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Fashioning Yourself.

(Convention Address)

“My chosen people, the people who I have formed for myself.” (Isa. 43:21.) “As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to your former desires . . . be ye holy in all manner of conduct.” (1 Pet. 1:14, 15) ; that is, fashion or “shape yourselves into holiness”— “in imitation of the holy One who has called you.” (Weymouth).

THERE are various illustrations, figures and comparisons used in Scripture representing the development of the Christian life and character. The two Scripture texts referred to show God’s part and our part in this work. Probably the reason why a variety of illustrations is given is because no single one is sufficient to completely portray the growth and formation of Christian character, but each illustration or parable teaches a lesson of some aspect or angle of the Christian life or service, and its relationship to the Creator and our cooperation in the formation of a New Creation.

The Lord Jesus told Nicodemus,—”Truly, I say unto you, Except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” (John 3:5.) The first step, then, is repentance and justification, followed by full consecration—baptized into Christ, and thus begotten of God’s spirit. This is something we are privileged to do. At that moment God begets us by His holy spirit, through the Word of truth. “Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.” (James 1:18.) Thus we become Christ’s brethren ;

Jesus is not our Father.

The first impulse of the spiritual life comes from our Heavenly Father. This privilege of sonship comes to us directly through the will of God. “Which were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” (John 1:13.) Hence we read, “I have formed thee ; I have made thee.” (Isa. 43:7.) “We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus.” (Eph. 2:10.) Through God’s favor we begin to “grow in grace and knowledge.”

Another Biblical illustration comes to mind from the Apostle Peter. “As newborn babes desire the pure milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.” (1 Pet. 2:2.) “Milk is the proper food for babes, not strong or coarse foods. All Christians start as spiritual babes in Christ. No natural babe is a Christian, none are begotten of the spirit until years of discretion are reached. No babe as a babe enters the kingdom of God. Nevertheless, in some respects, “Of such is the kingdom of heaven,” as Jesus said. (Matt. 18:3; 19:14.) We must become *as* little children. This is what the illustration is meant to teach; namely, to possess and cultivate a humble, trustful, sincere, childlike spirit. This is as far as the illustration goes.

When the Christian is compared to a soldier and warfare, in another illustration, the qualities of a Christian character are represented in quite a different aspect. Some babes in Christ want hard foods, deep truths, too soon; they want to partake of the food of the more mature ; hence, their request, “I want to study Revelation”—a mistake. The first principles of the Word are essential for the growing Christian, just as the alphabet is essential for later graduation in secular education.

Christians begotten of the spirit must develop, as the Apostle Paul *says*, “When for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk (only) is unskilful in the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” (,Heb. 5:12-14.) “Therefore leaving the first principles of the doctrine of

Christ, let us go on unto perfection,”—maturity. (Heb. 6:1.) Leaving the elementary instructions does not mean abandoning them. These are still necessary to the growing Christian, in gaining a correct experimental knowledge.

The time will come and should come when we “speak the wisdom of God among those who are perfect,”—matured in Christian growth, not necessarily matured in knowledge merely. (1 Cor. 2:6, 7.) Such speak the wisdom of God in a secret, “which none of the princes of this world know.” (Verses 7, 8.) The instructions supplied for the spirit-begotten are the Scriptures. “All Scripture given by inspiration of God, is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Tim. 3:16, 17.)

Another illustration is that of a temple. What aspect of character development is here brought to view? There is an individual application in 1 Cor. 6:19. “Know ye not that your body is the temple of the holy spirit which is in you ... and ye are not your own?” This teaches us fulness of consecration,—“Ye are in the spirit, if so be that the spirit of God dwells in you.” (Rom. 8:9.) Each member or faculty of our body is to be used in fulfilling God’s will,—“This is the will of God, even your sanctification.” The life, the will, the heart, hands, feet, voice, lips, silver, gold, moments, intellect, every power, is to be all for Jesus. This means fulness of devotion, for God’s holy spirit is operating through you and in you—“ye are not your own.”

The temple illustration is also used in a collective sense, for all of God’s people. “Ye are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed, together groweth into an holy temple in the Lord; in whom ye also (Gentiles) are builded together for an habitation of God through the spirit.” (Eph. 2:20-22.) Both Jews and Gentiles are builded together, “framed together” — harmoniously arranged.

