

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON:

Wonders of Disaster and Blessing.

"I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth." ... "I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth."

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

than in any other, and the last quarter bids fair to eclipse the preceding three quarters. We read in the daily newspapers of events announced in one paragraph, and without any special emphasis...

DISASTER-VOLCANIC CYCLONES

oceanic, epidemic. I say volcanic, because an earthquake is only a volcano under the ground. When Stromboli and Cotopaxi and Vesuvius stop breathing...

BLESSINGS OF INTELLIGENCE

The Salomon P. Chases and the Abraham Lincoln and the Henry Wilson of the coming time will be required to learn to read by pine-needle...

ALL EUROPE WEeping

all Christendom weeping where there were hearts to sympathize and Christians to pray. But while the nations were measuring that magnitude of disaster...

the bottom. They told us before we retired at 9 o'clock that the barometer had fallen, but at 11 o'clock at night we were awakened with the shock of the waves.

But I was in Minnesota, where there was one of those cyclones on land that swept the city of Rochester from its foundations, and took dwelling-houses, barns, men, women, children, horses, cattle, and tossed them into indiscriminate ruin...

But look at the disasters oceanic. Shall I call the roll of the dead shipping? Ye monsters of the deep, answer when I call your names, the *Ville de Havre*, the *Schiller*, the *City of Boston*, the *Metville*, the *President*, the *Cimbria*.

A MESSAGE OF PATIOS AND TRAGEDY

for both beaches! In one storm eighty fishermen perished off the coast of Newfoundland, and whole fleets of them off the coast of England.

Look at the disasters epidemic! I speak not of the plague in the Fourth century that ravaged Europe, and in Moscow and the Neapolitan dominions and Marseilles wrought such terror in the Eighteenth century...

THE WAILING OF MEMPHIS

and Shreveport and New Orleans and Jacksonville of the last few decades. From Hurdur, India, where every twelfth year three million devotees congregate, the caravans brought the cholera, and that one disease slew eighteen thousand in eighteen days in Bessarabia...

BE ALERT

I want you to be watching all these wonders unrolling from the heavens and the earth. God has classified them, whether calamitous or pleasing. The divine purposes are harnessed in traces that cannot break, and in girths that cannot slip, and in buckles that cannot loosen, and are driven by reins they must answer. I preach no fatalism.

WORK FOR ALL TO DO

and we may turn the crank of the Christian machinery this way or that, for we are free agents; but there is the track, laid so long ago no one remembers it, laid by the hand of Almighty God in sockets that no terrestrial or satanic pressure can ever affect.

beauty. While infidelity is thus dwindling and dropping down into imbecility, and indecency, the wheel of Christianity is making about a thousand revolutions in a minute...

More Christian men in high official position to-day in Great Britain and in the United States than ever before. Stop that falsehood going through the newspapers—I have seen it in twenty—that the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States are all infidels except one.

WOMEN OF SELF-SACRIFICE

A clergyman told me in the Northwest that for six years he was a missionary at the extreme north, living 400 miles from the post office, and sometimes the start out of doors in winter, the thermometer sixty and sixty degrees below zero, wrapped in rabbit skins woven together.

ALL FOR CHRIST!

Where is there any other being that will rally such enthusiasm? Mothers sewing their fingers off to educate their boys for the gospel ministry. For nine years no luxury on the table until the course through grammar school and college and theological seminary be completed.

"O you dear churches, wake up! Throw back the shutters of self ecclesiasticism, and let the light of the spring morning come in! Morning for the land! Morning for the sea! Morning of emancipation! Morning of light and love and peace! Morning of a day in which there shall be no chains to break, no sorrows to assuage, no despotism to shatter, no woes to compassionate. O Christ, descend! Sacred temple, take the crown! Bruised hand, take the scepter! Wounded foot, step on the throne! 'Thine is the kingdom.'" Things I say because I want you to

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A Young Woman with Gail

The daughters of Henry W. Longfellow tell the story of a remarkable request once sent to their father. Mr. Longfellow, as is well known, was a very kind-hearted, generous man, and when he received a letter from a young woman in a distant part of the country who said she wanted a piano, and felt sure that Mr. Longfellow would be glad to encourage youthful talent and send her one, the family were really afraid that he would respond; but he decided not to do so, on the ground that a girl who was so lacking in delicacy and self-respect could not appreciate music.

