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ONE of the popular gospel hymns has in it the line "When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there." It is a blessed privilege to have the assurance of salvation, to know that we are saved, to be able to say, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." There is nothing that can give one the same real joy as the knowledge that he has been saved and that he will spend the unending ages of eternity in the presence of the Saviour who has redeemed him. If there is anything that can add to his happiness in heaven, it would seem to be the fact that he could lay at the Saviour's feet a crown sparkling with many jewels, each representing a soul which he had been able to lead to Christ, and then to have the joy of seeing these souls in the heavenly home. What must be the feeling of one who has no stars to present to his Redeemer, and who must walk the heavenly streets throughout eternity, without ever meeting one whom he has won for Jesus and who is in heaven, it would seem to be the fact that he earth? It is only in this life that we can win souls for our Master. Let us see that there are others whom we have won to stand with us, "when the roll is called up yonder."

REPORTS from the churches in various parts of the country seem to show that pastors in increasing numbers are making the mid-week services periods of Bible study. These services usually vary but slightly from the ordinary Sunday preaching service, except that not as much study is given to the lecture as is given to a sermon. Many pastors are now taking up special books of the Bible and studying them systematically with their people. This is a most excellent plan. Some times surprise is expressed that people are not better acquainted with the Bible than they are. May this not be due to the fact that most people have very little instruction in the Bible, except that which is given them in sermons which are often preached from isolated texts? The study by books will relieve this condition of affairs. It will mean hard work by pastor and people, but it is worth it all.

CHOICE OF BOOKS ought to have more attention than is usually given to it. Many people, who have very little time to read pick up any book that may be convenient, or take any book that is suggested by another, without stopping to consider what it is. Some professional readers, such as book reviewers for papers and magazines, have to read all the books that come to them as far as possible, but the ordinary reader would find this impossible and decidedly unprofitable. In deciding what to read several things ought to be kept in mind. If mere amusement is the object then a good novel will answer the purpose. In this day, however, many novels are written as real propaganda for some special theory or doctrine. We recently read a novel which was a very well written story, but it was very evident that the purpose of the book was to teach evolution. If instruction is desired, as well as entertainment, books of travel and biography will be very helpful. In case

of the desire for study of special subjects, books on those subjects should be secured. If there is a desire for improvement in spiritual life, books of a devotional nature should be chosen. When there is a desire to study more fully the word of God than can be done by just reading it, it is well to select good expository works on the portion of the Bible to be studied at a given time, books that treat of special subjects, as faith or prayer. If books are wanted for young people or children, they should be selected with reference to their ages. Do not give a ten-year old boy "Baxter's Saints' Rest." Selections can be made to advantage by reading the reviews of books in reliable papers and magazines, by talking with well read people whose judgment can be taken.

INCARNATE LOVE.

O Love of God incarnate,
Who comest from above,
To show us God the Father
In human life of love,
God's love to earth thou bringest
That men may see in Thee
How like man is the Father,
How like God man may be.

O Love of God incarnate,
Life bearer sent to men,
Who drinks at Thy deep fountain
Shall never thirst again:
God's life to earth Thou bringest,
And, though the thorn-path trod
Led Thee to death on Calvary,
Thou wast the Son of God!

O Love of God incarnate,
Thy resurrection hour
Revealed the life eternal,
And robbed death of its power:
Enthroned on high Thou reignest
That man may share with Thee
Thy life, Thy love, Thy glory,
And live eternally.

O Love of God incarnate,
Thou everliving Word,
Through Whom the Father speaketh,
In Whom man's voice is heard,
In Thee all love and wisdom,
Divine and human, meet;
When God through Thee hath spoken,
Love's message is complete!

—Wilbur Fisk Tillett.

Those who buy a number of books during the year would find it a matter of economy of time and money to subscribe for several papers that review books, just for the sake of the reviews. For many a book that is worthless is bought on the suggestion of some one whose judgment is not worth much or from the advertisement of some publisher, whose only aim is to sell the book. The Church papers especially may be generally depended upon to give the information desired, as their aim is simply to help their readers to get the desired information in regard to the books reviewed.

SHALL THE CHURCH PAY ITS DEBTS, is a question asked by the Presbyterian Witness of Canada. The debts referred to by that paper are those resting upon the boards of the Canadian church due to the fact that

the cost of its mission work has exceeded the contributions of the Church. The situation is exactly the same as in our Church. Our home and foreign mission committees are heavily in debt. This is not due to any mismanagement or even to the expansion of the work, but only to conditions brought about by the war, which have not yet been relieved. One of three courses has been open to the Church. The work might have been curtailed and some of the workers been discharged, or the committees could continue the work and go into debt, or the Church could have made larger contributions. It would have been very unwise to curtail the work and discharge the workers. An injury would have been done to the work that would not have been overcome in years, and an injustice would have been done the workers to have deprived them of their support, when there was no provision made or could be made to give them new work. The Church for years has been praying that God would call laborers into His harvest field. Every such prayer sent up by the Church or by any member of it was a pledge that those whom God would send should be supported in their work. So the Church has felt that these workers and the work they are doing must be supported. Because the needed money has not been provided, debts have been incurred. These debts have not been made by the committees. All the plans of the work have been approved by the General Assembly and they have been practically endorsed by all of the Synods and Presbyteries, with scarcely an exception. After careful consideration the Assembly decides what is needed for the work planned. This amount is then apportioned among the Synods on the fairest basis possible. With almost perfect unanimity the Synods accepted these apportionments. Then each Synod apportioned the amount assigned it among the Presbyteries, and in almost every case the apportionment was accepted by the Presbytery and divided among the churches. These courts are made up of representatives of the people and their acts are therefore the acts of those whom they represent. Therefore these amounts due by the committees are the debts of the Church and they have been made under what was believed to have been the leadings of God's Spirit. The Church is not bankrupt. Its members are fully able to pay all of its debts and to provide all that is needed to extend the work of God's kingdom. Unless he has paid to God all that He has a right to expect, each member of the Church owes his proportionate part of the debt. What better time to pay this debt than at Christmas? If each one will give to God a just proportion of what he will spend at this season of good will, all that is needed just now will be provided and the home and foreign mission work will go forward gloriously.

Corot said: "When I find myself in one of Nature's beautiful places, I grow angry with my pictures." Pleased with them in his studio, in sight of the glory of the world the artist was humbled. We may be content with ourselves, comparing ourselves with ourselves, but in the presence of the purity and beauty of the Lord we are rebuked.—Selected.