

**Saturday Night Talks**  
By Rev. F. E. DAVISON  
Rutland, Va.

**REGIONS BEYOND**

International Bible Lesson for  
May 2, '09—(Acts 13: 1-12).

The early church was a long time getting ready to obey its marching orders: Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The command was given to disciples nearly all of whom were Jews, and the inertia of their national character, habits of thought and history acted as a brake upon every wheel of their new conceptions. Here and there some feeble efforts were made to advance but for many years all their efforts were confined to Jewish people and the narrow limits of Palestine.

But when Paul, the apostle, got into the saddle he revolutionized all that and turned his attention almost exclusively to the regions beyond. He broke away from the base of supplies, foraged on the enemy, turned his captives into loyal soldiers of the cross, and with the indomitable courage and tireless energy and masterful grasp of the situation of a Napoleon, developed into the hero of the ages, and set an example to the militant church for all coming time.

**Reservoir of Truth.**

Paul acted on the principle that, as muck is given, much will be required, as well as another great truth that the condition of increase is diffusion. For centuries Judaism had been a great dam receiving the waters of a thousand streams and restraining them within ever-rising banks. Their smug and self-righteous testimony was, "The people of God, the people of God, are we." They drank of the crystal water of life which had been committed to their care, and recked not of the millions out on the great, barren deserts of life, perishing for one drop of that sparkling water. "Let them come to us," they said, "we will not refuse them salvation's draught, when they have become the children of Abraham, by sacerdotal rites."

Paul took a different view of the situation. He believed that that mighty reservoir of water of life had been stored up to quench the thirst of humanity in all the world. Instead of being a Dead Sea which receives but never gives, he would make that accumulated grace a fountain of living waters, a spring ever flowing, an exhaustless source of blessing to the world.

**Bursting of the Dam.**

Therefore, in spite of prayers and tears, mobs and imprecations, theological arguments and personal reasons, he blew up those mighty bulwarks, bombarded those hindering gates until the mighty volume of water of life started and poured out in a river of salvation that has flowed through the continents and the centuries—the Amazon of grace. When St. Paul left the city of Corinth with Barrabas and Mark for the island of Cyprus to preach the gospel to the regions beyond, the walls of Judaism crashed into the dust. It was years before the fact was accepted in all its consequences, but the doom of bigotry was sealed right then and there.

The church in all ages, when counting up her missionary heroes, puts Paul at the head of the list. In her hall of fame he dominates all others. As a commander of the militant host of Christian soldiers, no other man approaches him. Popes and potentates encircle in his presence. As a preacher, as an organizer, as a strategist, as an author, as a logician, as a peace maker, as a traveler, as an exponent of Christian character, as a martyr, St. Paul is the topmost personality in the church, and stands second only to his Master, whose he was, and whom he served.

**Carrying Water of Life.**

And what an army of consecrated men and women have followed this soldier of the cross. The story of missions is the most thrilling page of human history. There is nothing to equal it in the annals of the race. The missionary, instead of being the dregs, has been the cream of the church. The brightest minds, the keenest intellects, the purest souls have been the pioneers of Christianity. No dangers too great, no difficulties too insurmountable, no superstitions too hoary, no distances too vast, no privations too severe, no sacrifices too heart-breaking to hinder their enlistment. They press to the polling places and beg to be allowed to go. They depart singing hymns of joy and without one backward glance of regret. Love to an unseen Christ, love for the souls of the debased and besotted, the savage and the superstitious keeps them carrying the water of life and pressing it to the lips of dying multitudes. Among the redeemed and ransomed gathered at length around the throne, those who have preached the gospel to the regions beyond will stand in the front rank. When a brilliant young man or a sweet young woman in a Christian family hears the missionary call and responds to it, it ought to fill that home with light and joy unutterable. Instead of being a shock it ought to be a glorification. Nothing on earth should have such an expanding effect upon a father's heart as the knowledge that his boy is standing on the picket line of the church, a pathfinder for the advancing Christ, a modern John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord. And every mother's heart should throb for joy whose daughter is on that battlefield.

