

THE PRAYER CORNER

WHAT LIFE IS

What different ideas people have of

WHAT LIFE IS

"Some will go through the world, careless, bright and happy, and at its close may still insist it is a beautiful dream—but these persons are very few."

"Most of us who have passed through our childhood and earlier years of manhood and womanhood, have come to a realization of life's earnestness, its duties, obligations and responsibilities."

But because we have learned to read its prose, we do not lose our appreciation of its poetry. I think, on the contrary, we understand it better and love it all the more.

Life would become monotonous if our days were all sunny ones. When we have walked for a while in the glare of the light, how welcome and restful is the shadow; and after the darkness, how gladly we step out into the brightness and beauty of sunshine once more.

So with life, its smiles are sweeter because of its tears; its joys are purer because of its sorrows. Our individual views of life rest a great deal with ourselves. Look at it through blue glasses and it will appear gloomy and dismal, but put on rose colored ones, and immediately

SAM B. CRAIG

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all things are tinted with a warm roseate hue which is beautiful indeed.

"Life's but a means unto an end, that end, Beginning, mean, and all things—God."

A PRAYER ABOUT WHAT LIFE IS

O Thou Who art life and the source of all life, teach us "What life truly is." We know that there are some who go through life, careless, bright and happy, and at its close, still insist that it is a beautiful dream.

But the most of us who have passed through our childhood and earlier years of manhood and womanhood, ay, some of us, of our later years, have come to a realization of life's earnestness—it duties, obligations and responsibilities, that life is real; life is earnest; and the grave is not its goal; Dust thou art, to dust returnest, was not spoken of our soul.

May we learn to read life's prose, and not lose our appreciation of its poetry, but understand it better and love it all the more. Have we not learned that our life would become monotonous if all our days were sunny ones! that when we have walked for a while in the light's glare, how restful the shadow is, and how, after the darkness, we gladly step out into the brightness and beauty of the sunshine once more! that life's smiles are sweeter because of its tears, and its joys purer because of its sorrows.

Bring home to our hearts the truth that our individual views of life rest largely with ourselves; that if we look at it through blue glasses it will appear gloomy and dismal, but seen through rose tinted ones all things are tinted with a warm roseate hue which is beautiful indeed. Let us never forget that life is but a means unto an end, that end, beginning mean and all things—God.

O God, Thou Giver and Supreme Lover of Life, we pray for ourselves not only, but for all men and women, and particularly for all children, that Thou wilt give everlasting life, saving spiritual life, vigorous physical life, pure social life, beneficial mental life, all the life there is that is worth having, for we ask it in His Name who lovingly confided to us, "I am come that ye might have life and that ye might have it more abundantly," Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour. Amen.

—C. D. C.

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