

(1). "Goody goody Religion"

Introd:- (1). Think best tonight is presented three pertinent questions. How make man think? Ask question! Three barrelled thinker? Three questions. Here they are

a. Are you a X'n? Yes, No, Maybe, (hope so). Ought be clear-cut ans. If "Are you married?" No hope so..no trying to be. Better not! X'n? Personal. Not bec. Ch. memb..X'n fam...Decent..Bapt. Matter of YOU and the Saviour. Relationship? X'n confesses three things with all heart: 1. I have sinned..deserve hell. (Hard saying) 2. Jesus X took all my hell for me. 3. There is nothing left for me but His heaven. What glorious position!

b. 2nd ques. Why are you a X'n? More diff. to ans. What motive brot. you to X? Fear? Not enough. LOVE of X. Both..c/f John 3:16.."Loved" "perish". And for proper X'n living LOVE FOR THE SAVIOUR must dominate all else. Not a X'n just escape hell..no more than man marries to escape own cooking. "We love Him bec. He 1st loved us".

c. Third:- Do you think a X'n shd. ^{always} be happy? Wait! That ques. loaded! Do you..? I DON'T! Bec. of what "happy" means. From "hap"..chance or luck. "Happiness" - "That state of a being in which his desires are gratified by the enjoyment of pleasure without pain." Circumstance X'n has (JOY). Paradox..inner joy..sometimes outward grief. c/f Woman..psych. ward.."Saved..all troubles over". She had been taught that religion was "Goody,goody..Goodies". Is yours? Is X'nty a soft touch? Should it be? Expect?

I. Please do not misunderstand me. Good to be a X'n.

(a). How good only X'n knows. Relief from burden of sin and guilt. Cleansed. Open face to God of universe..almight One. Access by prayer any moment, in face of any difficult Certainty of heaven for ETERNITY..so no fear of hereafter. Friend of God..conscious of His loving care..Rom.8:28. Able cast all care on Him.."careful for nothing"No worry.

(b). In perplexity..a present Holy Spirit to guide. In eve. moral issue..right or wrong..an infallible Book. And such promises as this..Matt. 6:33. These are the unmatched "goodies" of the X'n life. Thank God for them!

(Today ex glory or reward of doctor)

II. But as read on in Bible soon face staggering dilemma.

(a). Let me read words of Paul..testimony..I Cor. 4:11-13. What! PAUL..MIGHTY MISSIONARY OF AGES..SERVING HIS GOD.. WITH WHOLE HEART..Yet as wrote this..lacking proper food. clothing..shelter....Hungry, cold, poor, destitute....!!! Paul! What about Matt 6:33? Phil.4:19 "My God shall supply..."

(b). What mean? Isolated case in Paul's life? Read on!
II Cor. 1:8...4:8-11 (glimpse of purpose and reason for suffer.)
6:4-5...11:23-29...12:7,10...Pain. persecution, loss, suffering,
shame, sickness, imprisonment, discomfort..finally execution!
More..Phil 3:8, 4:12..II Tim. 2:9..3:11-12. AND HERE IS THE
PARADOX. Matthew 6:33 says the godly will be given all things..
II Tim. 3:12 says godly suffer persecution. WHICH? - TRUE?
(c). Is this only Paul's exper..or will all godly suffer?
Call the roll! ABEL..what you find? "My brother killed me after
I did right thing in sac. to God." JOSEPH? "Hate ^{slavery} prison..chains
MOSES? "Rejection..rebellion..attempt to stone. SAMUEL?
"served God..then rejected "thou art old"..has been..get out".
DAVID? "Called to be king. Saul hunted like flea on rocks
of wild goats". DANIEL? "Did right..prayer life..lions den".
JOB? "Most righteous man on earth..Boils..nagging wife..visit
from Deacons Board". JEREMIAH? "Faithful witness..Dungeon..
sunk into mire..left to die". PETER? "Preached..jail..crucified
James? "Man with sword..cut off head". STEPHEN? "Hail of stones"
MARTYRS OF ALL CENTURIES? Burnt at stake..torn assunder..
drowned slowly..tormented..robbed..crucified. JESUS - 6000.
JOHN JONES OF BETHEL CHURCH?..."Present...peaceful..pacified".
Provided for..Resting of the Promises..and the Premises. GOODY!