In the preparation of the literal temple of Israel, each stone and the timbers and furnishings were prepared away from the site of erection. When each piece of material was worked upon, shapen and cut to correspond to the related piece, what then? It was brought to the site of erection. We read (1 Kings 6:7), that the house (temple) was fitted, harmoniously arranged, “so that there was neither hammer nor Axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.” Likewise, all the living stones of the antitypical temple must be completely fashioned this side of the veil—in this life.

When changing this figure to the body of Christ, we find the members are set in the body for its preparation now, as in Eph. 4:11-13. “And He (Jesus, corresponding to Solomon who employed many men in the construction of the literal temple) gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come . . . unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”

Sometimes we sing:
God’s hand that saves, though kind, seems rough;
His methods sometimes rude;
Frail, shrinking nature, cries, “Enough!”
Yet proves the Lord is good.
The temple stones God now prepares,
Oft cry, “You hurt me sore”;
The Sculptor seeks their perfectness,
And trims them more and more
Until, by dint of strokes and blows,
The shapeless mass appears
Symmetric, polished, beautiful,
To stand th’ eternal years.

Yes, a glorious Temple, the meeting place between God and man throughout the ages to come, during and beyond the Millennium.

This leads to another associated illustration concerning Christian experience and development. While Christians are “the temple of God,” they are also its builders; a paradox?, These often occur in the Scriptures. “Every house is builded by some one, but he that buildeth all things is God.” (Heb. 3:4.) The Supreme Being is the Grand Architect, Designer, Planner and Supervisor, the Master Builder. Moses was a faithful servant in the house of servants; Christ also as a Son was faithful over His own house — the house of God’s sons. (Heb. 3:5, 6.)

The Apostle Paul says, in 1 Cor. 3:9—“We are labourers together with God; ye are God’s building.” In verse 10 we see

the personal application by Paul, — “The grace of God *is* given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon; take heed how you build thereon.” We see God uses the human element to build His house, as He did in the literal temple; God supplies the materials.

Our Lord began to build the spiritual house of sons. On one occasion He said, “On this rock (foundation truth) will I build my church.” Yet at the same time He is the chief corner stone—another paradox. “The stone which the builders rejected, the same is made head of the corner.” (1 Pet. 27.) “Building up yourselves on your most holy faith,” as we are doing in this Convention. (Jude 20.) From this aspect we see we are privileged to be co-builders with God. “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood.”

There is yet another angle of Christian development given by our Lord in Matt. 6:28, 29. “Why take ye thought (anxious thought) for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow ; they toil not, neither do they spin. Even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” This on the surface looks as if we need exert no energy in providing raiment or other necessities of life, but just grow into glory, like the lilies ; and the lily does not work, neither has it any faith. God has established natural laws which cause the lily to just grow. In winter they are covered with a blanket of earth, out of sight. But the laws of nature continue to operate and at the right season and temperature it comes to life; what appeared a barren patch is then covered with ‘fresh, green foliage. In time there stands above the green a gorgeous sunkissed lily; without toil, it just grew, according to a certain influence of law. The lesson is development of faith—freedom from anxious care.

Peace, troubled soul! thou need’st not fear;
Thy great Provider still is near;
Who led thee last will lead thee still;
Be calm, and sink into His will.

This illustration does not teach inactivity in the Christian life, but the “work of faith.”

Now, here is another illustration teaching the reverse of the lily life; namely a fight—warfare. “Fight the good fight.” “Therefore, endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” (2 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 2:3.) To the Hebrew Christians the Apostle Paul wrote,—“Ye endured a. great fight of afflictions.” (Heb. 10:32.) There are no lilies in warfare, but grim armory. Have you been called upon to endure hardness as a soldier? count it *a* joy, for soldiers do sing, nevertheless,

Onward, Christians, onward go,
Join the war and face the foe;
Will ye flee in danger’s. hour?
Know ye not your Captain’s pow’r?

This reveals full dedication to the Captain of our salvation, entailing consecration of purpose, oath of allegiance, loyalty, endurance of uncertainties, patience in great dangers against enemies and warfare. Special armor is therefore provided; each piece is mentioned in Eph. 6:11-18, and more than a shield of faith is necessary and is supplied.

