

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON.

FOUR FULL REGIMENTS.

"And four thousand praised the Lord."—1 CHRON. 23:5.

"This day shall be unto you for a memorial."—EXODUS 12:14.

[This was Sacramental day in the Brooklyn Tabernacle, and the sermon was preached at the reception of three hundred and forty-seven new members...

When, week before last, the communicant membership of this church passed into the four thousand, now reaching four thousand and fifty-one...

A GRANDER PASSOVER, All peril going away from our soul at the sight of the sprinkled blood of the Lamb of God...

The Sacramental Sabbath, whether it comes in an American church or an English chapel or a Scotch kirk, is more impressive than any other Sabbath...

CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD; and our minds go back to our forefathers celebrating the Sacrament in times of persecution in Scotland among the Highlands...

Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity, grace unknown And love beyond degrees...

A TIME OF RE-ENFORCEMENT. I used to remark that if I ever lived to see our membership reach four thousand I thought I would be willing to say with one of our old men...

A PAINFUL NATURE MUST BE PERFORMED! The doctor said, "That child won't live through this operation unless you encourage him..."

NO ALLEVIATION at all. Jesus must suffer and Mary must look. I suppose she thought of the birth-hour in Bethlehem...

A CHRISTIAN REUNION. I remark, this is a tender scene, because it is...

RELIEVES A DEATH SCENE. Now, you know, there is something very touching in such an incident. Though you are in a hotel and it

is a stranger that is dying, how softly you move about the place, and if you come up to his couch it is with uncovered head...

When we die, we die for ourselves, and the crisis is alleviated by all beneficent ministrations. Bathings for the hands; bathtings for the head; bathtings for the feet...

Oh, how tenderly we feel toward any one who has done a great kindness, and perhaps at the imperiling of his own life!

AMONG AN INDIAN TRIBE in the last century. It seemed that one of the chiefs had slain a man belonging to an opposite tribe...

Wonderful sacrifice you say, but not so wonderful as that found in the Gospel, for we deserved to die—aye, we were sentenced when Christ, not worshipping with years, but in the flush of His youth...

HIS OWN MOTHER. You need not point her out to me. I can see by the sorrow, the anguish, the woe, by the upturned hands...

A SURGICAL OPERATION of a painful nature must be performed! The doctor said, "That child won't live through this operation unless you encourage him..."

IT IS ANTICIPATIVE. My brethren, we are not always going to stay here. This is not our home...

While I present these thoughts this morning, does it not seem that heaven comes very near to us, as though our friends, whom we thought a great way off, are not in the distance, but close by?

VOICES ACROSS THE RIVER. You shouted over to the other side of the river, and they shouted back. It is said that when George Whitefield preached in Third street, Philadelphia, one evening...

Why was it that in the sessional meet-

ing, when I asked a woman if it were her son who sat next to her, making profession of his faith, she made no answer; but after a moment, trying to control her emotion, she burst into tears...

A GREAT FAMILY CIRCLE.

and we join hands around the cross of Christ, and we say, "One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one cross, one Christ, one dogmology, one heaven!"

"One army of the living God, To His command we bow; Part of the host have crossed the flood, And part are crossing now."

Again, my friends, this is an absorbing scene, because it arouses so many precious memories. We look back and remember the days of our childhood, when, long before we knew the meaning of the bread and the wine...

"Behold the saints, beloved of God; Washed and their robes in Jesus' blood; Brighter than angels, lo! they shine; Their glories splendid and sublime."

I remark again, this scene is tender to-day, because it is

A CONFESSORIAL. You and I remember the time when if a man had charged us with anything like imperfection or wrong-doing, we would have thrown ourselves back on our honor and said, "You don't know whom you are talking to..."

"Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut his glories in, When Christ, the mightiest Maker, died For man, the creature's sin."

Once more, this is a tender scene, because

IT IS ANTICIPATIVE. My brethren, we are not always going to stay here. This is not our home. This is only the vestibule of the church in which, at last, we expect to enter...

While I present these thoughts this morning, does it not seem that heaven comes very near to us, as though our friends, whom we thought a great way off, are not in the distance, but close by?

VOICES ACROSS THE RIVER. You shouted over to the other side of the river, and they shouted back. It is said that when George Whitefield preached in Third street, Philadelphia, one evening...

they were using ordinary tones. And as we come to-day and stand by the river of Jordan that divides us from our friends who are gone, it seems to me we stand on one bank and they stand on the other; and it is only a narrow stream, and our voices go and their voices come...

BIRDS IN OHIO.

A Forceful and Eloquent Article on Their Almost Complete Disappearance.

Years ago yellow-birds and martins, red-birds, blue-birds, blue-jays, cat-birds, pewees, tomtits, wax-wings and numerous other kinds of birds were common visitors in every dooryard in all country towns...

While the blue-bird heralds the coming of the sunny summer time, the martin brings with him, and naturally enough, after the long, dreary, weary winter months, his first glad chirp is a welcome sound...

Another common bird within the town formerly was the slender, graceful cat-bird, or northern mocking-bird, as he is sometimes called...

