists in a diligent and systematic search of the Scriptures for suitable texts and topics for preaching. There is advantage in entering in a note-book the results of such study along with suggestive outlines and striking illustrations. This method of Bible study is serious work, and will not be neglected by the faithful worker who seeks to be efficient in service.

Again, there is the Dispensational study of the Scriptures. The seven dispensations should be thoroughly mastered, and the teaching of the Word concerning the Jew, the Gentile and the Church carefully distinguished. Such knowledge, for example, will prevent us from robbing the chosen people of their blessings and at the same time being unwilling to share their curses! The Scofield Reference Bible, recently published, will greatly aid in this method, as well as in all other methods, of Bible study.

But again, there is the Doctrinal study of the Scriptures. Without familiarity with this the equipment of the Christian worker will not be complete. The Bible is like a gold mine. The Word of God is rich in ore, but the precious metal of Divine truth does not, so to say, lie on the surface, already mined and minted as currency for general circulation. One has to dig deep to get at "veins of truth in the mines of God." Leaving the figure of speech, the student should acquire a thorough and systematic knowledge of the teaching of the Holy Scriptures on the fundamental doctrines of Christianity; as, God, angels, man, sin, Christ, the atonement, the Holy Spirit, the Christian life, the Church, the future, etc. Here a helpful guide over a part of the road (the book is not complete) would be "What the Bible Teaches," by Dr. Torrey.

Then again, there is the Topical study of the Scriptures. This consists of the study of the great words and vital themes of the Bible; such as, Atonement, Adoption, Advocate, Day of the Lord, Death, Grace, Hell, Judgment, Kingdom, Mercy, Reconciliation, Sin, Sonship, Sacrifice, Tithing, etc., etc. Here again the Scofield Bible contains rich material. But if one has some acquaintance with Hebrew or Greek, he may use to great advantage Canon Girdlestone's Old Testament Synonyms and Archbishop Trench's New Testament Synonyms. The results thus obtained, if preserved in note-books, will be found useful in preparing Bible Readings and platform addresses.

Moreover, the Historical and Biographical

study of the Scriptures should not be neglected. By the historical method one will master the outstanding facts of Scripture. This is fundamental, for before doctrines come the facts upon which they rest. Smith's Scripture History, or Blackie's Outlines will be of service. Gray's Synthetic Studies, particularly the Old Testament portion, will be found helpful. The Biographical study of the Bible will take up such great names as Abraham, Moses, Samuel, David, Paul, and from their lives draw spiritual lessons applicable to present day believers.

Then, closely related to the Biographical is the Typical study of the Scriptures. But here a word of caution is in place. There is a growing tendency among some Bible teachers to find types where is no Scriptural warrant. And there is a temptation, which indeed many do not resist, to press types altogether too far in the matter of detail. It is well to bear in mind that a type is only an adumbration of its antitype; that is, it is a shadow of a future person or thing. And from a shadow one does not expect to get the sharp lines of a photograph. The subject is so fundamentally important that the student is urged to acquaint himself with that great work, "The Typology of Scripture," by Fairbairn. Some suggestive studies for the beginner would be to take up the lives of Adam, Joseph, Moses and David as types of Christ; the Tabernacle as the type of Christ, the Church and the believer; and the pass-over as a type of redemption.

Finally, there is the book by book study of Scriptures; and as the writer has found this to be the most helpful method of all, perhaps he may be pardoned for exploiting it. As a first step, questions of Introduction, such as authorship, date, place of composition, key-verse, characteristics, etc., should be taken up and the facts gleaned entered in a note-book. Here help will be needed, and Moorehead's Outline Studies of the Books of the Old Testament and Kerr's Introduction to New Testament Study, will prove invaluable. Next, a general idea of the contents of the book should be acquired. In order to gain this, read the book, as Dr. Gray would say, "repeatedly, continuously, prayerfully and independently." Next, draw up a rough outline of the book, indicating the main divisions much as one would prepare a sermon outline. A little help here may be allowed, but for the most part the student should do original work. Finally, a minute analysis of the book should be made. This should extend to paragraphs, and, where necessary, even to single verses. For this detailed work the student should depend wholly upon himself. He may with profit compare his work with the commentaries; for thereby his respect for the commentaries will be increased;

inasmuch as he will be delightfully surprised to find how often the commentaries agree with him! Such a discovery, however, should not puff him up; but it should increase his confidence in his own mind, when illuminated and directed by the Holy Spirit. Interspersed through his notes the student may jot down interesting historical, geographical, doctrinal, and archeological facts along with suggestive themes and outlines for sermons. When completed, such a note-book will be worth its weight in gold to the student; and next to his Bible he will find it useful in his work for Christ. The writer has many of the books of the Bible thus treated; and it is his ambition to cover the whole Sacred Library. Inasmuch as the student is not restricted in his choice to any one method of Bible study, he is urged to try the book by book way. The Sunday School Lessons for 1910 are in the Gospel of Matthew. This would be a good book to start on. DO IT NOW!