The strength and skill of our Captain *is* assured ; the urge is, contend for the faith.

Equip me for the war,
And teach me how to fight!
My mind and heart, O Lord prepare,
And guide my words aright.

The lesson is obedience to God’s will under all circumstances. The defence of ourselves and the faith against[^] unseen foes will often call for great endurance and testing on our part. By the Lord’s grace we shall be able to come off conquerors—through Him whose strength is made perfect in weakness.

THE OLDEST BOOK. AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THE BIBLE. (W. G. Thompson.)

I AM the oldest book in existence, having outlived the storms of thirty centuries. Men have endeavoured to banish me from the face of the earth; they have hidden, torn and burnt me, and have done to death tens of thousands of my faithful witnesses. No other book has been more bitterly hated; no other book has been more dearly cherished; no other book has been so misrepresented and misunderstood; but today, while so many of my foes slumber in death, I still live on.

It is not for me to speak of the conflicting creeds laid to my charge, but on behalf of the one true purpose of my revered Author I appeal to reason. Look at the stately trees of the forest ; the living green of the meadows bespangled by a thousand lovely flowers; the singing birds that delight themselves amid the beauties of nature; the blue dome of heaven, illuminated by the sun, moon and stars that space out a universe too immense for man to fathom, and know that the Creator of these things has a wise and loving purpose equally great and beautiful on behalf of man. — Isa. 55:6, 13.

There is revealed within my covers a plait' so broad and a design so deep as to be beyond the power of human origin. My story centres around the Redeemer, who by the grace of God tasted death for every man. Based upon this atoning sacrifice all the dead will be raised, and the whole earth made glorious with life and happiness everywhere, without a trace of sorrow, pain or death. — Isa. 11:9; 60:30; Rev. 21:1-7.

My message has blessed every follower of Jesus. It has inspired them with hope, encouraged them to zeal, comforted them in sorrow, and strengthened them in faith, till they have laid down their all in death, awaiting their grand reward. Like the crystal springs from the mountain-side which flow on and on to refresh the luxuriant verdure on the plains below, so in the glad day dawning, the waters of truth will impart their life-giving blessings to the willing and obedient of mankind, who will forever, with one sweet accord, praise, love and adore my beloved Author.—Rev; 5:8, 13

PEOPLES PAPER AND HERALD OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM. ,(3i-Monthly) 6/- (60 cents) per annum, post paid.

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While it is our intention that these columns be used for teachings strictly in accord with the Lord's Word, we cannot accept responsibility for every expression used, either in the correspondence or in the sermons reported.

A cross (x) on the wrapper indicates that the subscription to "Peoples Paper" is overdue.

The Institute's Work

WITH the close of April another year's work for the Berean Bible Institute has been completed, and again at this time sincere thankfulness is expressed for the blessings and over-ruling providence of our Heavenly Father in connection with the efforts in which it has been our privilege to participate together with our Australian and overseas brethren. It has been encouraging indeed throughout another year to have the loving and willing co-operation of many of the dear brethren located in various parts, all of which has been undertaken in the service of the Lord.

Each year the efforts are directed mainly towards the encouragement of our brethren in the Christian way—those who are walking in the steps of the Master, appreciating the truths of God's Word as being most precious above all else, and who are seeking to fulfil their vows of consecration, by His grace and strength. The kingdom message is also proclaimed as a witness to all who have ears to hear, realising that the Lord is still finding the "grains of wheat" and delights to use His servants who are active and zealous on behalf of others feeling after Him.

Our "Peoples Paper" periodical, now in its 46th year of publication, continues as a means of contact with our Australian and some overseas brethren. It is also supplied to a considerable number of interested friends who are feeling after Bible truth. It has been encouraging to receive messages of appreciation of the contents of the "Peoples Paper" over the past year again, and 'to all who have contributed to the pages of the "Paper" sincere thanks are expressed for their service in this manner, as unto the Lord.

Since the bi-monthly publication of the "Peoples Paper" the annual subscription of 6/-comes much nearer to covering the production costs, though the high postage rates are really no less, as previously two issues were despatched together. However, the deficiency covered by the General Tract Fund is thought to be very, well used in the

Lord's service, as quantities of the "Paper" are distributed free to interested friends, to promote their appreciation of the truth message. The services of some of our Melbourne friends were warmly appreciated again throughout another year, with the proof reading and other work in connection with the "P. Paper."

