

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON.

The Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "The Sky Anthem." (Preached at Beyrouth.)

Text: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."—Luke 11.

At last I have what I longed for, a Christmas eve in the Holy Land. This is the time of year that Christ wanted. He was born here.

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's This Your Likeness?

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

SUNDAY JANUARY 12, 1920.

The Song of Mary. LESSON TEXT. Luke 1: 46-55. Memory verses, 49, 51.

LESSON PLAN. TOPIC OF THE QUARTER: Jesus the Saviour of Men.

GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.—Luke 2: 14.

LESSON TOPIC: The Saviour's coming Rejoiced Over.

LESSON OUTLINE: 1. As an Honor to His Mother, vs. 46-49. 2. As a Mercy to the World, vs. 50-52. 3. As a Help to the Needy, vs. 53-55.

GOLDEN TEXT: My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.—Luke 1: 46, 47.

DAILY HOME READINGS: M.—Luke 1: 46-55. The song of Mary. T.—1 Sam. 2: 1-11. The song of Hannah. W.—Psa. 34: 1-10. A song of David. T.—Psa. 40: 1-17. A song of David. F.—Isa. 12: 1-6. A song of the saved. S.—Rev. 5: 1-14. Heaven's new song. S.—Rev. 14: 1-3; 15: 1-4. Songs of heaven.

LESSON ANALYSIS. I. AS AN HONOR TO HIS MOTHER. 1. Arousing Her Gratitude: My soul doth magnify the Lord (46). My heart exulteth in the Lord (1 Sam. 2: 1).

II. AWAKING HER JOY: My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour (47). My soul shall be joyful in the Lord (Psa. 35: 9). I will joy in the God of my salvation (Heb. 3: 18). Rejoice in the Lord alway (Phil. 4: 1).

III. BLESSING HER MEMORY: All generations shall call me blessed (48). In thee shall all the families... be blessed (Gen. 12: 3). All nations shall call you happy (Mal. 3: 12). Hail, thou that art highly favored (Luke 1: 28). Blessed is the womb that bare thee (Luke 11: 27).

IV. AS A MERCY TO THE WORLD. 1. Blessing the Reverent: His mercy is unto them that fear him (Exod. 20: 6). Which keepeth... mercy with them that love him (Deut. 7: 9). The mercy of the Lord is... upon them that fear him (Psa. 103: 17). Covenant and mercy with them that love him (Dan. 9: 4).

2. Scattering the Proud: He hath scattered the proud (51). He frustrate the devices of the crafty (Job 5: 12). Every one that is proud... abase him (Job 40: 11). Thou hast scattered thine enemies (Psa. 89: 10). The Lord will root up the house of the proud (Prov. 15: 25).

3. Exalting the Lowly: He hath exalted them of low degree (52). I exalted thee out of the dust (1 Kings 16: 2). I have exalted one chosen out of the people (Psa. 89: 19). Whosoever shall humble himself shall be exalted (Matt. 23: 12). Humble yourselves... that he may exalt you (1 Pet. 5: 6).

5. Feeding the Hungry: The hungry hath he filled with good things (53). Unto all people a feast of fat things (Isa. 25: 6). My servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry (Isa. 65: 13). Blessed are they that hunger... they shall be filled (Matt. 5: 6). They shall hunger no more (Rev. 7: 16).

6. Helping His Servant: He hath helped Israel his servant (54). Thou hast been the helper of the fatherless (Psa. 37: 40). I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee (Isa. 41: 10). The Lord is my helper; I will not fear (Heb. 13: 6).

7. Fulfilling His Work: As he spake unto our fathers (55). There he failed not ought... all came to pass (Josh. 21: 45). Not one thing hath failed of all the good... God spake (Josh. 23: 14). My words shall not pass away (Matt. 24: 35). He is faithful that promised (Heb. 10: 23).

8. The Lord's Mother: THE MARYS OF SCRIPTURE: The wife of Cleopas (John 19: 25; Matt. 27: 56). Mary Magdalene (Luke 8: 2; Matt. 27: 61). The sister of Lazarus (Luke 10: 38-42; John 12: 3). The mother of Mark (Acts 12: 12). The mother of Jesus (Luke 1: 26-28).

9. Acts of the Lord's Mother: Treasuring facts (Luke 2: 19, 51). Visiting the temple (Luke 2: 22, 41, 42). Assisting neighbors (John 2: 1-5). Visiting her son (Matt. 12: 46). Attending at the cross (John 19: 25-27). Filling her Christian lot (Acts 1: 14).

