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Doctrinal Theology.

BIBLIOLOGY.

(Continued.)

The Author of the Bible is God; not man under God; not man and God; but simply God. The Old Testament Scriptures are "the oracles of *God*."¹⁾ What Moses said in the Pentateuch was "the word of *God*."²⁾ The words of the Psalmist are words which "the *Holy Ghost* saith."³⁾ By that which is written in Jeremiah, the Prophet, "the *Holy Ghost* is a witness to us."⁴⁾ The things that Paul, the Apostle, writes to the Corinthians, "are the commandments of the *Lord*,"⁵⁾ even as what Isaiah wrote was spoken *by* the prophet, but "*of* the *Lord*,"⁶⁾ and *by* the mouth of His servant David, the *Lord God* said what we read in the Psalm.⁷⁾ In short, every part of Scripture is the *word of God* and can not be broken;⁸⁾ and "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God,"⁹⁾ not certain parts of Scripture, of

1) Rom. 3, 2.

2) Mark 7, 10. 13.

3) Heb. 3, 7. coll. Ps. 95, 7. 8.

4) Heb. 10, 15. 16. Cf. Jer. 31, 33. f.

5) 1 Cor. 14, 37.

6) Matt. 1, 22: τὸ ῥηθὲν ὑπὸ κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου. Cf. Is. 7, 14.

7) Acts 4, 24 f. coll. Ps. 2, 1. 2.

8) John 10, 34. 35. coll. Ps. 82, 6. 9) 2 Tim. 3, 16.

for what is an offering without a blessing asked upon it? Where there is little or nothing to do, people become indolent; but where there is much to do, they are kept alive and active. A church which takes an active part in the interests of the church at large, chiefly in the spreading of the kingdom of God, thereby promotes its own spiritual growth and welfare. Jesus Christ would have His Gospel preached to every creature, and He will bless every Christian and every congregation enlisting in His service with heart and hand in the work of mission.

I trust it will now be plain to all that the object for which you are asked to give is a good and a necessary work, and that we are among those who have a duty in this work and who ought to take a deep interest in it, so that, whatever you choose to give, may be given intelligently and cheerfully. And now, brethren, let me remind you of the words of the Lord, saying: "Freely ye have received, freely give."

May the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Savior both of those that are near and those that are far, shed abroad His love in your hearts that you may abound in love. Amen.

F. K.

A GENERAL PRAYER

TO BE USED AT MISSION FESTIVALS AND SIMILAR OCCASIONS.

(Contributed.)

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father through Jesus Christ our Savior, we give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for the innumerable blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which, without any merit or worthiness in us, Thou hast bestowed upon us.

We praise Thee especially, that Thou hast preserved unto us in their purity the saving means of grace, Thy pre-

cious word and holy sacraments. And we beseech Thee, O Lord, to grant and preserve unto Thy holy church purity of doctrine, integrity of sacraments, and faithful pastors, who shall preach Thy word with power; and help all who hear rightly to understand and truly to believe the gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. And we furthermore entreat Thee to bless our schools, that our children may grow up in Thy grace and in the knowledge of Thy word and salvation. Be Thou the Protector and Defender of Thy people in all times of tribulation and danger, and multiply their number throughout the world, that from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof Thy name may be great among the gentiles.

Bestow Thy grace upon our land and bless all its inhabitants, and all who are in authority. Cause Thy glory to dwell among us, and let mercy and truth, righteousness and peace everywhere prevail. Defend us graciously from all calamities by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine. Protect and prosper everyone in his appropriate calling, and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Be Thou the God and Father of the widow and the fatherless children, the Helper of the sick and needy, and the Comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Help us to fulfill the work which Thou hast given us to do while it is day, before the night comes when no man can work. Let us fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the salvation of our souls, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Ghost, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Drawn from several sources by H—.)