I found in an old book in a street stall once a time-yellow note which might have served as the foundation of a romance. The volume was an odd one of the Diderot "Encyclopedie" and in the middle were two pages still uncut...

LESSEON 1.—Superintendent: And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth...

LESSEON 2.—Superintendent: And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil...

LESSEON 3.—Superintendent: And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering; but unto Cain and to his offering he had no respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell...

LESSEON 4.—Superintendent: And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth...

LESSEON 5.—Superintendent: Now the Lord said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto the land that I will shew thee...

LESSEON 6.—Superintendent: And Abraham drew near, and said, Will thou consume the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou consume and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 1887.

TITLES AND GOLDEN TEXTS.

GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER: Before the mountains were brought forth, or even thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.—Psa. 90: 2.

I. THE BEGINNING. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.—Gen. 1: 1.

II. SIN AND DEATH. By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin.—Rom. 5: 12.

III. CAIN AND ABEL. Am I my brother's keeper?—Gen. 4: 9.

IV. NOAH AND THE ARK. Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.—Gen. 7: 5.

V. THE CALL OF ABRAHAM. I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.—Gen. 12: 2.

VI. LOT'S CHOICE. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.—Matt. 6: 33.

VII. GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM. Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.—Gen. 15: 1.

VIII. ABRAHAM PLEADING FOR SODOM. In wrath remember mercy.—Hab. 3: 2.

IX. DESTRUCTION OF SODOM. Escape for thy life.—Gen. 19: 17.

X. ABRAHAM OFFERING ISAAC. God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering.—Gen. 22: 8.

XI. JACOB AT BETHEL. Surely the Lord is in this place.—Gen. 28: 16.

XII. JACOB'S NEW NAME. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.—Gen. 32: 26.

REVIEW BIBLE LIGHTS.

LESSEON 1.—Superintendent: And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth...

LESSEON 2.—Superintendent: And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil...

LESSEON 3.—Superintendent: And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering; but unto Cain and to his offering he had no respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell...

LESSEON 4.—Superintendent: And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth...

LESSEON 5.—Superintendent: Now the Lord said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto the land that I will shew thee...

LESSEON 6.—Superintendent: And Abraham drew near, and said, Will thou consume the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou consume and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

LESSEON 7.—Superintendent: And Abraham said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we are brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left...

LESSEON 8.—Superintendent: And Abraham drew near, and said, Will thou consume the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou consume and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

LESSEON 9.—Superintendent: And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him; and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And he came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said—(Gen. 19: 15-17)...

LESSEON 10.—Superintendent: So they went both of them together. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham; and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him (Gen. 22: 8-12)...

LESSEON 11.—Superintendent: And Jacob went out from Beer-sheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it (Gen. 28: 10-12)...

inheritance; and he went out, not knowing whither he went (Heb. 11: 9).

All: My father, thou art the guide of my youth (Jer. 3: 4).

LESSEON 12.—Superintendent: And Abraham said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we are brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left. And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt; as thou goest unto Zoar. So Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan (Gen. 13: 8-11)...

Scholars: Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness (Matt. 6: 33). Teachers: I love them that love me, and those that seek me diligently shall find me (Prov. 8: 17).

All: Thy face, Lord, will I seek (Psa. 27: 8). LESSEON 13.—Superintendent: And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to tell them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness. And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it (Gen. 15: 5-7)...

Scholars: Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward (Gen. 15: 1). Teachers: The Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will be withheld from them that walk uprightly (Psa. 84: 11).

All: Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth (Psa. 86: 11). LESSEON 14.—Superintendent: And Abraham drew near, and said, Will thou consume the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou consume and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, that so the righteous should be as the wicked; that be far from thee: shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? (Gen. 18: 23-25)...

Scholars: In wrath remember mercy (Hab. 3: 2). Teachers: The Lord is full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy (Psa. 103: 8).

All: I will sing of mercy and judgment; unto thee, O Lord, will I sing praises (Psa. 101: 1). LESSEON 15.—Superintendent: And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him; and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And he came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said—(Gen. 19: 15-17)...

Scholars: Escape for thy life (Gen. 19: 17). Teachers: How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation? (Heb. 2: 3).

All: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a refuge for me (Psa. 61: 2, 3). LESSEON 16.—Superintendent: So they went both of them together. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham; and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him (Gen. 22: 8-12)...

Scholars: God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering (Gen. 22: 8). Teachers: Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world! (John 1: 29).

All: Worthy is the Lamb that hath been slain to receive the power, and riches, and wisdom, and might, and honor, and glory, and blessing (Rev. 5: 12). LESSEON 17.—Superintendent: And Jacob went out from Beer-sheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it (Gen. 28: 10-12)...

Scholars: Surely the Lord is in this place (Gen. 28: 13, 14, 15). Teachers: Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye shall see the heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man (John 1: 51).

All: Let the angels of God worship him (Heb. 1: 6). LESSEON 18.—Superintendent: And Jacob was left alone; and he wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained, as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh (Gen. 32: 24-26)...

Scholars: And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me (Gen. 32: 26). Teachers: Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5: 17).

All: Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11: 1). If you are in a passion shut your mouth, for words increase it. Were we as eloquent as angels, we should please some more by listening than by talking.