

**GEMS FOR THE KING'S
CROWN; OR, A PASTOR'S
REMINISCENCES WITH
ANXIOUS INQUIRERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649591602

Gems for the King's Crown; Or, a Pastor's Reminiscences with Anxious Inquirers by R. E. Rose

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R. E. ROSE

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BY THE

REV. R. E. ROSE.

"And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels."—*Mal.* iii. 17.

"And on His head were many crowns."—*Rev.* xix. 12.

"Like the stars of the morning
His bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty,
Bright gems in His crown."



London :

RICHARD D. DICKINSON, FARRINGTON STREET.

1877.

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PREFACE.

THE following sketches of Christian character are taken from real life. There is no colouring about them ; they simply embody the experiences of some whom the Author has known in the course of his ministry. The selection has been made with care, and a view to its applicability ; and refers to experiences that may occur under the ordinary ministration of those who are in any way engaged in the glorious work of winning souls to Christ.

The Author believes that, in order to success in this glorious work, there must be specificness of action and distinctness of aim : random shots seldom tell for much in this battle. It was this principle, actively carried out, which characterised so strongly the preaching of Whitfield and Wesley. In order to this success, we must get

to understand more fully the individual wants and spiritual necessities of our people, which are so greatly varied. It is a common fault with us to be too much satisfied with preaching to the congregation, to the neglect of a personal dealing with the souls of our hearers in private ; it is to be feared that many a useful and well-prepared discourse has been comparatively lost through remissness in this important part of pastoral work. The stricken ones have been lost sight of in the crowd of frivolous hearers, perhaps longing for the soft hand of mercy to lay hold of them, and for more light to lead them to a personal decision for Christ : such have too much reason to cry, " No man careth for my soul." In a word, we should work, and constantly labour, not only for a large " draught," but we should seek, as Mr. Moody has well said, by every means " to bring the net to land full of fishes."

Everyone who is in any way labouring for God should earnestly set his heart upon the conversion of souls. If he fails here, he fails

everywhere; these are his only credentials. And in an age like the present, when the wave of sacerdotalism is sapping out the piety of the professing Church, and rationalism its faith, it is desirable to be well established upon this point. It is, doubtless, absolutely necessary to meet these warring elements now at work by careful and elaborate preparation in order to convince men's intellects, but we must never lose sight of the great fact that our main work is to reach the heart; and while we are trying to meet "oppositions of science falsely so called," we may fail in the other. And the voice of conscience may loudly declare, "This ought ye to have done, but not to have left the other undone." Let us beware of laying the flattering unction to our souls while we have no proof of actual blessing in our work, remembering, as the sainted James has so well said, "that the only result of our work which will follow us to heaven, and endure through eternity, is the conversion of souls."

The following experiences of a few of God's people are sent forth in hopes that they may be found useful, not only in showing the power and application of divine truth to the hearts and consciences of men, leading anxious inquirers to see what it is which hinders them from obtaining settled peace with God, but also may be instrumental in leading others to "stir up the gift that is in them," to a more careful study of what they shall say to anxious souls who may be inquiring their way to Christ. In order to success in this work, the arrow we send forth from the bow of truth must not only be feathered with good common sense, but it must be dipped in love and drawn with the strength of an omnipotent faith; then, indeed, souls shall be won for Christ, and the slain of the Lord shall be many. If this shall, by the Divine blessing, in any way conduce to this desirable end, its purpose will be accomplished, and to the Triune God shall be all the praise.

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