A FEW WORDS TO THOSE WHO FORGET GOD

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A few words to those who forget God by Anonymous

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To those who Forget God.

BY THE AUTHOR OF
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TO.

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"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."—Ps. ix. 17.

How many, while led by their sense of justice to sanction unhesitatingly the first statement, have positively refused to credit the not less important truth contained in the last clause of the verse! It is to enforce this solemn truth that these few lines are written.

Reader, if you are one of those who are keeping their religion for Sabbaths and saints' days, funerals and sickness, and perchance morning and evening devotion; when they allow it in the latter for a few minutes, or in the former for a few hours, to see the light and then dismiss it again to its dark hiding-place, to wither disregarded, till some special day or special occasion calls for its reappearance: the Lord will bring against you the charge, "You have forgotten me days without number."

The grand principle of the world is, that religion is very well in its place. Reader, if this be your maxim, what is the place you so generously accord to religion? Is it the first place? Does it occupy and engage your heart's best affections? And the amount of religion

you do possess (so small that it does not exempt you from the charge of forgetting God), is this even the result of a conviction of its intrinsic value? or is it merely the effect of your feeling that, as a matter of policy, it is well to own God in certain circumstances, while you rejoice in the power of forgetting Him in " the daily round, the common task"? There are thousands who shrink from avowing the sentiment, and yet virtually express the feelings, which prompted the wretched infidel to say, "that if there were no God, man in his wisdom would do well to invent one." The rich man pays certain attentions to ordinances, and supports a certain amount of religion, from feelings of policy. He thinks it a fine specific for the woes of the labouring man, also valuable as calculated to keep the balance of society nicely poised. The poor man reflects on the time and opportunities afforded to the rich, and contents himself with stating how differently he would act were he placed in other circumstances. In their motives they are opposed, in their conclusions they are unanimous. They agree that it is more for their individual comfort, to drive God out of their thoughts and counsels.

Rich and poor men, if you are unconverted, you have yet to learn, that the fault, though sought for in your circumstances, can only be found in yourselves. You are fast approaching the land of forgetfulness as to these petty distinctions, these mere conventionalisms. If you will not "Remember your Creator," you will discover, when too late, that riches can purchase no elemency, poverty can excite

no pity, in the courts of heaven. Then will awful threatenings be fulfilled, such as Jer. xiii. 24, 25: "Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness. This is thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the Lord; because thou hast forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood."

Those who hold the essentially worldly maxim, that religion is very well in its place, affirm that, in certain parties and circumstances, the introduction of religion is out of place. We admit that it is so; but does this prove that you are right in mixing with the party and joining in the conversation? What a perversion of judgment to suppose that is the opinion fairly deducible from the fact! What can more clearly shew your

sad condition? Believe it—though the eyes of your understanding may be so blinded that you cannot recognise the truth—believe it as the testimony of those "whose eyes are opened," that this is the strongest evidence of the unlawfulness of your situation and conversation.

Your seeking for pleasure in any society where religion or religious topics are uncongenial, is a proof that you wish to forget God.

Sad and startling as the fact is, to forget God is the avowed intention and aim of hundreds. All who forget Him shall be turned into hell. Reader, hell may begin, and frequently does begin, upon earth; many a man carries about a hell in his own heart! The covering of forgetfulness may be forcibly torn from you. While men succeed for a time in drug-