

For the Quiet Hour

"Love Like Mother's."

THE Lord assures us that He loves us as a mother loves her child. "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands; thy walls are continually before Me."—Isaiah 49:15-16.

A mother's love lingers long. Others may forsake us, but when their love fails, we can still depend on mother. The doors of other homes may be closed against us, but mother's door is still open.

The daughter of a poor widow, was led into the paths of sin. She rejected the invitation of mother to return home. But mother kept on praying for her wayward daughter. He who hears the cry of the afflicted and who notes the sparrow's fall heard her cry. One night the daughter was wandering in the streets of a large city. Homeless, cold, and friendless, she decided to go to mother. Late in the night she reached the humble home. She approached cautiously, and turning the latch, she found the door open. She went in and found mother sitting by the fireside, a few embers only upon the hearth.

In reply to her child's remonstrance for sitting by the fire with the door unlocked in the small hours of the morning, she said: "Never, my daughter, by night or by day has the door been locked since you left. I was afraid you would return, and finding it fastened, would go off again."

This is a mother's love. God's love is like this. Surely, with great confidence, we can come to Him in times of trouble and need.

"Faith."

FAITH is not blind acceptance of absurdity. Faith is the completion of a transaction in which we commit ourselves to a personal relationship with an unseen and living Master. Faith is such an adventure as every sailor makes when he sets out for an unseen port. Faith is our response to our yearning for the God who has made us for fellowship with Himself. Faith is the answer of the vibrant human spirit to the music of eternity.



"The Beauty of Womanhood."

"TEACH the young women to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home." Titus 2:4-5.

True modesty is the highest grace and adornment of womanhood.

Modesty is the daughter of chastity; and wherever the heart is clean, true modesty is sure to reside.

A most deplorable lack in our modern life is that of true modesty in both men and women.

The first of all virtues is innocence; the next, modesty. If we banish modesty out of the world, she carries away with her half the virtue that is in it.

"The Blessed."

BLESSED indeed are those in the kingdom of heaven, but if any seek this kingdom with motives of self-blessing merely, they will fail to find it. Only as the eyes are turned away from self can one truly seek or see God. Jesus used the word "blessed" in pointing out those in the kingdom, that we may know who they are; not to emphasize blessings conferred. We should be careful how we appeal to motives of self-interest in connection with entering upon the Christian life, else we may block the way which we seek to open; for the blessed life is an unselfish life.

"My Mother's Hands."

MY mother's hands! So capable! I love them—every wrinkle there.

Though toil has made them rough and worn,

These hands to me are wondrous fair.

My mother's hands! How oft have they

The restless spirit lulled to rest, How oft have they the tear-stained cheek

In silent sympathy caressed!

No power on earth can quite excel The magic touch of mother's hands,

It guards the soul and guides the steps

And grips the heart like iron hands!

"What Is a Saint?"

ALMOST as many definitions have been given of a saint as of a genius; but there are some very common errors on the subject. A saint is not one of those emaciated, rather foolish-looking people sometimes represented in pictures. Neither is he always on his knees praying. Rather, his whole life is a life of prayer, for he is always trying to do good. He is a hero of unselfishness; but his unselfishness is not shown by doing extraordinary acts of service, but by doing the ordinary week-day work of life in an unselfish spirit.

The Lord described a saint when He said of the woman, "She hath done what she could." He who knows whereof we are made expects us to do all that we can. Are we doing that? Are we living to the best of our ability the life that He wants exhibited to the world? God knows all about your peculiar circumstances and environment, and so He will ask, "Have you done what you could?"

"The Lowly Heart."

NO proud heart ever heard an angel singing. No haughty eye ever saw God's glory in the skies, nor ever shall. It is the lowly heart which folds itself in quiet duty, the lowly spirit which looks aloft for the guiding star of love that finds heaven's secret given to them.—
Lauchlan MacLean Watt.