III. Why not? Can't I promise a man this if becomes X'n?
(a). I don't know all answers. Do you? God has His purposes. ^{at not work}
Seen hints of this..Suffering oft. necessary. Our "needs" not
just satisfac of desire..but strength of char. c/f Patience by
trib. God knows. Do you expect preacher to have perpetual
smile? What think if he began weeping? Face marked..grief?
(b). CLEARLY:- this. God's GENERAL PLAN for His own marked by
His loving care..General..c/f Matt. 6:24 Don't waste life gettin
money..Trust God. Setting for vs. 33. General course of life.
BUT THIS TOO:- There comes times when God needs a martyr..and
when we need hard times. And honour and high calling of suff-
ering, enduring hardness as good soldier..becomes ours. Many of
our missionaries know this. TONIGHT as we sit comfort. here.
God sends us crisis days..when unusual circumstances prevail.
c/f Marriage..two cleave to each other..But war breaks out..
and man marches off to battle..3, 4, 5 years. Hard times!
Paul speaks of times when in X'n warfare married be as not..
Sometimes God offers us only "blood, toil, tears and sweat".
Loving oversight..and hard trials..both often true. ^{many are offered}
Conclus:- 1. Why are you a X'n? Can we ans. in better fashion
now? For the undoubted goodies? Or for more? To enjoy softness
or endure hardness? In face of growing assaults of Satanic force
today..GOD CALLING HIS OWN FROM ARMCHAIR TO THE ARMY..TO BE GOOD
SOLDIERS OF JESUS CHRIST. Filled with His good things..but
facing His ferocious enemies.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world....

Roman 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

Matt. 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"

I Cor. 4:11-13 "Even unto this present hour we both hunger and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwelling place; and labour, working with our hand: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted we suffer it."

Phil. 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

II Cor. 1:8 "For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life...4:8-11 "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be manifest in our body, ~~for~~ we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the LIFE ALSO OF JESUS might be made manifest in our mortal flesh 6:4-5 "But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labour, in watchings and fastings." 11:23-29 "In labours more abundant; in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft, of the Jews five times received I 40 stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep, in journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness, and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness Beside those things which are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak and I am not weak? who is offended and I burn not." 12:7,10 "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I

ahould be exalted above measure....Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

Phil. 3:8 "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ." 4:12 "I know both how to ~~abound~~ be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer NEED." II Tim. 2:9 "Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds." 3:11-12 "Persecutions, afflictions which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra: what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me." Yea and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Matt. 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other: or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

2. What makes a good soldier?

- Holding Commander's Word as inviolable.
armed with it...equipped with His power..H.S. (tonight)
 - Life wholly given to Him, thru, motive of love.
for total obedience..direction..for anything.
- C.T. Studd: "If Jesus Christ be God, and died for me,
then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make
for Him".

Redd Harper says that each morning he presents himself
to God with prayer "Lord, what are the orders for
today?"

Will we dare do this? Can we pray "Lord, anything"?
It may affect life, relatives, money, possessions,
ambitions. BUT GOD TODAY NEEDS EVERY ONE OF US WITH
SURRENDERED HEART.

Churchill..in dark days..May 19, 1940..enemy at gates..
"Arm yourselves, and be ye men of valour, and be in
readiness for the conflict; for it is better for us
to perish in battle than to look upon the outrage of
our nation and our altar. As the will of God is in
Heaven, even so let it be". 1st Res Command "God will"

Witness, pray, give, go...in this hour when revival is
our imperative need.

Dedication of life only nec. bec. of war

Challenge is ours
No back door to Heaven (for all)

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Unw. Student
+ Bible

"Have you found peace? No war."

Conversion is enlistment for X
- change of sides - of Ethiopian

Arrowood Apr 16/67

Lishbridge - Bethel Bah - Oct 23/66

Whitstone Y.T. Sept 24/66

Provoost - July 11/66

Victoria B.C. - Central Bah - July 3/66

Albionford E. Free - June 12/66

Vernon CMA - Oct 11/65

Fond. Bah - Edmonton - Sept 26/65

Bethel Bah - Calgary - Sept 12/65

Make all of life count for God

D. Balg. Nazarene - July 24/66

Meeting Brook - Nov 27/66

Edmonton - Bethel Bah -

Dec 4/66

Mel. B. Bah - Ottawa - June

Pandemonia, PA - Apr 6/67

Evangel. Free - Calgary

Aug 20/72

Moravian Ch - Calgary - Dec 31

Dreamland CMA - Oct 1/67

Berean Parents Day - Oct 15/72

(1). "The Soldier with a ~~One~~/Track Mind".

Introd:- (1). What is most objectionable quality of a mosquito? NO, not his sharp proboscis...prototype of all hy-dermic needles (mere human imitations)...NOR irritation produced by his (ardon me, HER) attack. Most miserable quality is her ONE-TRACK MIND! Refuses to be side-tracked until sidesmacked! Persistent to point of obstinacy!

