

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON:

Tough Things in the Bible.

"In which are some things hard to be understood." II Peter 3:16.

The Bible is the most common-sense book in all the world.

There are things, as you say, which are hard to be understood, but I shall solve some of them, hoping to leave upon all honest-minded people the impression that if four or five of them can be explained, perhaps they may all be explained.

Hard thing the first. The Bible says the world was created in six days, while

GEOLOGY

says it was hundreds of thousands of years in process of building.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." "In the beginning," there you can roll in ten million years if you want to.

There is no contest between science and revelation. Though the world may have been in process of creation for millions of years, suddenly and quickly, and in one week, it may have been fitted up for man's residence.

THE CREATION OF LIGHT.

The Bible represents that light was created on Monday, and the sun was not created until Thursday.

THE STORY OF THE DELUGE

and Noah's ark. They say that from the account there it must have rained eight hundred feet of water each day in order that it might be fifteen cubits above the hills.

They say that the ark could not have been large enough to contain "two of every sort," for there would have been hundreds of thousands and hundreds of thousands of creatures.

THE KEY TO THE FACTS.

This is the story of an eye-witness, Noah, his story incorporated afterward by Moses in the account. Noah described the scene just as it appeared to him.

It says "the windows of heaven were opened," it says, "all the fountains of the great deep were broken up."

Well, then another thing, in regard to the size of the ark.

Instead of being a mud-scow, as some of these sceptics would have us understand, it was a magnificent ship, nearly as large as the Great Eastern, three times the size of an ordinary man-of-war.

AN EYE-WITNESS.

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THE DARK DAY.

Some of these aged men perhaps may remember it. It is known in history as the "Dark Day." Workmen at noon went to their homes, and courts and legislatures adjourned.

JONAH AND THE WHALE.

Then there is the Bible statement that a whale swallowed Jonah and ejected him upon the dry ground in three days.

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PERSIANS TELL ABOUT THE FLOOD

at the time of Ahuramazda, who pointed the earth that it had to be washed by a great storm.

and his friends in a large vessel, and all outside of them were destroyed, and after a while the birds went forth, and they came back, and their claws were tinged with mud.

JOSHUA'S MIRACLE.

Another hard thing to be understood: The story that the sun and moon stood still to allow Joshua to complete his victory.

AN OVERWHELMING QUESTION

to you and to me, the authorship of this Holy Bible—whether the Lord God of heaven and earth or a pack of dupes, scoundrels or impostors.

She had lost her propeller. She had two hundred passengers on board. The merciful captain of the Persian Monarch endeavored to bring her in, but the tow-line broke.

THE STRAHSIP "EDAM."

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Church Titles.

An archbishop is a high bishop, and is the chief of the clergy of a province. A vicar general is an assistant to an archbishop or bishop.

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Besides that, my friends, there is one word which explains the whole thing. It says, "The Lord prepared a great fish."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

SUNDAY APRIL 14, 1930.

The Rejected Son.

LESSON TEXT.

Mark 12: 1-12. Memory verses, 6-8.

LESSON PLAN.

TOPIC OF THE QUARTER: Jesus Finishing His Work.

GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER: I have glorified thee on the earth, having accomplished the work which thou hast given me to do.—John 17: 4.

LESSON TOPIC: Deprecating a Rejection.

Lesson Outline: 1. The Servants Rejected, vs. 1-5. 2. The Son Rejected, vs. 6-12.

GOLDEN TEXT: He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1: 11.

DAILY HOME READINGS: M.—Mark 12: 1-12. Deprecating a rejection.

T.—Matt. 21: 33-46. Matthew's parable narrative.

W.—Luke 20: 9-19. Luke's parable narrative.

T.—Acts 13: 44-52. God's servants rejected.

F.—Acts 18: 1-23. God's servants rejected.

S.—John 13: 28-40. God's Son rejected.

S.—Matt. 23: 23-39. The woe of rejection.

LESSON ANALYSIS.

I. THE SERVANTS REJECTED.

L. The Vineyard:

A man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge about it (1).

O God... behold, and visit the vine (Psa. 80: 14).

Who well-beloved had a vineyard in a fruitful hill (Isa. 5: 1).

What could have been done more to my vineyard? (Isa. 5: 4).

The vineyard of the Lord... is the house of Israel (Isa. 5: 7).

II. The Messengers:

He sent... that he might receive... of the fruits (2).

What man... hath planted a vineyard, and hath not used the fruit? (Deut. 20: 6).

He looked that it should bring forth grapes (Isa. 5: 2).

He sent his servants... to receive his fruits (Matt. 21: 34).

Who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not the fruit? (1 Cor. 9: 7).

III. The Rejection:

Beating some, and killing some (5). Beat one, and kill another, and stoned another (Matt. 21: 35).

They took him, and beat him, and sent him away empty (Mark 12: 3).

They cast him out of the city, and stoned him (Acts 7: 58).

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder (Heb. 11: 37).

1. "Let it out to husbandmen." (1) The good vineyard; (2) The reasonable letting; (3) The just demand; (4) The wicked refusal.

2. "That he might receive... of the fruits." (1) The fruits borne; (2) The share expected.—(1) The owner; (2) The vineyard; (3) The fruits; (4) The husbandmen.

3. "They took him, and beat him, and sent him away empty." (1) Seizure; (2) Abuse; (3) Fraud.—(1) The claim refused; (1) The messenger abused; (3) The owner despired.

II. THE SON REJECTED.

He had yet one, a beloved son (6).

He sent unto them his son (Matt. 21: 37).

He will send my beloved son (Luke 20: 13).

He gave his only begotten Son (John 3: 16).

God, sending his own Son... condemned sin (Rom. 8: 3).

III. The Murderous Plot:

This is the heir; come, let us kill him (7).

He must... suffer many things... and he killed (Matt. 16: 21).

That they might take Jesus by subtlety, and kill him (Matt. 26: 4).

The Jews sought the more to kill him (John 5: 18).

Is not this he whom they seek to kill? (John 7: 25).

IV. The Crowning Crime:

They took him, and killed him, and cast him forth (8).

They... cast him forth... and killed him (Matt. 21: 39).

There they crucified him (Luke 23: 33).

Him... ye... did crucify and slay (Acts 2: 23).

Jesus, whom ye slew, hanging him on a tree (Acts 5: 30).

1. "He had yet one, a beloved son: he sent him." (1) The rejected servants; (2) The remaining son; (3) The final appeal.

2. "Come, let us kill him." A murderous plot (1) Devised; (2) Announced; (3) Executed.—(1) The plot in the vineyard; (2) The plot at Calvary.

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III. THE DOOM INCURRED.

I. Fear:

They feared the multitude... and they left him (12).

When your fear cometh as a storm (Prov. 1: 27).

The wicked flee when no man pursueth (Prov. 28: 1).

For fear of him the watchers did quake (Matt. 28: 4).

A certain fearful expectation of judgment (Heb. 10: 27).

II. Defeat:

The stone... rejected... was made the head of the corner (10).

The kingdom of God shall be taken away from you (Matt. 21: 43).

He will give the vineyard unto others (Luke 20: 16).

Till he hath put all his enemies under his feet (1 Cor. 15: 25).

In the name of Jesus every knee should bow (Phil. 2: 10).

III. Destruction:

He will consume and destroy the husbandmen (9).

He... shall suddenly be broken, and that without remedy (Prov. 29: 1).

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