

## christianity

1845.11.14

Religion without humanity, is a body without a soul.

1847.02.26

### THE BIBLE

Of all the departments of knowledge to which the human mind can be directed there is none of greater importance than that which exhibits the real character and condition of man as a moral agent; his relation to the Deity; his eternal destiny; the way in which he may be delivered from the effects of evil and the worship and service he owes to this Almighty Creator. On these and kindred topics the word of God (which we call bible) affords the most clear and satisfactory information and the details which it furnishes on these subjects are of the highest importance and deeply interesting to every inhabitant on the globe. It teaches us that man is a being destined for eternal progression. That the present world, through which he is traveling, is only a transitory scene, introductory to a future and immortal state of existence. That the Bible is a revelation from God to man, and that its truths are to be believed and its precepts practiced by all to whom they are addressed, is beyond a doubt to any rational individual. Yet there are some of our race who claim to be intelligent and sound minded, who even venture to take the heaven-daring position of comparing the word of God to an idle tale of cunningly devised fable.

This fact is painfully evident by the remarks we too often hear. The man of "hosry head" is sometimes left to totter on the brink of the grave with a mind darkened by unbelief.

If we doubt the authority of the Bible, where shall we turn for truth? Where on life's ocean shall be the weary mariner anchor his fail bark? Take away from us the "lamp of life" and this world would be dreary waste. To the hallowed influence of this blessed book we owe all that is

delightful or pleasant. Let us prize the Bible then as the best of books. It will light our pathway through life, and when we shall have done with the things of time and sense, it will strengthen us as we pass through "the valley and shadow of death."

W.

1846.04.03 [excerpt]

...  
The fact is, the doctrines of Christ have not been preached in their fullness and simplicity, but have been turned, twisted, construed and interpreted to suit the heathen and unchristian institutions of society, and to support and sanction the creeds and abominations of men. Men have made religion one thing, and their social and political transactions another, - They have *professed* to believe in the doctrines of peace and good will while they have fought, slaughtered and oppressed each other; they have divorced religion from the various pursuits of life and instead of loving their neighbor as themselves and treating him accordingly, we find them enslaving, and defrauding him, or by taking advantage of his circumstances, shutting him up from 12 to 16 hours per day in impure overheated and dusty workshops or factories, where he toils and suffers, that they may live in luxury and ease. Under such a state of things, it is not strange that the teachings of Christ and the good and wise injunctions of the Bible, do not prevail. Under the present arrangement of society, men's social industrial and political interests are opposed to christian progression, and until they are made harmonious, the same results will follow.

...

1846.03.13

If Christian nations were nations of Christians, they would not make war.

1846.06.12

### CHRISTIANITY AND WAR

If some pestilence were now raging on our South Western border, moving down a hundred or two human beings per day, and threatening to overspread the land, what profession of players, and fastings, and deprecations of God's wrathful justice, would be heard from all our ten thousand churches! If news had but arrived that the inhabitants of the valley of the Rio Grande, no matter on which bank residing, were pinning and dying for food what thrilling appears would be made to Christian benevolence through all our newspapers! what meetings would be held to raise supplies of corn and cattle for our suffering, dying fellowmen! Yes now, when we hear of hundreds after hundreds recklessly slaughtered there - dying in agony and scorching thirst, their life blood oozing gradually away into the burning sands, and their bodies tumbling hurriedly into holes like carrion, mobs assemble to shout and dance over the glorious' tidings; and every year is strained for more bulletins of butchery. We hear that the Mexican Army is starving, after being subsisted for days on barley corn and salt, in a region where fresh water is often a rarity, and we think not or care not that when an *army* begins to starve the *People* must have starved already, and our patriots hurrah 'That's right! Give it to 'em! Block up the mouth of the Rio Grande! Let them have nothing to *eat!* Humble them! Chastise them! Cut them down!' Such is War - such the devilish spirit which creates and is cherished by it. And what is our Christianity; what is the Church (in which term we include all organized societies of Christians) doing to arrest this complication of crimes and horrors?

- New York Tribune

---

1845.09.04

They who 'put the sword into its place,' and denounce *injury* a means of self defence are at once the obedient disciples of Christ, and the sublimest philosophers. They shall dwell in safety, and experience the abundance of peace. But 'they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.'

---

1845.07.17

He that will consecrate himself to christian principle and moral right, and against expediency and selfishness, must set aside all idea of obtaining a good name among worldly and selfish men, and expect to be shorn of what reputation he may have already gained.

---

1847.07.10

**Christian Benevolence.** - Paying a rich minister on hundred-dollars to attend the funeral services of a relative, and the poor sexton *one* dollar for toiling the bell.

---

1846.10.09

Sermon by the Sabbath Labor Christians.

**As is the Priest, so are the people.**

...

