

## The Christian's Progress

Lessons for the Christian from a much neglected book of the Bible.

There are various approaches to the third book of the Bible. It can be considered simply as a book of history. With this viewpoint it gives many interesting facts and details about the journey of the Israelites through the wilderness. Serving to strengthen our faith in the power and goodness of God. Such a study is important and some aspects of it will be covered in the present volume. Yet this is not our primary purpose.

Another approach might perhaps be called the Pauline approach because it is in line with Paul's use of the Pentateuch recognizing as he did the great importance of the Pentateuch as laying the foundation of God's dealing with Israel and presenting the beginnings of His relation to all mankind. Paul nevertheless felt that there were vital meanings in it ~~===~~ that there were deeper meanings in it of great importance to the life and attitudes of the Christian. This attitude of Paul is ~~XXXXXXXX~~ brought out particularly clearly in 1 Cor. 9:9 where Paul quotes Deut. 25:4. In the KJV 1 Cor. 9:8-10 reads: "Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written : that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope."

We note particularly the words, "Doth God take care for oxen? Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written:"

Here Paul makes it very clear that he considers all of the Bible as being written for all God's people. Although it may historically or legally have specific relation to a particular time, but all of it has vital lessons for his people in all history. A NT passage that may at first sight seem particularly difficult is Gal.4:21 where Paul says: ""Tell me, ye that desire to be under