

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON:

Barn-Like Birthplaces.

"Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling-clothes, lying in a manger, and suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host.—Luke 2:12, 13.

AT midnight from one of the ralleles of the sky a chant broke. To an ordinary observer there was no reason for such a celestial demonstration.

But such scenes had often occurred in Bethlehem, yet never before had a star been unfixed, or had a baton of light marshaled over the hills winged orchestra.

WHAT WAS BORN THAT NIGHT In the village barn; and as I want to make my discourse accumulative and climacteric, I began, in the first place, by telling you that that night in the Bethlehem manger was born encouragement for all the poorly started.

THE WORLD'S DELIVERERS had barn-like birthplaces? Luther, the emancipator of religion, born among mines; Shakespeare, the emancipator of literature, born in an humble home at Stratford-on-Avon; Columbus, the discoverer of a world, born in poverty in Genoa; Hogarth, the discoverer of how to make art accumulative and administrative of virtue, born in a humble home in Westminster; Kitto and Prideaux, whose keys unlocked new apartments in the Holy Scriptures, which had never been entered, born in want.

THE OFFENDER'S HOPE. Some sermonizers may say I ought to have projected this thought at the beginning of the sermon. Oh, no! I wanted you to rise toward it. I wanted you to examine the carnalists and the jaspers and the emeralds and the chrysalis before I showed you the Kohlnoor—the crown jewel of the ages.

ITS OWN BUSINESS. was so to wash away our sin that one second after we are dead there will be no more sin about us than about the eternal God. I know that is putting it strongly, but that is what I understand by full remission.

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lian. If you forgive not men their trespasses, how can you expect your Heavenly Father to forgive you? Forgive them if they ask your forgiveness, and forgive them anyhow. Shake hands all around. "Good-will to men."

WHAT THE WORLD WANTS more than anything else—more helping hands, more sympathetic hearts, more kind words that never die, more disposition to give other people a ride, and to carry the heavy end of the load and give other people the light end, and to ascribe good motives instead of bad, and to find our happiness in making others happy.

UNION WITH OTHER WORLDS. The only scepticism I have ever had about Christianity was an astronomical scepticism which said: "Why would God, out of the heavens and amid the Jupiters and Saturns of the universe, have chosen our little bit of a world for the achievements of His only begotten Son, when He might have had a vaster scale and vaster work?"

THE METEORS ARE WITH US, for one of them ran to point down to the birthplace. The heavens are with us, because at the thought of our redemption they roll hosannas out of the midnight sky.

ALL THE SECRETS IS OUT. No more use of trying to hide from us the glories to come. It is too late to shut the gate. It is blocked wide open with hosannas marching this way, and hallelujahs marching that way.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! Merry with the thought of sins forgiven, merry with the idea of sorrows comforted, merry with the rapture to come. Oh! lift that Christ from the manger and lay Him down in all our hearts.

LOST MONEY FOUND THROUGH A DREAM. You cannot convince Mrs. James Burr of Monroe that there is no truth in dreams. Recently she visited a store at Steppay Depot to do some trading.

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The Rescue of Emin.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

LESSON TEXT. Mark 1:35-45. Memory verses, 40-41.

LESSON TOPIC: The Prayerful Diligence of Jesus. Golden Text: As soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.—Mark 1:42.

DAILY HOME READINGS: M.—Mark 1:35-45. The prayerful diligence of Jesus. T.—Lev. 14:1-32. The law of cleansing.

LESSON ANALYSIS. I. HIS PERSONAL DEVOTION. I. Prompt: A great while before day, he rose up and went out (35).

II. PRAYERFUL: He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee (39). Jesus went about all the cities, teaching in their synagogues (Matt. 9:35).

III. SYMPATHETIC: Being moved with compassion, he touched him (41). He was moved with compassion for them (Matt. 9:36).

IV. HUMILITY: He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee (39). Jesus went about all the cities, teaching in their synagogues (Matt. 9:35).

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"Offer for thy cleansing the things which Moses commanded." (1) The demand of Moses; (2) The command of Jesus.

LESSON BIBLE READING. Leprosy. A prevalent disease (Luke 4:27; 14:12). Regarded as incurable (2 Kings 5:7). Produced ceremonial uncleanness (Lev. 13:8, 11, 22, 44).

LESSON SURROUNDINGS. The present lesson follows immediately the events narrated in the last. Matthew places the healing of the leper after the Sermon on the Mount; but this is obviously a deviation from the chronological order.

CURIOUS RESULTS WITH FIGURES. Some Odd Combinations Obtained by Multiplications by Nine.

D. M. Johnson, of Chester, Pa., writes to the New York Tribune as follows: I do not think there is any "witchery" in the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, multiplied by 45, or in any of the variations of the proposition of the "Expert Accountant," noted in your extract from the Buffalo Express in the Tribune of November 24.

Explanation: One less to carry each move to left, which is balanced by one greater in right-hand figure of product, because the total of each is 9 less.

One more to carry each move to left, which is balanced by one less in right-hand figures of product, because it is 9 more total.

And one may amuse himself by multiplying this sequence of figures by the other figures, of which 9 is a multiple, up to 81, with similar results.

A tragic occurrence took place at a small farm called Hendre Moehre, near Newtown, Montgomeryshire, recently. The tenant of the farm, a man named Abraham Morris, with his son Edward, 25 years of age, had been drinking together at a public house a short distance from their house.

AMATEUR MARKETING—Young housekeeper, to fish dealer—What kind of fish have you this morning? Fish dealer—How would you like to have some striped bass, mum? Young housekeeper, hesitatingly—No; I think I would prefer something in a small check.