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Bible Study Rally

(Continued from first page)

value grow out of the moral earnestness of the writer, there is only one book of authority upon the matter of eternity. While other books are suggestive, this one book is authoritative. And since we are what we are, this Book must be the king of books for us. While we want many others, we must have this.

In every book there is a central theme; while many incidental ideas are brought in, there is just one principal theme, running throughout the entire book, binding it together into a unity. This is true of the Bible. While many incidental matters are treated, the central theme, beginning with Genesis and closing with the end of Revelations, is Sin and Salvation. It is therefore not the purpose of the Bible to teach geology or any science or history. While there is a science in the Bible, it is the science current at the times that the different parts were written; and while there is history also, it is the history of the Jewish people.

The Bible came about in this way: a nation of people undergoing all the vicissitudes of other nations, having its birth, its period of growth, produced its leaders, prophets, poets, and historians—these men taught, through allegory, proverb and direct statement, their religious ideals for the nation. The people presented their traditions and produced a literature that grew and changed like the literature of other nations.

But there was this difference between the Jews and other people. While all nations had a religion, their religion was incidental; but with the Jews their religion was their whole life. They were a chosen people, selected by God to work out for the world a true concept of Himself and to prepare for a Saviour who should be for all people. God dealt with this nation directly through its prophets and these prophets not only labored with their people, but left a record of God's dealing with them. This record is the Holy Scriptures.

Since the Bible grew out of the history of a people, the revelations in it are of necessity progressive, starting in its outset from under the simpler conditions of early semi-barbarous Jewish life and culminating in the perfect word of God as it was made flesh in Jesus Christ. In reading the Bible understandingly, it is therefore necessary to have a knowledge of the times in which the various parts were written. One should endeavor to ascertain the author, the public to which he addressed himself, and the purpose for which the book was written.

All of the Bible is either the background or the outflow of the incarnation—that part before Christ forming background for his coming and that part after Christ being the outflow of his life and work. While there is un-

limited variety of thought among the different authors of the Bible, the whole book converges upon one point, Jesus Christ. The purpose of the Bible is to interpret Him, whom to know is life eternal. "Ye search the Scriptures," saith Jesus, "For in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they which testify of me." The purpose of this Scripture then is to prepare for Christ and to interpret His life, and since Jesus Christ is the one Universal Character without any defect and with all perfection, the book that interprets Him is the book that needs to be studied most carefully and most regularly.

Besides this address Mr. Rowe has delivered before the congregation of the Methodist church two of the most remarkable sermons heard here in some time.

The Work of the Y. M. C. A.

(Continued from first page)

to fear for that five dollars. After receiving benefits as these from the Y. M. C. A. it would be nothing but the rankest ingratitude if new men did not interest themselves in its advancement. Besides helping the new men the Young Men's Christian Association is doing even now an incalculable service to the students in general. Probably the direction in which it does most good is the Bible Study groups. There are three regular courses: "Studies in the Life of Jesus", "Life of St. Paul", and "Works and Teachings of the Earlier Prophets." These courses are gotten up expressly for college men. They are led by college men who have been trained and coached for the purpose. Besides the regular groups of Bible Study there are: one group for post-graduates and instructors, two groups for seniors, three or four groups for juniors, six for fraternity men, and several other special groups—as, for example, the football group. Thus any man in college may join a group and get in with congenial companions.

In addition to the Bible Study classes the Y. M. C. A. offers several forms of amusement for the men here. There is the game room in the Y. M. C. A. building. Altho the game room is at present a little run down, the General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. is taking steps to put it in tip-top condition. He is already in correspondence with several firms seeking to secure covers for the curoquet tables and the chess and checker men will be immediately replaced in the room. It is hoped that the students will be a little more careful in their use of the games this year as it is quite discouraging to have the game room restocked each year only to be torn to pieces again.

The reading room in the Y. M. C. A. building will be especially well stocked this year. The following papers have very generously offered nine months subscriptions. The Virginia Pilot, The Times Dispatch, The Win-

ston-Salem Journal, The Asheville Citizen, The Atlanta Georgian, The Greensboro Daily News, The Nashville Tennessean, The Tampa Tribune. Besides these newspapers there are also The Atlanta Journal and The Charlotte Observer. There will be all the college newspapers, magazines and annual exchanges together with quite a few denominational periodicals. This collection of newspapers and periodicals furnishes a most varied and interesting assortment of reading material.

As a token of the high esteem in which the University authorities hold the Young Men's Christian Association the self-help has been turned over to its administration. Thro the efforts of its cabinet many men have already been aided.

A department of Y. M. C. A. activity that does not concern itself directly with the student body of the University but which none the less is the Organization of Sunday School Extension. As in the past year, there are the eight Sunday Schools in the rural district about Chapel Hill conducted under the management of this organization. The teachers of the Sunday schools will be students of the University, chiefly ministerial students. The student teachers will be coached by Mr. Adolph Vermont who conducted such an excellent Sunday school class at the Baptist Church last year.

There are, on the second floor of the Y. M. C. A. building several very nicely furnished rooms. The Young Men's Christian Association extends an invitation to all or any of the various organizations of the students here to hold their meetings in these rooms. [We, however, cordially recommend that whenever any organization shall take it upon itself to hold a meeting in any of these rooms, that aforesaid organizations leave seating capacity for at least two persons in the TARBEE room.]

This is, very briefly, an outline of some of the practical service the Y. M. C. A. and its workers are doing the University. It might be well to note that the men who are carrying on this work are not religious cranks but are men who are most busily engaged in other college activities. These young men are thus, without the least thought of self-aggrandisement, doing what they can to benefit the student body. We think this effort to show our appreciation of their actions is more than deserved by them.

In the Phi Society Saturday the query debated was, Resolved, That Congress should lay a progressive income tax. After a heated discussion the judges decided that the best speech was made by Mr. C. K. Burgess, of the negative side. Messrs. Quincy, N. E. West, Gunter, Stearn and McGaskell were initiated.

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