INTERESTING EVENTS.—Zacharias, having expressed doubt in regard to the prediction of the angel, becomes dumb. He returns from the sanctuary, and makes signs to the people to indicate his loss of speech. Finishing his days of ministration, he and Elisabeth depart to their home, which was at some distance from Jerusalem, possibly at Hebron. In the sixth month after their return, the angel Gabriel appears to Mary, foretelling the miraculous birth of our Lord. Perplexed, but believing, she receives the message, and shortly afterwards goes to visit her kinswoman Elisabeth. (The event narrated in Matthew 1: 18-25 probably occurred after the return of Mary, though this is not certain.) Elisabeth's unborn babe responds to the entrance of Mary, and its mother pronounces a blessing on the mother of her Lord. The song in the lesson is the answer of Mary to this benediction.

PLACEMENT.—At the home of Zacharias and Elisabeth, "in the hill country," in a city of Judah (v. 39). Some suppose the city was Hebron, a Levitical city in that region, as intimated above. Thomson and others accept 'Ain Karim, the traditional birthplace of the Baptist as the "city" referred to. This was a small village four miles west of Jerusalem. Judah is also named, but this view rests on the assumption of a reading ("Judah" for "Judah") unsupported by any manuscript authority.

Execution Methods in China.

The Soo-Chow correspondent of the North China Herald, reporting recently the execution of seven pirates in that city, refers to the manner in which executions in China are fixed. In other countries the criminal knows beforehand the day of his death, and has time to prepare for his fate. But in China all is different. At Peking the vermilion pencil marks the death warrant, which is immediately handed to a courier, who instantly mounts a horse and rides off to his destination.

One Question Too Many. Ex-Judge Noah Davis was always noted, while he was on the bench, for his pertinent questions to witnesses. One day a suit was tried before him in which a steamship company was required to show cause why it should not pay the damages to certain goods which had been destroyed by the incontinent actions of truck horses, frightened, as it was claimed, by the horrible and unearthly whistles of the steamship which was about to depart from the pier. One of the witnesses was Michael Sweeney, an Irishman, who was present at the time of the accident.

Nature's Remedy for Diphtheria. It is said that nature has her own remedy for every ill to which flesh is heir. Some of her remedies have not yet been discovered and some that have been found out have not become generally known. Medical science has long sought for a sovereign remedy for the scourge of childhood, diphtheria, yet the colored people of Louisiana, and perhaps of other localities in the South, have for years known and used a cure which is remarkable for its simplicity. It is nothing more nor less than the pure juice of the pine apple.

A Few Hints. Remember there are days when the air will cause the finest powder to appear blue, and at such times it should not be used; there are other days when the skin is moist or oily, and then also should powder be left alone. These points, however, can only be decided by experience, hints and suggestions being of little use to the novice.

Preparing for Another Possibility.—"Mamma, I'm sorry I dis'beyed you!" "I'm glad to know it, Flossie." "Mamma, I'm drefull sorry." "Yes, little dear." "Mamma, I'm just as sorry as can be." "That's enough of 'sorry,' dear. You needn't heap it up." "Well, mamma, maybe some of it will do for next time I dis'bey."

Tax crooked shall be made straight when caught. THERE will always be romance in the world as long as there are young hearts in it.

Extreme Heat in All Countries.

The following figures show the extreme heat in the various countries of the world: Bengal, 150 degrees Fahrenheit; Borgu, Sahara Desert, 153 degrees; Persia, 125 degrees; Calcutta, India, 120 degrees; Central American Republic, 129 degrees; Cape Good Hope, South Africa, 105 degrees; Greece, 109 degrees; Arabia, 111 degrees; New York, 102 degrees; Spain, Cuba, China and Jamaica, 110 degrees; France, Denmark, Russia and the Sandwich Islands, 100 degrees; England, Ireland and Portugal, 88 degrees; Australia, 80 degrees; Scotland, 75 degrees; Sweden and Norway, 65 degrees; Iceland, 42 degrees; and Nova Zembla, 82 degrees, never above the freezing point.—St. Louis Republic.

Few people are clearly conscious of even the nature of their chiefest faults. Most persons, indeed, would be sure that they are free from any danger in the direction of the very faults by which they are especially distinguished in the sight of all who know them. The faults which a man confesses freely are, as a rule, not so much faults as mere peculiarities. He does not think them really blameworthy, nor does he expect others to do so. But his real faults he is blind to in himself, and keen-sighted for in others. As Julius Charles Hare says: "Do you wish to find out a person's weak points? Note the failings he has the quickest eye for in others. They may not be the very failings he is himself conscious of, but they will be their next-door neighbors. No man keeps such a jealous lookout as a rival."

Courtesy is said to cost but little, while it gives its possessor great gain. In one sense this is true, but in another sense courtesy costs the subjection of self; and that is not a little thing, by any means. The essence of courtesy is the instinctive giving to others the first place in one's thoughts and words and actions. The attainment of this grace costs a great deal; and it is worth more than its cost.

It is better to have two beaus to one string. TRUTH and justice are the foundations of life.