

SATURDAY NIGHT TALKS

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THAT BLESSED HOPE.

International Bible Lesson for
Aug. 8, '09—(1 Thess 5: 12-24).



Of the twenty-one epistles of the New Testament at least thirteen bear the name of Paul. He wrote one letter to Romans, eight to Greeks, and four to individuals. These letters are not bound up in the Bible in the order in which they were written. The first letters which the apostle wrote were the 1st and 2nd epistles to the Thessalonians, and they were written upon just one theme, the second advent of Christ.

History Unrolling.

The Jews for hundreds of years had been living in anticipation of the coming of a Messiah. For them, world-history had unrolled itself in this order, viz.: a chosen man, Abraham, was called out of Ur of the Chaldees, and this chosen man had become the head of a chosen family, Hebrews, and this chosen family had become a chosen nation, Israelites, and this chosen nation should produce a chosen, supreme teacher, Jesus. That was as far as they went. And right here the apostles took up the chart, and taught that this chosen Jewish Messiah is the Saviour of all men, and that this chosen Supreme teacher has founded a chosen church, and that to this chosen church shall ultimately be given all nations.

The Gentiles on the contrary—the Greeks, Romans, and barbarians could not be reached by that argument. The Old Testament, and the Jewish prophets were nothing to them. Whether Christ was the Messiah or not was of no particular force so far as they were concerned. What they wanted was a living Lord, a mightier divinity than Jupiter, or Jove, one who could appropriately be termed King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. To them, therefore, Paul preached a Mighty Redeemer of all men, now enthroned in heaven, a victor over death and the grave, and a king who was destined sooner or later, to ride down the skies in clouds and great glory, to judge the world in righteousness. The thought of the imminence of the second advent, that the Judge was even then at the door, that the trump of the archangel might shake the earth at any moment, was a mighty incentive to repentance, and a reward for every fear in the days of bitterest persecution.

The King's Return.

It is doubtless true that the early church anticipated that Christ would return to earth in person within the lifetime of those then living. They felt that they were living in the last days and they looked with longing eyes for the absent King to burst upon the world with the voice of the archangel and the trump of God, to destroy their enemies, restore the ancient glory of David's kingdom, and make the twelve apostles his prime ministers of state, to rule over nations.

The tendency of the doctrine was to make people indifferent to anything that made for permanency. If everything was going to be so completely revolutionized so soon, what was the use of trying to evangelize the world, or establish institutions only to have them wiped out of existence when He came. Therefore, to correct that error, Paul wrote his second letter, not to deny what he had already proclaimed in any way, but to dispel the idea that Christ had already returned or was just on the eve of it.

Two thousand years have rolled away and the Parousia or appearing of Christ has not yet taken place. Two thousand years is a long time as men count time, but not in the clock of eternity. According to the chronology of heaven, "a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is passed." And, "A thousand years is with the Lord as one day." That being so, it follows that it is not yet two days since Christ ascended from Olivet, and it is still perfectly proper to say, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise as some men count slackness, but is long-suffering to usward, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

Now, suppose the tidings should suddenly go forth that He was coming to-morrow. Suppose it should be definitely established that at precisely 12 o'clock, noon, August 9, 1909, the heavens would roll together like a scroll, the throne of the universe would appear in the clouds, and every eye should see Him, on whose head are many crowns! What do you suppose would happen? Wouldn't there be some revolutions in society? What would happen in the individual life? In the homes of the people? In business, in legislation, crooked things would be made straight, injustice and oppression would cease, the churches would be crowded, the halls of pleasure would be deserted. Well, if these things would happen then in view of His coming, can any one give any good and sufficient reason, why they should not take place now?

Notes and Comment

Of Interest to Women Readers

"MOTHER'S-DAY" BURLESQUED.

The Way Daysey Mayme Honored It Will Set Many Parents to Thinking.

Saturday was Mother's Day, and there are a few who were so busy they didn't observe it, writes the Atchison Globe man. But Daysey Mayme Appleton was not in that number; no, not she! Daysey Mayme arose early, and putting on her best clothes, ate a breakfast that Mother had prepared and then, leaving the dishes for Mother to do, walked to the greenhouse, where she invested in a dozen snow-white carnations. "Some may wear only one," said Daysey Mayme, "that being the badge selected for Mother's Day, but I think Mothers can't be honored too highly, and will wear a dozen." Daysey Mayme paraded the streets till noon, when she went home, ate a dinner Mother had prepared, grumbling because it didn't suit her, and then, after telling Mother how to iron her shirtwaists, went to take a nap, leaving the dishes. Daysey Mayme felt guilty upon awakening. She had slept two full hours of a day that should have been spent in honoring Mother. She got up hurriedly and dressed and left the house again, wearing her dozen snow-white carnations, and to every friend on whom she called that afternoon she told how sweet, how uplifting and how noble it was to set aside a Mother's Day, and how she intended to observe it as long as she lived. Daysey Mayme was invited out to supper, and when she got home at 10 that night Mother was still ironing shirtwaists. "Dear Mother is slow," said Daysey Mayme to herself in her mirror, "but I have honored her all day." Then she went to bed, satisfied, that one good day's work was done.

Jet, Jet on Nearly Everything!

The demand for jet is so great that the supply is entirely inadequate and all the jet in this country has been bought up for months to come. The best jet comes from France and most of the novelties are made over there. Just at present all these novelties, from shoe buckles to earrings and collar studs, are immensely sought after. With black and white gowns, which are to be more popular than ever this year, all the jet ornaments are particularly attractive. Naturally, the blondes are especially taken with the large jet barrettes made in beautiful cut stones and even larger than the Mary Garden barrette.



The revival of the classic fashions brought the return of the earring, and the long jet pendant with a pearl or diamond at the top is always distinguished looking. There are long ropes of jet beads in the sparkling cut jet or the dull jet of mourning, and there are jet ornaments galore for the hat and bonnet, when this is not made of bands of jet and completed with a jet spangled algrette.

The tremendous vogue for all the imitation jewelry shows that the fashions of Louis XV. are well on their way back. For that was the heyday of paste, and even the great King himself did not disdain substituting imitation diamonds for the real in his waistcoat buttons when the financial pressure was strong.

The Louis Quinze bowknots in rhinestones and paste diamonds are set in silver and made the exact shape of the antique bowknots which were worn on the bodices by the court ladies. Handsome combinations of rhinestones and jet are seen in ornaments for hats, the brilliancy of the rhinestone being enhanced by its sombre neighbor.

A jet set is not complete without the jet collar and bracelets which are the same wide bracelets which were popular about thirty years ago. The cut jet brooch is no longer an emblem of mourning but may simply be worn to give the note of black necessary to one's frock, or the jetted fan is carried for the same purpose. Purses of jet and handsome jet umbrellas handles, tiaras, La Vallieres, stick pins and hat pins of all kinds form some of the ways in which jet is employed, and which make it the most popular jewelry.

Round About the House.

An onion cut up in a saucer and placed in a room will absorb all the odor of fresh paint. Ammonia "kills" grease by a chemical process and lends luster to silver in the same manner. A piece of flannel dampened with spirits of camphor will remove stains from windows or mirrors. A little orris root added to the water in which handkerchiefs are boiled will impart a faint scent of violets.

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