

THE QUIET CORNER

"That we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all Godliness and Honesty."—I Tim. 2:2.

By
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A GOOD MAN

"A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."—Matt. 12:35.

Perhaps the greatest achievement of man on earth is to be good. That means he is godly, righteous, Christ-like and holy. He loves God supremely, then loves all mankind, and lives to do God's will and bless the world. What equals it?

A man may be great in the eyes of the world and be sinful, but he will lose much good, and in the end lose his soul. Is that a great achievement? It is possible to ascend the throne of a mighty earthly king, queen, prince, princess, president, or monarch, but live in such a way that one's life curses the world. Rulers as a rule are ungodly. The majority of them have cursed the world instead of blessing it. Is that great? What the world calls great sometimes is just the opposite of true greatness.

The world has always needed good men, and will right on. Certainly, true greatness is true goodness. That comes from God. Man apart from God is evil. Apart from God he brings forth his heart evil things. Hence the reason the world today is so rent and torn by war, crime, drunkenness, and all kinds of evil and wickedness. How we need good men everywhere! Men who love God, love mankind, and would not do anyone an injury for any price; men who are mighty in prayer, mighty in faith, and mighty to help their fellows to Christ, and to heaven. Indeed this is the great need of the age.

As I think back across the years of life, and especially the years of my ministry, I can think of many good and noble men with whom I have had fellowship. Some of them have gone on to their glorious reward, while others are on their heavenly journey. May God see them through.

Among those with whom I have had sweet fellowship I wish to mention just here Bro. Ed Blackburn of Todd, Ashe County North Carolina. He is a nephew of E. Spencer Blackburn who was once the most noted orator of North Carolina, a native of Ashe County, who died a number of years ago. I would not know where to go to find a more godly man than Bro. Ed Blackburn, nor a more godly woman than his wife. They have the confidence of their community where they live long to bless their native land.

Bro. Blackburn is a World War



Margaret

Margaret turned off the humming vacuum cleaner, and straightened the slipcovers of the armchair and the daybed that she had pushed up to go over the rug. Then she stood quite still in the doorway and looked at the small bedroom with its southern exposure. It was as neat and impersonal as a pin. It might never have been lived in. The door stood open on the clean, bare closet. There was not a pennant, not a team picture, not even so much as an old Arithmetic book left to show whose room it had once been.

Margaret stared at the walls, the furniture, and deeply, slowly, she realized that no matter what lodgers with their own trinkets and pictures might occupy it, she would always see it the old way. It was the old way that she saw it now. A pair of hard-worn gray pants lay on the floor where they had been dropped. Three baseball bats were stacked with a fishing rod in the corner. A battered red cap with a letter on it lay on the bed. And through the bed, as though it were transparent, Margaret saw another bed, smaller, and with high slatted sides.

She put the vacuum cleaner away and went down to her desk in the sitting-room. She took the fifteen dollars rent that the new lodger had paid that morning in advance for the room, and added to it, from her purse, three dollars and seventy-five cents more. Then she drew out a sheet of paper and began to write on it, slowly, gravely.

"To buy a bond to help train a young man to replace Don, Jr.—killed on June 6th in the Battle of Midway."

(Letter from an actual communication in the files of the Treasury Department.)
Help our boys. Make certain the wage earner of the family joins a payroll savings plan and tops that 10% by New Year's!
U. S. Treasury Department

veteran. A few years ago he was taken very ill and went to the veteran's hospital at Johnson City, Tenn., for treatment. While in the hospital he became seriously ill, and was in the very jaws of death. While in that condition he went to heaven, or was permitted to see heaven. How wonderful to hear him tell what he saw! It will stir your soul to hear him tell this glorious vision. When he woke up, or regained consciousness, and found that he was in the hospital, he cried for three days because he was still on earth, or had to come back from the portals of glory. He says such an experience will spoil one to this old world.

As he goes about his work you can hear him praying. One sentence of prayer that he repeats over and over is this: "God of the Bible, help us today." Another is this: "Jesus Master, help us today." When he makes a trip and gets back safely you can hear him say: "Thank God, another safe trip made." He is greatly interested in souls. He seeks humanity at heart. He superintends a Sunday School, holds prayer meetings, visits the sick and the dying, lending a helping hand to those who have need, and continually points souls to the cross, and helps pilgrims upward and heavenward. O that we had a world of men like that! Things wouldn't be as they are. This horrible war wouldn't be sweeping the earth. We would have sweet peace, and this would be almost like heaven to our souls.

Ashe County doesn't have a more godly, saintly man than Ed Blackburn. Not only that, but I doubt if North Carolina has a more godly man. There may be others as good, but it would be hard to be better. I believe he would be the last man to injure and the last dollar he has in his pocket if he were in need. Of course he would. No doubt he has done this time and again. He would be the last man to injure anyone, to kick anyone down the hill, but he would be among the first to lift him up. No night is too dark and gloomy for him to fail to heed the cry of need. No soul could fall too low for him to pass him by unnoticed and without giving him a helping hand. No drunkard could go so low in the ditch, or in the mire, for Bro. Ed Blackburn to refuse to lift him out.

A good man? Indeed "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things." Praise God forever That is better than to be a millionaire, or to be President of the United States, if God were left out of the heart, soul and life. If I had a bouquet to give a man I would rather give it to him while he is living than wait and lay it on his grave. I want to stay on Bro. Ed Blackburn's prayer list until he goes to heaven, or until I go. "God of the Bible," help me to so live that some happy day I shall walk the streets of glory with him.