A grain of prudence is worth a pound of craft.

an only afraid that for our indolence God will discharge us and get some other stoker and some other engineer. The train is going through with us or without us. So, my brethren, watch all the events that are going by. If things seem to turn out right, give wings to your joy. If things seem to turn out wrong, throw out the anchor of faith, and hold fast.

There is a house in London where Peter the Great of Russia lived awhile when he was moving through the land, incognito and in a workman's dress, that he might learn the wants of the people. A stranger was visiting at that house recently, and saw in a dark attic an old box, and he said to the owner of the house, "What's in that box?" The owner said, "I don't know; that box was there when I got the house, and it was there when my father got it. We haven't had any curiosity to look at it; I guess there's nothing in it."

When Titans play quoits they pitch mountains; but who owns these gigantic forces you have been reading about the last two months? Whose hand is on the throttle-valve of the volcanoes? Whose foot, suddenly planted on the footstool, makes the continents quiver? God! God! He looketh upon the mountains, and they tremble. He toucheth the hills, and they smoke. God! I must be at peace with Him. Through the Lord Jesus Christ this God is mine and He is yours.

Those of us who are in mid life may well thank God that we have seen so many wondrous things; but there are people here to-day who may have to see the shimmering veil between the material and the spiritual world lifted. Magnetism, a word with which to cover up our ignorance, will yet be an explored realm. Electricity, the fiery courser of the sky, that Benjamin Franklin issued, and Morse, Bell and Edison have tried to control, will become completely manageable, and a world of practical knowledge thrown in upon the race. Whether we depart in this century, or whether we see the open gates of a more wonderful century, we will see these things, with him who stands, but the higher the standpoint the larger the prospect. We will see them from heaven if we do not see them from earth.

I was at Fire Island, Long Island, and I went up in the cupola from which they telegraph to New York the approach of vessels hours before they come into port. There is an opening in the wall, and the operator puts his telescope through that opening and looks out and sees vessels far out at sea. While I was talking with him, he went up and looked out. He said: "We are expecting the Arizona tonight." I said: "Is it possible you know all these vessels? Do you know them as you know a man's face?" He said: "Yes, I never make a mistake; before I see the hulls, I often know them by the masts; I know them all, I have watched them so long."

"O you dear churches, wake up! Throw back the shutters of self ecclesiasticism, and let the light of the spring morning come in! Morning for the land! Morning for the sea! Morning of emancipation! Morning of light and love and peace! Morning of a day in which there shall be no chains to break, no sorrows to assuage, no despotism to shatter, no woes to compassionate. O Christ, descend! Sacred temple, take the crown! Bruised hand, take the scepter! Wounded foot, step on the throne! 'Thine is the kingdom.'" Things I say because I want you to

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A swarthy engineer at one of the depots in Dakota said: "When will you get on the locomotive, and take a ride with us?" "Well," I said, "now, if with us?" "So I got on one side of the locomotive, and a Methodist minister, who was also invited, got on the other side, and between us were the engineer and the stoker. The train started. The engineer had his hand on the agitated pulse of the great engine. The stoker shoveled in the coal, and shut the door with a loud clang. A vast plain slipped under us, and the hills swept by, and that great monster on which we rode trembled and bounded and smacked and raged as it hurried us on. I said to the Methodist minister on the other side of the locomotive: "My brother, why should Presbyterians and Methodists quarrel about the decrees and free agency? You see that track, that firm track, that iron track; that is the decree. You see this engineer's arm? That is free agency. How beautifully they work together. They are going to take us through. We could not do without the track, and we could not do without the engineer. So I rejoice day by day."

Work for all to do, and we may turn the crank of the Christian machinery this way or that, for we are free agents; but there is the track, laid so long ago no one remembers it, laid by the hand of Almighty God in sockets that no terrestrial or satanic pressure can ever affect. And along that track the car of the world's redemption will roll and roll to the Grand Central Depot of the millennium. I have no anxiety about the track.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

The Two Great Commandments.

LESSON TEXT.

Mark 12: 28-34. Memory verses, 28, 31.

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: The Sum of the Commandments.

Lesson Outline: 1. Information sought, v. 28. 2. Information gained, v. 29-31. 3. Information approved, v. 32-34.