What has been taught by the priests for the last century? Heaven has been held out to them as a *place*, rather than a state. Their ambition and avarice has been appealed to, instead of their intellect and moral sensibility. They have been urged by the hope of Heaven, and the fears of hell, to yield submission to the gospel, and give liberally to the support of the same. What, we ask, have been their examples - for to them we must look for their real opinions. "Actions do not lie," words too often do.

Men declare their love to their flock - they so often love them to real want. How much has been collected to send the gospel to the heathen in Hindoostan and other heathen lands through the influence of the priests. when their main object was to get rid of the overplus of pious drones, who are swarming about our large towns and cities.

If the priests resort to such a course of self-protection, why should not the people? If men are set up as examples, why should not society follow them? Can we expect men to be wiser than their teachers, or better than their ministers? Certainly not. The minister banishes his hired girl to the kitchen with the rest of the furniture, of which she is a part. She is not allowed a seat with the family at the fireside or the table. They go farther than this. At the house of God where human beings should be known only as christians, and not as masters and servants, this christian example is found. The hired men and women, good and pious though they may be, are not permitted to take a seat with the master. What a noble, heavenly exhibition of christianity! Who would not be led to glorify a God whose worship and service should give such examples of meekness and humility to the world? There could be no infidels in the world without a Voltaire, or a Paine, or an Owen, one would be led to believe by the sermons, but should you look for evidence of the goodness of religion among their every day's practice, you would need no stronger reasons to make you exclaim with disgust, that the religion of which we hear so much by way of praise is a humbug; a good hobby to get a fat living.

We may be called severe, infidel even, but if we take the *Christian's* Bible as a guide, we are justified in judging men by their works, and no one blest with as much observation as we have, who keep all days alike holy, can fail to see the truth of this sermon, delivered by order of the church religion of the city.

We saw, in closing, we believe in the popular church created, viz: "The golden eagle, the silver dollar and the copper cent," and no one has any right to [brand] us as infidels.

Amen.

---

1845.07.24

**The Dying Wish.** - A little Sunday school girl, when dying, wished for her mother to put no roses round her head in the coffin, and on being

asked why not, said, "Because Christ's head was crowned with thorns!" - This beautiful thought has been versified by James Montgomery Esq.

'MAMMA' a little maiden said,  
Almost with her expiring sigh,  
'Put no sweet roses round my head,  
When in my coffin-dress I lie,  
'Why not, my dear,' the mother cried -  
'What flowers so well a corpse adorns?'  
'Mamma,' the innocent replied,  
'They crowned our Savior's head with thorns.'

---

1845.09.10

**Beautiful.** - The following paragraph is. Who will dispute the writer's claim to be a scholar, a gentleman, and a *Christian*? Truly the piety of our day is without a parallel.

"What do ye here, ye railing supporters of the Murder's Friend and Assassin's Nurse Society, who are laboring to render this world a paradise of villains, and the next a paradise of devils? Up, and be gone! Go where glory wants you; and in some vacant wilderness frame a commonwealth after your own hearts, where law and gospel shall be alike unknown, and where ye may put on the triple crown of dead-levelling Jacobinism, plundering Agrarianism, and bestial Community!"

- *Christian Observatory*

---

1845.04.24

**A Crash.** - Our city was thrown into great confusion and surprise last Friday morning in consequence of a large portion of the new mill now being erected on the Hamilton corporation tumbling down. It was caused by the water working under the foundation which carried away about forty feet of the building. The loss sustained will be very great. This circumstance caused every mill in the city to stopped nearly half a day, and some of them have not got into operation yet. Night and day and even Sunday have a large number of laborers been employed in repairing the loss.

Can our friends who believe in "special judgments" see anything in

this circumstance to strengthen their faith, when it is known that a portion of the foundation of this mill was laid on *Sunday*, even the very spot where it first gave way! It is also known that this mill is built from a surplus fund of the Hamilton company, after declaring a semi-annual dividend of ten per cent. Now we can see no such special interposition, believing that all things are governed by general laws, and that this causality would have occurred just as soon had the stones been laid on any other day, because there were *natural causes*. But we wish to ask these *corporation Christians* who cause the Sabbath to be violated every week, while they lounge in their decorated churches and make their long prayers, what they think of this affair, if their own doctrines are true? Do not their own doctrines condemn them, while their works are thus tumbling down? We cannot see why this should be called a *loss* to the community as it merely lessens the dividends of a few rich manufacturers who have already enough, and more than they make good use of, and gives labor to the needy.

---

1845.11.07

The sum and substance of all true religion, is that love which regards all men as brethren.

