

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Eminent Washington Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "The Mask of Deceit."

Text: "Why feignest thou thyself to be another?"—1 Kings xiv, 6.

In the palace of wicked Jeroboam there is a sick child—a very sick child. Medicines have failed; skill is exhausted. Young Abijah, the prince, has lived long enough to become very popular, and yet he must die unless some supernatural aid be afforded.

The fact is the Peter the Great working in the dry docks of Sardinia, the sailor's head and the shipwright's axe gave him more thorough disguise than the garb of the peasant woman gave to the queen of Tirzah.

It is for no insignificant purpose that I present you the thrilling story of the text. In the first place I learn that wickedness involves others.

Aaron Burr, with heart filled with impurity and ambition, plots for the overthrow of the United States Government and gets off with a few threats and a little censure, while Blennerhassett, the earnest, the honest, the sweet tempered Blennerhassett, is deceived by him from the orchards and the laboratories and the caucuses and the homes on the banks of the Ohio River.

As near as I can tell, looking over the calendar of the world's history, more grand, more beautiful, than Friday have happened on Friday than any other day of the week.

My subject also impresses me with how people put on masks and how the Lord tears them off. It was a terrible moment in the history of this woman of Tirzah when she had no right to practice that falsehood.

Royalty passing in disguise, kings without the crown, conquerors without the palm, empresses without the jewel. You saw her yesterday on the street. You saw nothing important in her appearance but a woman of the regnant over a vast realm of virtue and goodness—a realm vaster than Jeroboam ever looked at. You went down into the house of desolation and war, and suffering.

When you think of a queen you do not think of Catherine, or Mary, or Theresa of Germany, or Mary, queen of Scots. When you think of a queen, you think of a plain woman who sat opposite your father at the table and raised with him down the path of life arm in arm.

And the sun shall shut its fiery eyes, and the stars shall drop like blasted figs, and the continents shall go down like anchors in the deep, and the ocean shall leave its last groan and lash itself with expiring agony, and the world shall wrap itself in a winding sheet of flame and leap on the funeral pyre of the judgment day.

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A Mighty Sword Thrust. The swordfish is a combative monster, and the weapon with which nature has provided him is terrible enough when directed against his natural enemies of the sea.

Something happens every day to convince a man that he lets people see too much of him to add to his popularity. Don't hold a man responsible for his cool kin; you may have troubles of that kind of your own.

The Same Old Sarsaparilla. That's Ayer's. The same old sarsaparilla as it was made and sold 50 years ago. In the laboratory it is different.

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