GOLDEN TEXT: Love is the fulfilling of the law.—Rom. 13: 10.

DAILY HOME READINGS: M.—Mark 12: 28-34. The sum of the commandments. T.—Matt. 22: 34-40. Matthew's parallel narrative. W.—Exod. 20: 1-17. The ten commandments. T.—Deut. 5: 1-21. The commandments repeated. F.—Rom. 3: 1-20. None justified by the law. S.—Rom. 3: 21-31. Saved without the law. S.—Rom. 10: 1-15. Christ, the end of the law.

LESSON ANALYSIS. I. INFORMATION SOUGHT. I. A Skillful Questioner: One of the scribes came, and... asked him (28). One of them, a lawyer, asked him a question (Matt. 22: 35). The Pharisees... began to question with him,....tempting him (Mark 8: 11). They saw...the scribes questioning with him (Mark 9: 14). A certain lawyer stood up and tempted him (Luke 10: 25).

II. A Skillful Answerer: He had answered them well (28). No one was able to answer him a word (Matt. 22: 46). No man after that durst ask him any question (Mark 22: 34). They marvelled greatly at him (Mark 12: 17). Never man so spake (John 7: 46). III. A Momentous Question: What commandment is the first of all? (28). Which is the great commandment in the law? (Matt. 22: 36). What shall I do to inherit eternal life? (Luke 10: 25). Brethren, what shall we do? (Acts 2: 37). What must I do to be saved? (Acts 16: 30). "One of the scribes came." (1) An intelligent pupil; (2) A peerless teacher; (3) A precious privilege; (4) A priceless lesson.

"Knowing that he had answered them well, asked him." (1) Knowledge possessed; (2) Knowledge improved.—(1) Assured knowledge of Jesus; (2) Approved action of man. "What commandment is first of all?" (1) The commandments severally; (2) The commandments relatively; (3) The commandments essentially.

II. INFORMATION GAINED. I. The One God: The Lord our God, the Lord is one (29). Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one (Deut. 6: 4). There is none other but he (Mark 12: 32). They should know thee the only true God (John 17: 3). To us there is one God, the Father (1 Cor. 8: 6). II. The Supreme Love: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart (30). Love the Lord thy God with all thine heart (Deut. 6: 5). What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but...to love him? (Deut. 10: 12). Love the Lord...with all thy heart,....soul,....mind (Matt. 22: 37). Lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God (2 Tim. 3: 4). III. Love to Man: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself (31). Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself (Lev. 19: 18). Loveth his neighbour as himself (Rom. 13: 10). The whole law is fulfilled in one word,.... Loveth thy neighbour (Gal. 5: 14). The royal law,.... Loveth thy neighbour (Jas. 2: 8). "The Lord our God, the Lord is one." (1) One God; (2) Our God.—(1) God's titles; (2) God's oneness; (3) God's worshippers. "With all thy heart,....soul,.... mind,....strength." (1) The supreme object of love; (2) The comprehensive sweep of love; (3) The imperative need of love. "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." (1) The duty of love to others; (2) The measure of love to others; (3) The manifestations of love to others.

III. INFORMATION APPROVED. I. For its Source: Of a truth, Master, thou hast well said (32). The Lord giveth the word (Psa. 68: 11). Thou art a teacher come from God (John 3: 2). If I had not...spoken unto them, they had not had sin (John 15: 22). God...hath...spoken unto us in his Son (Heb. 1: 1, 2). II. For its Substance: To love him...is much more than all...sacrifices (33). The law of the Lord is perfect (Psa. 19: 7). The precepts of the Lord are right (Psa. 19: 8). These are they which bear witness of me (John 5: 39). Thy word is truth (John 17: 17). III. For its Effects: Thou art not far from the Kingdom of God (34).

His delight is in the law of the Lord (Psa. 1: 2). Thy word is a lamp unto my feet (Psa. 119: 105). The sacred writings...are able to make thee wise (2 Tim. 3: 15). Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable (2 Tim. 3: 16). 1. "Master, thou hast well said." (1) The Master's sayings; (2) The scholar's applause.—(1) The Teacher. (2) The pupil; (3) The lessons. 2. "Much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." (1) Sacrificial requirements instituted; (2) Sacrificial requirements transcended. 3. "Thou art not far from the Kingdom of God." Nearness to God; kingdom: (1) Its blessedness; (2) Its evidences.