There is a reason why men repent of sin and wickedness, turn from it, and turn from the devil and turn unto God. Sister Ollie Blackburn, Bro. Ed's wife, literally prayed him into repentance and to God. She got under such a burden for him, and prayed so tremendously, until it moved God on His throne to bring her husband under awful conviction until he cried out to God for mercy and pardon, and was born of the Holy Spirit. If tens of thousands of wives today would pray like

that for their wicked, drunken husbands they could see them saved instead of going to prison for crime committed, or filling a drunkard's grave and going to a drunkard's hell. Many of them abuse their husbands instead of praying for them until they come to Christ. When Bro. Ed Blackburn gets to heaven, and shines as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars for every and ever, Sister Ollie surely will share equally with him. A good wife is more precious than gold and silver, jewels, diamonds, pearls and gems. I speak from experience. My first wife went to be with Jesus thirteen years ago, while my last wife, by God's grace is still by my side to pray for me. Weep for me when the battles are hard, hold up my hands, and pull every pound she can. Thank God.

If I should preach a shining religion, which I am far from, and see the life of Bro. Ed Blackburn and Sister Ollie, I would get under conviction and quit such preaching. They are great believers in holiness, and possess the blessing. It shines out in their faces and reveals itself in their every day lives. To them Christ is real, the Holy Ghost is real. They walk with God, they talk to God. The Comforter abides in their hearts. They give their best to God. That is the way to have God's best for this life and world, and for the life and world beyond.

When good people pass away they are greatly missed. The country realizes the loss it has sustained. They weep around their casket, weep at their funeral, weep at their grave, then turn their faces heavenward and say: "By the grace of God I'll meet you again. I shall see you in heaven."

On the other hand when wicked people pass away they are soon forgotten by the majority of people. Nobody expects to see them in a better world. Perhaps nobody sheds a tear over them when they are gone. If they have been close and stingy nobody misses them. The church loses nothing when they leave, for they didn't support it nor help to carry on its work. They won no souls to Christ. They left no record behind worthy to be remembered, nor any example that is worthy to be followed. However, when the righteous die they leave a good and worthy, beautiful and wonderful influence behind to bless the world. Their children rise up behind to bless the world. Their children rise up and call them blessed, and so do their friends and neighbors, and perhaps their enemies. They admit that the lives of the godly are great. If they took a stand against them while they were living, they confess that they were right, but they themselves are wrong. They know that godliness exalts, but sin degrades. That the godly are right, but the sinful and ungodly are wrong.

We need good men in all walks of life, from the greatest king upon his throne to the least and humblest and most unlearned man over whom he reigns. Nothing but the love and grace of God in the hearts and souls of men can make them peaceful, gentle, harmless, noble, sublime and great. Nothing makes a man so useful, so noble, as to be

DALE CARNEGIE
Author of "How to Win Friends and Influence People"

HERE'S ONE WAY TO START

In 1932 a young man in Texas had a college degree and no job. Depression was howling over the country like a blizzard over the plains of North Dakota.

His name was H. B. Fox, and he wanted to be a newspaper man.

He applied to 13 papers in Texas and received a lot of kindness and no job.

Finally H. B. Fox went to a small town daily and said, "I know you have all the men you want, and I realize you can't hire me. But, I think I can help you. I want experience; so I'll work for you without pay. And I'm ready to start now."

The editor looked at him now with interest. Why, the young fellow did mean business! But, I haven't any assignments. If you want to show what you can do, you'll have to dig up your own stories.

H. B. Fox put on his hat and walked out. He didn't get a story that day; but the next morning he was back, and he started all over again.

One day the editor gave him an assignment—his first. Fox hopped out on the story; covered it.

Three months and three days after he began working for nothing, the editor put him on the payroll at \$25 a month.

Two months later the society editor quit. Fox was offered the job. A male reporter running

Christlike. How we need good men today!

Yours in brotherly love,
WALTER E. ISENHOUR,
Hiddenite, N. C.

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"Meet the People..."
(Each week in this space will be presented a picture and word portrait of someone whose name is news.)
Paul McNutt
• Hard on the heels of our entry into our second year of war came the announcement that President Roosevelt has given to Paul Vories McNutt complete authority over the nation's manpower resources for the urgent purpose of co-ordinating gun with gunner, farm with table, supply with demand, and of preventing the haphazard migration of essential workers.
• Under the new set-up McNutt will control selective service, with Gen. HERSHEY remaining in active charge. Enlistment is out, but selectees may still indicate a preference for a particular branch of service. A worker in a vital war industry may quit, or may leave one job for another paying more money. But he can also be asked to go where he is most needed.
• McNutt's task is chiefly administrative, and he is well prepared for it. He has been, successively, dean of the University of Indiana law school, governor of Indiana (1933-37), U. S. High Commissioner to the Philippines (1937-39), Federal Security administrator and director of the War Manpower Commission

Girls in Czechoslovakia are excluded by Nazis from all but elementary schools, and so are the sons and daughters of "progressive" parents.
About 1,300,000 women are members of AFL unions and 1,500,000 belong to CIO unions. The Railroad Brotherhoods also have women members.

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