THE BIBLE AND ITS USES.

By Rev. H. P. Welton, D. D.

Martin Luther, in his comments on Heb. 10:7 says, "There is but one book—there is but one person: that book is the Bible, that person is Jesus Christ." Luther was a scholar, therefore he was not a higher critic. The word "Bible" means "book," and among all the thousands of books which fill the world's libraries, there is one that is so preeminently above all others as to be called "the Book," and no one asks which book? So there were many in Israel who bore the name of Jesus, for it was a common name, but there was one among them whose "name is above every name." And no one asks, Which Jesus?

The one Book and the one Person go together, for, speaking before through the psalmist, He said, "In the volume of the book it is written of me" (Ps. 40:7); and again, speaking of the sacred Scriptures He said, "They are they which testify of me" (Jno. 5:39). Take Jesus out of the Book, and we have left only an empty shell, worthless and dead.

The uses of the Bible are threefold. It is the essential and only means of the Christian Life, Growth and Service.

1. It is the only means of life. It is claimed by some self-styled scholars, that the Bible is not at all necessary to Christianity; that the last appeal is not to the book, but to the human consciousness, and that this, and not the Bible, is the standard of truth. But there is no conversion, no salvation, no life, but by the use of the Word of God.

If we are born of God, it is only when the gospel is heard and takes root in the heart. "Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth" (Jas. 1:18). So Paul writes to Timothy: "Thou has known the holy Scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation" (II Tim. 3:15). Thus also Peter testifies that we are born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever" (I. Pet. 1:23).

The parable of the sower teaches the absolute necessity of the Word to produce spiritual fruit. "The seed is the Word of God" (Lu. 8:11). As the farmer can get no crop without first putting the seed into the ground no more can there be any spiritual result without the use of the Word. In both cases, the germ of life is not in the soil, but in the seed. You may till the soil ever so diligently all the season, but not a single grain of wheat will be produced unless the seed is first sown. So you may work with the sinner by every possible means. You may move upon the feelings and move the heart to tenderness and cause tears to flow; but unless God's Word has been put into the heart for the soul to take hold upon, all will pass away and leave the soul as dead as before.

It is not true that:
 "Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
 Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
 Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,
 Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

This is a beautiful sentiment, but the perishing are not rescued by any such means. There can be no salvation but by faith, and "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

2. It is also the only means of growth. In the vegetable and the animal world, the next thing after the beginning of life is growth. It is no less so in the spiritual realm, and God had provided the means for this. His first word to the renewed soul is, "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, ye may grow thereby" (I. Pet. 2:2-3). There is milk for babes and also strong food for the more advanced life. There is manifest in the churches everywhere a sad lack of development of the Christian life. The reason is not hard to find; it is lack of food. Treat a babe in the home as the convert is treated in many churches, and what will be the result? Hosts of young converts die of starvation while the Word of God abounds with the divinely-provided food for the spiritual life.

The milk—simple gospel truth—should be given to babes in Christ. But these should

soon be able to take in and digest the stronger truths. A babe in the house is a joy, but if it continues for years a babe, it becomes a calamity. This calamity has befallen the house of God. The writer of Hebrews administered a severe rebuke for this state of things to the Christians of his time: "When for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again what be the first principles of the oracles of God, and are become such as have need of milk, and not strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilled in the Word of righteousness, for he is a babe; but strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age" (Heb. 5:12-14). This is eminently applicable to the churches today. They are filled with perpetual babes, spiritual dwarfs, who ought to be well developed and strong men and women, able to teach others.

3. It is the means or instrument of service. It is the weapon in the hands of the Christian soldier with which to wage the Christian warfare. When Paul had described the whole armor of God, covering the entire body from head to foot, for the protection of the person against the assaults of the enemy, he then puts into his hand a single weapon with which to make his aggressive attacks upon his foes. It is the "sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Eph. 6:17). Without this, the Christian worker is weak and inefficient; but with it, he is armed with a weapon which is "living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). As the soldier with his sword is able to reach the vital parts of the enemy's body, so, with the Word of God, the Christian worker is able to reach every hiding place of the soul, uncovering and bringing to light the very secrets of the heart. A faithful use of the Word of God, in the hand of one who is skilled in its use, will accomplish what no words of man can ever do.

Such is the Bible, and such are the reasons why it should be made the chief study of the Christian. It is inspired of God (God-breathed), being the very breath of God formulated into words. It is a revelation of the mind and purpose, and method of God. It is the only means of salvation and eternal life, or of the development of that life when formed. It is the only effective instrument in the hands of the servant of Christ, "that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto every good work" (II. Tim. 3:17). Therefore we cannot become too well acquainted with it. Time and money spent in acquiring a knowledge of it will surely bear the best fruit.