LESSON BIBLE READING.

THE TWOFOLD LOVE.

1. Love to God: Commanded (Deut. 10: 1; Josh. 22: 5). Commanded (Matt. 22: 37, 38; Mark 12: 29, 30). With all the powers (Deut. 6: 5; Matt. 22: 37). Better than all sacrifices (Mark 12: 33, 34). Shown by Christ (John 14: 31). Characteristic of saints (Psa. 5: 11; Rom. 5: 5).

2. Love to Man:

Commanded (John 13: 34; 1 John 4: 21). Christ-like (John 15: 12; Eph. 5: 2). Essential (1 Cor. 13: 1-3). Out of a pure heart (1 Pet. 1: 22). Should rule in everything (1 Cor. 16: 14). Urged by God's love (1 John 4: 11).

LESSON SURROUNDINGS.

The parable of the wicked husbandmen was followed immediately by another, which is reported by Matthew only (Matt. 22: 1-14); namely, that of the marriage of the king's son. This must be carefully distinguished from a similar one, delivered in Perea (Luke 14: 16-24). All three accounts narrate the two attacks on our Lord which followed,—that of the Pharisees and Herodians respecting tribute to Caesar (Matt. 22: 15-22; Mark 12: 13-17; Luke 20: 20-26), and that of the Sadducees, a flippant question respecting the resurrection (Matt. 22: 23-33; Mark 12: 18-27; Luke 20: 27-40). Successfully meeting both these, our Lord encounters the scribe (or lawyer), as narrated in the present lesson. Place: The temple, probably in the court of the Israelites. The time: Tuesday, 12th Nisan, April 4, year of Rome 753.—A. D. 30. Parallel passages: Matthew 22: 34-40. Luke 20: 39 seems to refer to the same incident.

How to Carve.

It is considered an accomplishment for a lady to know how to carve well at her own table. It is not proper to stand in carving. The carving knife should be sharp and thin. To carve fowl,—which should always be laid with the breast uppermost,—place the fork in the breast, and take off the wings and legs without turning the fowl; then cut out the "merry thought," cut slices from the breast, take out the collar bone, cut off the side pieces, and then cut the carcass in two. Divide the joints in the leg of a turkey. In carving a sirloin, cut thin slices from the side next to you, (it must be put on the dish with the tenderloin underneath), then turn it, and cut from the tenderloin. Help the guests to both kinds. In carving a leg of mutton, or a ham, begin by cutting across the middle to the bone. Cut a tongue across, and not lengthwise, and help from the middle part. In carving a pig, it is customary to divide it and take off the head before it comes to the table, as to many persons the head is revolting. Cut off the limbs and divide the ribs. To carve a fillet of veal, begin at the top, and help to the filling with each slice. In a breast of veal, separate the breast and brisket, and then cut them up, asking which part is preferred. For a saddle of veal, cut from the tail toward the other end, or other side, in thin slices. Warm plates are very necessary with venison and mutton, and in winter are desirable for all meats.

NOT LEAP YEAR.—The year of our Lord nineteen hundred will not be counted among leap-years. The year is three hundred and sixty-five days five hours and forty-nine minutes long; eleven minutes are taken every year to make the year three hundred and sixty-five and a quarter days long, and every fourth year we have an extra day. This was Julius Caesar's arrangement. And where do these eleven minutes come from? They come from the future, and are paid by omitting leap year every hundred years. But if leap year is omitted regularly every hundred years it is found that the eleven minutes taken each year well not only have been paid back, but that a whole day will have been given up. So Pope Gregory XIII, who improved on Caesar's calendar in 1582, decreed that every centennial year divisible by four should be a leap year after all. So we borrow eleven minutes each year, more than paying our borrowings back by omitting three leap years in three centennial years, and square matters by having a leap year in the fourth centennial year. So exact is Pope Gregory's arrangement, and the borrowing and paying back balance so closely, that we borrow more than we pay back to the extent of only one day in three thousand and eight hundred and sixty-six years.

IT IS SAID THAT a woman who died near New Castle, Pa., a short time ago, after having spasms, that when she was a child she had been bitten by a cat, and regularly thereafter with the approach of spring fever, blotches would appear on her face, and she would have spasms.