Supplies of tracts have been made available from the General Tract Fund to friends able to use these to advantage, and Consolation Cards for the bereaved have also been used by some of our brethren ; others desiring to engage in this work are invited to co-operate. How often a short, simple message on a tract has been the means of bringing friends to a full appreciation of the Lord's wonderful message of truth.

Periodical public lectures have also continued throughout the year past, the messages being prepared for the benefit of our own friends, as well as being appropriate for any visitors who may respond to the invitations announced over the air, or by circular. Another means of service has been by the use of tape recorders, enabling some helpful messages from distant brethren to be heard to advantage.

The witness to the kingdom message by the use of the radio has been curtailed during the year past. After over 10 years of Sunday sessions on 4KQ Brisbane it was felt that sufficient broadcasts had been given in view of the responses and expense involved. It has been very nice to hear from hundreds of listeners in Queensland, and especially from those who were appreciative of the truth at the time of listening and since, and who still continue in touch with us. The change of broadcasting time from Sunday mornings to Thursday nights by 2KY Sydney was not at all satisfactory, so after over 16 years this witness also ceased at the end of October last year. The policy of radio station managers seems to be changing in recent times, in that Sunday broadcasts are being used to appeal to the modern youth of today; to gain the greatest number of listeners, religious broadcasts are being supplanted generally. However, it was a pleasure to have had the privilege of witnessing from Sydney for so many years, and a great number of people were reached with the message and literature, some of whom have accepted the truth and continue to rejoice with us, by the Lord's grace.

The broadcasts have continued over 3GL Geelong for over 20 years of witnessing on Sundays, and it is evident that a large circle of friends appreciate these messages. We are thankful to the Lord for all avenues of service, and seek for His guidance and blessing in connection with all efforts for His truth's sake.

The General Tract Fund and Radio Fund presented below reveal the financial position of the Institute's work. In the Lord's providence the voluntary contributions of our brethren generally have enabled the work to continue steadily, and all the sacrifices of earthly good things to assist in this way are warmly appreciated, as unto the Lord. How helpful it is to know that all future days are in the care of our loving Heavenly Father, and our part is to continually look to Him and seek His blessing and guidance in all that we undertake in His service. To this end the prayers of our brethren are requested that we may fulfil our service humbly and faithfully in the days ahead in this part of His harvest field, to His praise. "He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal; that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together." (John 4:36.)

GENERAL TRACT FUND.

To Credit Balance 1/5/62 .. £42 15 9

„ Sale of Used Stamps 12 16 0

„ Donations 661 5 4

£716 17 1

By Free Tracts and Deficiency "Peoples Paper" .. £34 2 4

Hall Rents, Advertising Circulars, Consolations, Cards, etc. ..37 5 3 General Expenses (Office, etc.) .. 62 13 8

Towards Personal & House Expenses .. 350 0 0

Postage 65 6 4

Travel and Sundries .. 95 10 0

Credit Balance 1/5/63 71 19 6

£716 17 1

RADIO FUND.

To Credit Balance	..	£35 5 0	
„, Donations 619 8 0	
£654 13 0			
By Radio Stations 3GL, 2KY, 4KQ ..	£591 9 0	Freight Charges	1 16 9
Printing Dialogues	5 12 6	
Travel and Sundries	12 19 9	
Bank Charges ..		2 0 0	
Credit Balance 1/5/63 ..		40 15 0	
£654 13 0			

Life power! That is what we all need, is it not? — power to rise “far above all” the earthly things that seek to drag us down. “It must needs be that offences come,” said the Master; but there is no “needs be” that we should be crushed and conquered by them. And is it not blessed to know that the Lord’s restraining hand is over all, that nothing can touch us but His will? — that He knows our circumstances, disposition, weakness, and surrounds and rules over all? — L. A. Barter Snow.

“Israel in History and Prophecy” is the title of a very interesting and informative 64-page booklet now in stock, priced at 1/- per copy, 1/3 post paid.

Convention News.

THE Easter Convention at Adelaide was, once more, a season of happy and helpful fellowship. Our hearts are filled with gratitude, and we are constrained to praise and thank the Giver of every good gift for the many evidences of His loving kindness and tender mercy.