---

1846.02.06

### **The Universal Brotherhood**

“Do unto others, as ye would that they should do to you.” is a general precept, given to us by our great Teacher, as a rule and guide of action, towards all mankind. The Savior gave this for *practice*; he well knew what course of conduct would insure the greatest amount of happiness to his creatures. And why has the world so long neglected to accept of this great lesson fraught with so many blessings if practice. Where do we find a nation acting from this principle, toward other nations? Where do we find any political body, sect, or community that have for their aim the accomplishment of this maxim? They not only neglect to make it the “chief corner stone,” the foundation

of all their proceedings; but it is left out of sight altogether; and hence arise all the evils in society: yes! misery, in all her forms. What but the neglect of this great principle, has brought into the world all this confusion, this disorder, this isolated state of interest, between man and man; all this monopoly and competition in business? And think you if all had “done unto others, as they would that they should do to them,” if every man had “loved his neighbor as himself,” that slavery would ever have existed, or oppression in any form. It could not have been. And when will the world learn that humanity and Christianity are twin sisters? you! more than this - that they are inseparable.

- ADA.

---

1846.05.29

It is an error, though but few are guilty of it, to suppose that all religion lies in minding only the life to come and disregarding all things in the present life.

---

1847.12.24

Christmas, with its decorations, its festivities and its time-hallowed associations, is with us again. There is feasting and music and dancing in the mansions of the rich. There are merry gatherings in the brilliantly lighted and superbly decorated saloons of Beacon Street. Wealth, liberal culture, high social position, are the lot of those who make up these brilliant circles.

In the miserable garrets and cellars - the miscalled homes of the degraded and poverty stricken, there is actual suffering for the want of food and fuel. There are children crying in vain for bread, and mothers shivering over cold hearth stones in this opulent city. There are hundreds and thousands in this boasted metropolis of learning and refinement, without intellectual culture and without social advantages.

When the Christ comes again and finds embodiment in a true Society, nations will celebrate a better Christmas, and these frightful contrasts of light and shade will not

meet our eyes, but pleasant homes, wealth, education, refinement, shall be the lot of all.

---

1846.06.12

THE IVORY STATUE OF CHRIST will continue on exhibition at Wentworth's Hall during this week, day and evening, including the 4<sup>th</sup>. We advise all lovers of the beautiful in art, and all Christians believing in the sweet ministry of symbols, to spend at least one hour with this statute of the Nazarene.

---

1847.02.26

We copy the following able article from the “American Amaranth, and Lady's and Gentleman's Temperance Magazine.”

Men of wealth, men of learning, pour instructions upon the heads of the people - owe them that baptism. Look at the boy in the gutter! hatless, shoeless, and almost naked, he is a part of our king; a part of our sovereignty. Should he not receive a sovereign's education? Should he not be prepared for the throne our institutions have given him? There is a gem in every human form; *let the diamond be polished*, and it will shine in truth and beauty. There is still in the most debased “a beam ethereal, though sullied and dishonored, still divine.” And our motto should be - Teach and habituate *the people* to make a right use of the faculties which God has given them, and then trust them fearlessly to themselves. Give democracies education, and freedom of action, and then “let them alone.”

“Uneducated mind is educated vice,” for God made man to know. He is the creature of instruction; for in a right education there is a divine alchemy which turns all the baser parts of man's nature into gold. We are told by the ancients that as soon as the first rays of the morning sun fell upon the statutes of Mammon, it sent up music. It is after the first rays of knowledge fell upon man that his nature discourses harmony - all before is the darkness of barbarism.

All can see that wickedness leads to misery, yet very few find out that which is equally certain, that

ignorance leads to misery, and misery to wickedness. Dr. Johnson was once asked: "Who is the most miserable man?" and the reply of the sage was: "that man who cannot read on a rainy day." The writer was once passing through park, and saw nailed to one of the trees this warning: - "All dogs found in this park will be shot." A friend who was with us, remarking, "unless dogs can read they are pretty badly off here." Now God has not only written his laws upon the trees, but in the stars and in the flowers; his laws are above us and beneath us, on our right and on our left, and if a man is not able to read, he is pretty badly off here - worse off than the dog, for the dog has a master to read for him; but man has no master between him and his God.

A maxim, of more truth and force than any I remember to have seen, was thrown off by a British statesman - by a man who was learning vivid, varied and philosophical and who in conversation threw out more gems, sparkling and brilliant as they came, than any other man of his age. His profound apothegm was that, "*Education is the cheap defence of nations.*" And if I might put a truism by the side of this, I would say, it is cheaper to educate the infant mind, than to support the aged criminal. Yes, bestow the *pence* on common schools, and save the *pounds* on prisons. Man was not made to be sent to prison, but to be educated and "the very worse use you can put a man to is to hang him." Neither is a man a Human Poor Box into whose mouth were are to drop a dew cents daily. "The ignorant child left to grow up darkening into the deeper ignorance of manhood, with all its jealousies, and its narrow mindedness and its superstitions, and its penury of enjoyment; poor amid the intellectual and moral riches of the universe; blind in this splendid temple which God has lighted up, and famishing amid the profusions of omnipotence."

"O, woe for those who trample on the mind,  
That fearful thing! They know not what they do  
Nor what they deal with ---  
To lay rude hands upon God's mysteries there."