**Notes and Comment**

Of Interest to Women Readers

**BACHELORS CAUGHT BY STYLE.**

If Girls Wish to Wed They Must Wear Pretty Clothes.

The girl who goes to the seaside with the intention of coming back engaged is generally well dressed. A pretty dress means so much when you are going to make an impression. Men are susceptible to good looks and nice clothes. And even to nice clothes without the good looks.

If a girl hasn't actual beauty but is well dressed, men will say, "She looks like a nice girl."

Love is ever in league with the dressmaker, and even Beauty cannot afford to ignore the modes. It is natural for a girl to like pretty frocks, and what man is there that doesn't want a natural, human girl when he marries?

Besides, a perfect toilette explains so many things. There's the joy of life in a new hat, and the shining tresses that nestle beneath it. Good temper and vivacity lurk in the folds of crepe-de-Chine. The softness of love flutter in new laces and ribbons.

A pretty dress may mean a fortune if it is instrumental in bringing about an engagement. Everybody recognizes the importance of appearances. None better than the match-making mother.

It is always when Betty is looking "lovelier than ever in her exquisite costume" that Billy decides to propose, and does so.

Really, men are much more sensible than is generally supposed. They appreciate the fact that a woman who takes a pride in her appearance is more likely to be a credit to them than one that just has her good looks to rely on.

Beauty fades, but new dresses go on forever.

Some women have a remarkable habit of dressing badly, and even a pretty face won't save them. The result is that, if they marry at all, it is some man who doesn't bother about dress. Such men are a blot upon our fair land.

How much are veils responsible for! Unprepossessing features take on a magic charm through a veil. By the time that a man discovers faults in a nose and mouth, the charms of a perfect costume have had their effect.

**HOUSEHOLD HINTS**

To remove pitch, wheel grease, tar stains—soften the stains with lard, then soak in turpentine. Scrape off carefully with a knife, all the loose surface dirt; sponge clean with turpentine and rub gently till dry.

Whale bone may be easily cut if it is first immersed in hot water for a few minutes.

To remove grease from silk, moisten the spots with chloroform and rub with a cloth till dry.

Match marks on a polished or varnished surface may be removed by first rubbing with a cut lemon and then with a cloth dipped in water.

**The Woman Who Failed.**

Sometimes I wonder if I could have held his love longer had I dressed more and been more careful that he should never see me unless I was attractively gowned. When I look back I am filled with dismay to think how often he has seen me when I must have been most unattractive. It is true that seventeen years of married life have made me careless. I remember all the lacy, delicate, perfumed lingerie of my wedding trousseau, and how he used to admire them and call them "frillkins." But now I wear the plainest and sometimes most unbecoming things. I have felt that it was unnecessary and even extravagant to spend so much money on lingerie; instead, I have put it in the house—in rugs, cut glass, and silver—in things I could "keep."

Oh, how foolish I have been! How much wiser to have bought some expensive morning gowns than that acid silver tea set this fall. The gowns would have made me more attractive every morning at breakfast; and the tea service—I don't think he has ever noticed it.

And in the evening for dinner—how rarely I made any effort to dress when we dine out or have some one dining with us. What am I saving them for? I can have plenty more. Oh, how blind I have been! Why have I worn them only for the benefit of others? What do I gain from the passing admiration of strangers or even friends—compared to the admiration of my husband? Is it too late to begin anew? Can I ever efface the impression years of indifferent dressing have made upon him?—From "The Journal of a Neglected Wife."

**Married Men Favored.**

In the town of Strasburg, Germany, discrimination is made in favor of married couples with children in the matter of municipal salaries. Ten per cent. is deducted from the wages of men between 20 and 25 who are not married and afterward five per cent.

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