It was a pleasure to welcome to our midst a number of visiting brethren and sisters from Melbourne and Geelong; also a brother who travelled 1,000 miles to be present at our meetings. It is refreshing to see the loving zeal of the Lord's consecrated people, as manifested in their sincere desire to serve one another as fellow-members of the body of Christ.

On each of the four days of the Convention there was a Bible Study. The portions of Scripture chosen were Heb. 12:22-29; 2 Con 4:13-18; Matt. 24:20-27, and 1 John 4:12-21. In the study in Matthew 24, in which our Lord urges His people to flee away from the confused condition of Babylon, it is interesting to note the Lord's command in verse 20 that "your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day." The Lord's desire for His people is that they heed the call to "come out" during the harvest period. (See Rev. 18:1-5.) The "harvest is the *end* of the age," (Matt. 13:39.), the time of gathering the wheat into the garner. The "Winter" corresponds to the time of the world's unparalleled trouble (see Mark 13:18-19); and the Sabbath would refer to the 1,000 year day of rest which follows the terrible time of trouble. In verse 22 our Lord tells us that the period of the time of trouble would be shortened. In Rev. 7:1-4 it is shown how the winds of destruction are restrained until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. The Lord's people do well to heed His instructions and get through their flight during the favorable conditions of the harvest period, and before the winter time of severe trouble settles down. (See Jer. 8:20.)

Messages of greeting from individual brethren and from groups of brethren were gladly received; also the Praise and Testimony Session and the "Hymns we like and why," were much appreciated.

A list of addresses were as follows:—"Treasures in Heaven"; "Fashioning Yourselves"; "Fear not, little flock"; "A Man Called Peter"; "Without Spot or Blemish"; "The End of the Gospel Age nearly Past"; "Psalm Twenty-three";

"The Church and their earthly loved-ones in the Millennium; Does the Bible throw light on this subject?"; "Does Cremation Interfere with the Resurrection of the Dead?"; "Things that alone count"; and "A Study on the Twenty-four Elders."

The Scripture passage chosen to be sent to the brethren and Classes is found in 1 John 4:16-18. How important is this matter of keeping our hearts filled with the word and spirit of God—the spirit of love for the Lord's brethren, and of sympathetic love for all mankind. The degree of our love for God will be measured by our love for the Lord's brethren. (See verse 20.)

The Convention closed with the usual Love Feast, at which the lovely hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian Love," was sung; then followed the closing hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," and prayer of thanks to the Giver of every good gift for mercies received, imploring also His continued grace and mercy in the remaining days of our pilgrimage. "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow."

Bible Studies

WHEN attending Conventions, or Bible Studies in regular Class gatherings, it is of much interest to observe the manner in which such gatherings are conducted. It would seem that some chairmen are so earnest about the study they are conducting that they are apt to over-lead the meeting. For instance, when a Class member quotes a Bible text, it is usual and desirable that some further thoughts are expressed in explanation, but when the chairman responds with "thank you," immediately a text is read, any further expression is hindered when the chairman takes over to explain what the text means.

The main purpose of Bible study is to gain the understanding of the Scriptures by *drawing out* from the members the thoughts on the Bible passage. A good chairman can do this, or at least make good efforts in that direction before giving his own thoughts, or those of a commentator. Bible studies are intended to encourage Class members to supply the thoughts by an exercise of their minds, based on their personal studies. Short periods of quietness during a study are not a waste of time, for if the speaking is rather fast and continuous by members and the chairman, there can be a feeling of tenseness instead of relaxation in the truths and spirit of the Lord.

FRANK & ERNEST TALKS Geelong, 3GL, 222 M. Mondays 10 a.m.

Memorial Observances

MELBOURNE

THE Melbourne brethren gladly gathered on the evening of April 7th to observe the Memorial of Christ's death in accord with His request that His followers — "Do this in remembrance of me." It was a pleasure to have in attendance, in addition to our usual friends some of our elderly brethren who are not able to attend with us regularly, also we gladly welcomed a number of our Polish brethren who have migrated to this land in recent years.