(2). To say of human being "One-track mind" is usually an insult. Not always justified as such. Sometimes we make accusation bec. person will not see things our way..(Right way!) Some become obsessed with one supreme desire..devote life to it. c/f Money..some worship trinity of Gold, silver and copper. Their straight, inflexible path crosses every "S" in their speech, and turns it into dollar sign. One-track! Others are sports-mad..pleasure-mad..sex-mad. Running full steam along side-tracks..made them main-track

(3). God save us from one-tracks and side-tracks. But another danger is "All-tracks". The hail-fellow-well-met runs this way. Runs with the hare..and with the hounds. Piece of flabby amiability..."~~Ami-~~ability". Able to be friends..with everybody! No ruling passion..no conviction..going nowhere in 17 directions! c/f Pharisees..Mark 11: 29-33. God save us from being "All-Track minds"..like

"all things to all men" WHAT DOES GOD EXPECT OF US? Well-developed, many track minds..like Solomon I Kings 4:32-33..Like our Lord..who based variables on farming and fishing and baking and horticulture and prospecting and merchandising and investing and weddings and births and house-building...on and on. BUT IN TRULY FOUNDED LIFE THERE MUST BE ONE MAIN TRACK and all these others feeding into it..contributing to it.

I. Let me take you to little-known signif. illus of this.

(a). Four characters involved, a king, a prince, a general and an unknown soldier. Let me first of all read record. II Sam. 18:1, 4/5, 9-14. Now may God speak to all of us!

(b). The first character in story is King David. At this time a rejected King. A minority of people still loyal to him in spite of general rejection. Followed him..shared his exile..his contempt..his despoising. Willing to suffer shame for love of the King. Forsook ev. worldly advantage..possession..lived as strangers, wanderers, pilgrims, not knowing what ahead..when called upon to die for King..having no certain dwelling place..hardy soldiers. AND THERE IS A CLOSE PARALLEL TO THIS..~~xxxxxx~~ I Cor 4:10-13. Today we have a rejected King..Our Lord Jesus..and we live in this world as a minority..called to be His good soldiers.

(c). The second person in the story is the Prince...Absolom. Brought into being by the King. Good name that his life belied Ab-Shalom... "Father of Peace"...and he stirred up bitter war... sought life of one who brought into existence... usurped him... And here I think of another like him... Good name of Lucifer... "Light"... "shining...morning star"...And became author of all darkness...des-air...sin...Satan. Sought to dethrone his Maker and today is Prince of this world...John 14:30...Actually killed the Prince of Life...Today hailed by multitude...obeyed...enjoyed. And only opposed by minority...and these he hates and hunts. The King and the Rebel! In deadly conflict then...and today. Mind of Rebel set to destroy King and all He has. *"High Treason" Bishopman*

II. The rest of the story concerns two of King's soldiers.

(a). Both filled with honest zeal. Good fighters. Knew their business. Mind had a soldier-track in it. One was General Joab...named...well-known. Other was common soldier...unnamed in record...anonymous in life and death. No record of who was. Look first at General Joab...for he represents many of God's soldiers today. On the battle-field for the King. A leader fully qualified to lead. Bold, brave, successful, strong, keen BUT HE FINALLY REBELLED AGAINST KING HE HAD SERVED SO LONG! Staggering truth! I/ Kings 2:28-29, 34. In his life there was one fatal flaw. Learn it! You know story. Absolom caught up in oak tree. Per. by long hair. Here is lesson by the way. He was proud of his beauty. When had yearly hair-cut... even weighed it to see how much grew! Some MAN! So, as pride was Satan's downfall...so of Absolom. Pride catches many a man leaves him "hung up"...helpless...leaves him dangling...NO WALK!^{20m 2:44}

(b). Then was Joab's opportunity...for glory, fame. Killed him. IN DIRECT DISOBEDIENCE TO KING'S EXPLICIT COMMAND! Why do that? Well, he RATIONALIZED away King's command. Sub. own human wisdom. "practical...sensible". "I think I know better". And it was beginning of the end for Joab. The first seed of rebellion and rejection. A LITTLE disobedience. c/f young men, women...marry unsaved. c/f "Here am I, send my sister". "Bring ye all the tithes"...Don't love God dime in dollar. TIME WE LEARNED GOD MEANS EXACTLY WHAT HE SAYS. OBEY GOD.

(c). Well, here is 4th man in story...Anonymous...Unknown soldier He seems so insignif...s but stupid...despised of the despised. Hated by enemy...and scorned by own general...not worth having patience with (vs.14). Not worth naming in the records.

