



THE DYNAMIC OF FAITH.

Specially written for the "S.A. Jewish Chronicle" by Dr. F. G. Cawston, M.D. (Cantab.)

Faith is the conviction of the reality of things which do not appear to our mortal senses. The person who does not believe that God exists cannot place any faith in Him, but the man who has faith in God is equal to anything and grateful for everything. Faith is a divine gift implanted in our hearts as we are ready to receive it by the operation of the Spirit of God. Many are content to have but a little faith, but others are satisfied with nothing less than that which God is ready to bestow. Of these latter the prophet Isaiah speaks when he says "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee." The inference is that our peace depends not on our outward circumstances, but on the supply of faith. That is why we are justified in speaking of the dynamic of faith; for faith provides us with victory over all circumstances. It speaks peace, even to the Spirit led man who is obeying the voice of God and yet can see no light ahead. "Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of His servant? He that walketh in darkness and hath no light, let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon His God.

And I think we have just such an instance in the record we are given of the experience of that saint of God, Job. We would probably have never heard of this man's great afflictions which would have sufficed to make many a man complain and nothing more, if it had not been that Job was endowed with the dynamic of faith which made him the victor over all circumstances.

He had been condemned by his friends as a wicked man. His distress was attributed to his own past evil life. A true friend loves at all times, but these friends look down on him because of his trouble. "He complained of his pain but got no ease, begged to know the cause of his affliction but could not discover

it. Appealed to God's tribunal for the clearing of his innocence, but could not obtain a hearing, much less a judgment, upon his appeal."

When he looked upon his former prosperity, he saw God's hand putting an end to that. When he regarded his present circumstances he saw that whilst God's hosts had encamped around him for his safety, now surrounded him to his terror, nor could he see any hope for the future in temporal things.

Job owned the overruling hand of God in the slights and unkindnesses of his friends. His acquaintances treated him as a man they had never known, his family despised him, his own servants slighted him and his own wife would take no notice of what he said. With melting language he appealed for their sympathy in his terrible physical condition, but all to no purpose.

Yet, after expressing his despair of comfort in this life, the faith of Job breaks forth with the words "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." In saying these words, Job was raised above himself. He was possessed with an extraordinary impulse of the Spirit of God which gave him light and anchored his spirit. Such an experience made him master of his circumstances and shows us the secret of victory over ours. It is the dynamic of faith. We hear sometimes of the indistinctability of matter. Job had learnt the indestructibility of faith, for he said "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him. This God-given faith is stronger than death and equal to anything in life for it teaches us that all things are possible with God.

The "Chronicle" Cake.

No. 629.

Writing from the Carlton Hotel under date of the 26th inst. Mr. Mark Hambourg says:—"I am extremely touched and honoured by your sending me such a wonderful cake, I greatly appreciate your thought in doing so. It is always an inspiring reflection that no one has contributed so much to the Art of Music as the Jewish people and that their love and understanding of it continues as ardent and stimulating as ever. With renewed most hearty thanks."

The Problem of Palestine

Tribute to the Jews.

Annual Immigration 7,000.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, June 14, Mr. Churchill introduced the Supplementary Estimates of £27,197,030 for the Middle-East Department of the Colonial Office.

He said that the conference which he held at Cairo with experts from Mesopotamia and Palestine decided on an immediate reduction of the troops in Mesopotamia from a 33 battalion to a 23 battalion scale with a prospective reduction after October to a 12 battalion scale. This had resulted in a saving of £4,879,000 in the Army Estimates. The total expenses of both countries for the present year were 27½ millions. If the arrangements which the Government was now making were successful he anticipated that the expenses next year would not exceed nine to ten millions.

Mr. Churchill announced that it was the Government's intention to replace the existing Provisional Government in Mesopotamia with an Assembly and an Arab ruler. The Government had decided to attempt to build up around Bagdad an Arab State which would revive the old glory and culture of the Arab races as recognition of the services of King Hussein and Emir Feisul during the war. The Government had informed Emir Feisul that no obstacle would be placed in the way of his candidature; consequently Emir Feisul had already left Mecca for Bagdad. If he were elected he would receive the countenance and support of Great Britain.

The cost of the Arab army would be defrayed from the Mesopotamian revenue, and behind the levies of Kurdish and Assyrian refugees, which were now taking over the outlying stations from the British, would stand at the end of the year, twelve British battalions, in addition to the air force, which would be increased to eight squadrons next year.

The problem of Palestine, Mr. Churchill continued, was at present more acute than that of Mesopotamia, though much smaller in a military sense. The only cause of unrest arose from the Zionist movement, and in view of Britain's pledge