Previous studies in Isa. 53 and Matthew's Gospel had impressed the graciousness of our Heavenly Father's gift of His dear Son to be the world's Redeemer ; also our Saviour's willingness to become the "Lamb of God," is a continual reminder of His great love for the human family—"who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame."

Our service comprised suitable hymns, prayers of thanksgiving, Scripture readings and an address covering the type and anti-type of this greatest of all sacrifices,—"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." (2 Cor. 8:9.)

Throughout our service, and in partaking of the emblems, we were reminded of the great privilege of being invited to share in the service of our Master. This was the main purpose of our Lord instituting the Memorial of His death, that His disciples of this Gospel Age, being drawn of God to Jesus, and becoming justified by faith in His sacrifice, may delight to respond to the invitation to sacrifice their lives in His steps, that they may also live and reign with Him in His Kingdom. "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations; and I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom." (Luke 22:28-30.)

GEELONG, VIC.

In the evening of April 7th, a small company of brethren again met to remember the Lord and His earthly sufferings which culminated in cruel death as He submitted Himself to be led as a Lamb to the slaughter, to provide the Ransom-sacrifice that will prove efficacious in delivering all mankind from Adamic sin and its result—death.

Though very conscious that our present new life in Christ is circumvented by imperfect fleshly bodies, we endeavoured to keep this Sacrament in sincerity of heart and with our feet shod with the gospel of peace, thus ready to continue serving and suffering for righteousness' sake.

As we peer into the year before us we can see little in clear outline, but we accept our Saviour's proffered all-atoning grace, and lean on Him who has promised never to leave us nor forsake us.

ADELAIDE

On Sunday evening, April 7th, the Adelaide Class of Bible Students met to observe the Memorial of our Saviour's death. When He instituted this Memorial our Lord said to His disciples — "Do this in remembrance of me." St. Paul, one of the inspired Apostles of the Lamb, said — "Christ our passover (lamb) is slain for us, therefore let us keep the feast . . . with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Cor. 5:7, 8.) And again—"As oft as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come." (1 Cor. 11:26.)

We are very thankful to God that He has given us this simple Memorial to observe annually. It serves to remind us that all our hopes of life and blessing are centred in the cross of Christ. "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:2.)

Our Lord said, — "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you." (John 6:53.) What a privilege is ours to receive by faith and appropriate to our necessities the broken body, and shed blood of Christ, realising that by God's grace we are justified through faith in Christ's precious blood ; and then we praise God also for the privilege of presenting our justified humanity to God a living sacrifice, thus sharing with Christ in His sin offering. "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." (Phil. 1:29.)

The sufferings and sacrificing of the Christ, Head and Body, will soon be completed, and then, praise God, the blessing of all the families of the earth will be due to take place. We long for the blessings of God's grace in Christ to flow out

to all the people,, and we cease not to earnestly pray,—”Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as in heaven.”
“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable Gift.”

PERTH

The Perth brethren remembered our dear Lord’s death on Sunday, April 7th, 13 brethren partaking of the emblems. A Sister who was baptized on the previous Sunday •joined our little group. Gladly, we responded, to our Lord’s dying admonition, “Do this in remembrance of me.”

With solemnity we recalled our Lord’s supreme sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, but especially the benefit it is to the household of faith now. With singleness of purpose we reaffirmed our vow to be dead with Christ, that we shall also live with him. (2 Tim. 2:11.) “Hallelujah, What a Saviour.”

SYDNEY

A company of consecrated followers of our dear Redeemer met together on the evening of April 7th, and partook of the Memorial Passover Supper. The occasion was solemn indeed. As each cup was drained an appropriate prayer ascended from every heart, appreciating as never before the great love of our Heavenly Father for us and the great privilege we have of being partakers of our Lord’s broken body and shed blood. We all went forth with renewed determination to follow more and more closely in the footsteps of our King.

CANBERRA

In harmony with others of like precious faith it was fitting that Canberra supplied a few brethren who participated in this year’s Memorial Service. Reading together the Scriptural accounts in Luke’s Gospel and 1 Cor. 11:23-34, many thoughts were expressed regarding sidelights upon the Memorial of our Saviour’s death, and the anticipation of drinking together with Him in His Kingdom of power and glory. Our thoughts and prayers were exercised on behalf of others who await the coming Kingdom.