BUT...This man...many tracks to mind...a soldier...rob. husband, father...citizen...This man found in place in God's record bec. he did two things...one positive...one negative. HAD A MAIN TRACK 1. He knew the King's command...and implicitly obeyed it. (2 talks) vs. 12b THE MAIN TRACK! Center of life...will. Our Lord said of Himself "I COME TO DO THY WILL, O GOD". DO WE? Like this glorious unknown soldier? c/f Blank sheet...sign name...?

Ask self vital ques. Do I, to utmost knowledge..OBEY the commands of my King? Obe~~y~~^y the BOOK? The SPIRIT?
 2. Second rail to main track certainly of equal importance for first depends upon it. Parallel rails to make one main track....THIS UNKNOWN HERO..REFUSED PROFFERED REWARD FOR TAKING A SIDE*TRACK! Without that rugged self-denial he would never have obeyed God's command. Read again:- vs. 10-12a. Offered goodly sum of cash..AND A GIRDLE... BELT OF OFFICE..symbol of position. promotion..raising from ranks of ordinary soldiers to that of a commissioned officer..Among Heb..such a richly wrought girdle was mark of honour..oft. bestowed as reward of military merit. AND THIS MAN SAID "NO". "Not even if put 1,000 shekels actually in my hand..I would drop it". HE DIED TO SELF. And thus able to LIVE UNTO GOD..HEARING..OBEYING HIS WORD.

Conclus:- 1. I leave the application in your hands. It is unmistakable. Already our hearts surely asking.."AM I on the main track..where God wants me? Am I set to do His will?" All work of Satan will be to sidetrack..make something else more imr. than doing will of God with a sel that has died. Satan will bid high. Illus:- Hounds and coyote and rabbit. Bid for you..shekels..honour..fame promotion.. 2. And in it all we may seem to lose out in our obeying of God's commands. May mean insignif..loss.. sacrifice..death. This soldier lost, didn't he? Or did he? His earthly king prob. never heard of him..what he refused to do..what he did. BUT IN HEAVEN THE GREAT KING KNEW..WROTE THE RECORD HERE. What office will he have in God's Kingdom? How compare then with Josab? And our KING still knows..and His reward is in His hand!

Jon Elliot:- "He is no fool, who gives what he cannot keep,
 To gain what he cannot lose. "

Klles:- John Theodore Roosevelt - home from Africa
 Missionary on home boat

galt. Ont - Forward Bep - June/61 "you're not home yet"

EUB - Centre Pt. N - Calgary - Oct 31/65

Valleyview - June 6/65

MA - Grande Prairie - May 23/65

5th Ave Tab - Vancouver - Mar. 21/65

Transfer - Nov 22/64 (new bond)

Edmonton FBC - Sep/13/64

River Camp - Banmore - July 26/64

Camerton Keswick - July 12/64

Mulland, Ont - RMA - July 5/64

Bassano - Aug 13/67

Group from Bassano, Bep - Toronto present

Meadows RR -
 RR - YP Dec 1/68

→ OVER

(Obituary)
 (Submission)

Rimley Naz. Ch. - Feb. 6/66 - (purified process)

Provoost - July - 7/66

Burlak CMA - Edmonton - May 21/67

London - MB Ch. - Oct 15/67 - (Dome for meku)

~~Frontenac~~ + Meekling Creek - Oct 28/67

Territorial - High River X'n Men's Group - Mar 18/69 - (Nelson - B. Deamond etc)

Leshville - Jan. 19/69

Battleburg, B.C. - (Calgary Bch) - Feb. 9/69

Namor Gosh. Ch. - Nov 14/69

New Lake B. Camp - July 24/71

Mayland Mts Bch. Calgary - Sept 14/77

Mark 11:29-33...And Jesus answered and said unto them, I will also ask of you one question, and answer me...The baptism of John, was it from heaven or of men?...And they reasoned within themselves..If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then did ye not believe him? But if we shall say, Of men; they feared the people: for all men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed. And they answered and said unto Jesus, We cannot tell.

I Kings 4:32-33. And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five. And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowls, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

I Cor 4:10-13..We are fools for Christ's sake..we are weak..we are despised..we both hunger and thirst, and are naked and are buffeted, and have no certain dwelling place; and labour, working with our hands: being reviled we bless: being persecuted we suffer it: being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day.

John 14:30/ The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

I Kings 2:28-29, 34. Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, although he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the Lord, and caught hold on the horns of the altar, and it was told King Solomon...So Benaiah, fell upon him and slew him.