TASMANIA

Two of us met to celebrate “Christ our pass-over (lamb) slain for us,” this year, and had a very blessed and helpful time. We met in the afternoon to examine ourselves as to our willingness to go not only to the “Upper Room”, but also to Calvary, as set forth by the types and shadows so long ago, and now made clear by Present Truth. We also spent some time studying the “wedding garment” test, and received much food for thought.

In the evening we partook of the emblems with loving gratitude that we had been called from the highways to be made such honorable guests as to be worthy to supper with Him and drink of His cup.

A Brother in Queensland writes — It was a very pleasant surprise when four other consecrated friends were staying here for a few days, so there were five of ‘us had the privilege of remembering and partaking of our Lord’s Memorial and what it meant to us. It, was sweet fellowship to partake with others of like precious faith.

Correspondence.

Dear Brother, — Have received your letter, also the Notes on the Convention, and the “P. Papers” for March, for which I thank you very much. I enjoyed the Notes, and also the article on “Humility” very much! it *is* in harmony with my own thoughts; if we are not humble we will not be exalted in due time.

I thought the advice to those who pray was very timely and good. Some of the brethren are very long-winded. I remember a very sincere Brother at Class who seemed to think that he had to give a complete chart talk every time he prayed ; he got very tiring. Our Lord advises us not to use long prayers except when we are in our own closet. Will close with Christian love. Your brother in Christ by His grace.

Dear Friends,—Have just been reading the last “P.P.” for April and May; what a lot of beauty in its pages. “The Trade Mark of the Lord,” — what a wonderful explanation of God’s creative work. Please send me half a dozen copies, also “Plan of the Ages,” “Daily Heavenly Manna,” “Children’s Hymns,” “God and Reason,” “Our Lord’s Great Prophecy.” Renew my subscription for “P.P.” for the year ahead ; also the “Dawn” for the year; I will enclose £3 herewith in notes and register same. If any balance, use for whatever you think best.... The poor, sick world is slowly getting in an awful mess in every direction. Kindest Christian love.

Berean Bible Institute. Dear Christian Friends,—I am writing to thank you for the continued arrival of the “Peoples Paper.” I look forward to the arrival of each issue, which I eagerly read from end to end as soon as it comes, and often times I read the old copies whilst waiting for the new one to come.

I would be pleased if you would kindly print your views on the Sabbath day. Are *we* upholding the 4th commandment by observing Sunday as the day of rest? Would you kindly forward to me a copy of “Our Most Holy Faith,” “The Divine Plan” and the booklet, “Manner of Christ’s Return”? I enclose £2/10/-, which I hope will cover costs and subscription due on “P.P.” up till the end of this year. Any balance use as a donation. Yours sincerely.

(A full explanation of the Sabbath question is contained in the booklet, “Christ’s Thousand-Year Kingdom,” which is supplied at 1/-per copy, plus postage. B. B. Institute.)

Berean Bible Institute, Dear Brethren in Christ,—Greetings. I wish to thank you for sending me the books requested. I am enclosing a postal note for £1; the balance can go towards any other part of your work. You can send me the other copy of “Atonement Between God and Man” when it is ready ; this is one of the finest books I have read. Again thanking you. Your brother in Christ.

Dear Brother, — I wish to thank you for your letter. Glad to hear everything went well at the last Convention, and we will be looking forward to read all about it in the forthcoming “Paper” and Notes. From Brother we heard some of his impressions about it, and my wife and I hope to be able one day to attend a Convention ourselves, God willing. Also wish to let you know that we have gladly accepted as our own the book, “The New Creation.”

Meanwhile, I like to send for some more reading matter. Firstly, the book named “Daily Heavenly Manna,” which we like to use for our daily readings; secondly, I like to own the book, “Atonement Between God and Man,” and thirdly, we like you to arrange for us a subscription on the “Dawn” magazine. Please advise what costs are involved and I will forward a cheque for same. Thanking in anticipation for your co-operation. I remain, your brother in the Lord, by His grace.

Another friend writes: — I am enclosing a small) donation towards the work of the Institute in the manner you may deem best, with very good wishes. The Sunday broadcasts seem to be getting better and better as time goes on. I am only sorry that, being a pensioner, I cannot send more. Meanwhile, take encouragement in the work you are doing. Yours sincerely.