

# REV. DR. TALMAGE.

## THE BROOKLYN DIVINE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

Subject: "Nature's Wonders and Heaven's Glories."—(Farewell Sermon in London.)

TEXT: "The spider taketh hold with her hands and is in kings' palaces."—Proverbs xxx. 28.

Permitted as I was a few days ago to attend the meeting of the British Scientific Association at Edinburgh, I found that no paper read had excited more interest than that by Rev. Dr. McCook, an American, on the subject of spiders. It seems that my talented countryman, banished from his pulpit for a short time by ill health, had in the fields and forest given himself to the study of insects. And surely it is not beneath the dignity of God to make spiders it is not beneath the dignity of man to study them.

We are all watching for phenomena. A sky full of stars shining from January to January calls out to many minds at the blazing of one meteor. A whole flock of robins take not so much of our attention as one blundering bat darting into the window on a summer eve. Things of ordinary sound and sight and occurrence fail to reach us, and yet no grasshopper ever springs upon our path, no moth ever dashes into the evening candle, no mote ever floats in the sunbeam that pours through the crack of the window shutter, no barnacle on ship's hull, no burr on a chestnut, no limpet clinging to a rock, no rind of an artichoke but we catch a lesson if we were not so stupid. God in His Bible sets forth for our consideration the lily, and the snowflake, and the locust, and the stork's nest, and the hind's foot, and the aurora borealis, and the ant hills.

In my text inspiration opens before us the gate of a palace, and we are inducted amid the pomp of the throne and the courtier, and while we are looking around upon the magnificent inspiration points us to a spider plying its shuttle and weaving its net on the wall. It does not call us to regard the grand surroundings of the palace, but to a solemn and earnest consideration of the fact that "the spider taketh hold with her hands and is in kings' palaces."

It is not very certain what was the particular species of insect spoken of in the text, but I shall proceed to learn from it the existence of the divine mechanism. The king's chamberlain comes into the palace and looks around and sees the spider on the wall and says, "Away with that intruder," and the servant of Solomon's palace comes with his broom and dashes down the insect, saying, "What doest thou doing here? No, it is as fresh and fair and beautiful as though it were completed but yesterday. The kings of the earth shall bring their honor and glory into it."

I do not know but that Christ referred to the real juice of the grape when He said that we should drink new wine in our Father's kingdom, but not the intoxicating stuff of this world's brewing. I do not say it is so; but I have as much right for thinking it so: "What is the meaning of thinking the spider? But under the microscope inspection I find it more wonderful of construction than the embroideries on the palace wall and the upholstery about the windows.

All the machinery of the earth could not make anything so delicate and beautiful as the mechanism with which the spider clutches its prey, or as any of its eight eyes. We do not have to go far up to see the power of God in the tapestry hanging around the windows of heaven, or in the horses or chariots of fire with which the dying day departs, or to look at the mountain swinging out its sword arm from under the mantle of darkness until it can strike with its scimitar of the lightning.

I love better to study God in the shape of a fly's wing, in the formation of a bee's scale, in the snowy whiteness of a bird's wing, than to study the machinery of the universe, and to hear His voice in the hum of the fly's field, and discover the rustle of His robe of light in the south wind. Oh, this wonder of divine power that can build a habitation for God in an apple blossom, and tune a bee's voice until it is fit for the eternal orchestra, and can say to a freddy, "Let there be light," and from holding an ocean in the hollow of His hand, goes forth to find heights and widths and lengths and breadths of omnipotency in a dewdrop, and dismounts from the chariot of midnight hurricane to cross over on the suspension bridge of a spider's web.

You may take your telescope and sweep it across the heavens and wonder at the glory of God, but I shall take the leaf holding the spider and the spider's web, and I shall bring the microscope to my eye, and while I gaze and look and study and am confounded I will kneel down in the grass and cry, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty!"

Again, my text teaches me that insignificant is no excuse for inaction. This spider that Solomon saw on the wall might have said: "I can't weave a web worthy of this gold embroidery; I am not able to make anything fit for so grand a place, and so I will not work my spinning jenny." Not so said the spider. "The spider taketh hold with her hands," and she did it for you and me! You say if you had some great sermon to preach, if you only had a great audience to talk to, if you had a great army to marshal, if you only had a constitution to write, if there was some tremendous thing in the world for you to do—then you would show us. Yes, you would show us!

What if the Levite in the ancient temple had refused to snuff the candle because he could not be a high priest? What if the humming bird refused to sing its song into the ear of the honeyeater because it cannot, like the eagle, dash its wing into the sun? What if the raindrop should refuse to descend because it is not a Niagara? What if the spider of the text should refuse to move its shuttle because it cannot weave a Solomon's robe? Away with such folly! If you are lazy with the ten talents, you would lift the calf; he never will have strength to lift the ox. In the Lord's army there is order for promotion, but you cannot be a general until you have been a captain, a lieutenant and a colonel. It is step by step, it is inch by inch, it is stroke by stroke that our Christian character is built. Therefore, to do to what God commands you to do.

God is not ashamed to do small things. He is not ashamed to be found chiseling a grain of sand, or helping a honeybee to construct its cell with mathematical accuracy, or tinging its shell with red, or shaping its bill of a chaffinch. What God does, He does well. What you do, do well, be a great work or a small work. If ten talents, employ all the ten. If five talents, employ all the five. If one talent, employ the one. If only the thousandth part of a talent, employ that. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life." I tell you if you are not faithful to God in a small sphere, you would be indolent and insignificant in a large sphere.

Again, my text teaches me that repulsiveness and loathsomeness will sometimes climb up into very elevated places. You would have tried to kill the spider that Solomon saw. You would have said: "This is no place for a spider. It is in a glorious palace—the church of God, and yet sometimes unseemly and loathsome things creep up into it—evil speaking and rapour and slander and backbiting and abuse, crawling up on the walls of the church, spinning a web from arch to arch, and from the dome of one communion tankard to the top of another communion tankard. Glorious palace in which there ought only to be light

# SABBATH SCHOOL.

## INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 25.

Lesson Text: "The Lord's Supper Profaned." I. Cor. xi. 20-34 (Quarterly Temperance Lesson)

—Golden Text: I. Cor. xi, 28—Commentary.

20. "When ye come together, therefore, in one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper." The R.V. says: "It is not possible to eat the Lord's Supper." The diversions of this epistle are easily recognized by the words, "Now concerning or as touching" (chapters vii, i; viii, i; xii, i; xvi, i). If the occasion in which our lesson is so carefully read, the prominent topic will be found to be that of glorifying God in eating and drinking (1. Cor. x, 31.) and when people come together to enjoy themselves in eating and drinking, they cannot truly eat the Lord's Supper, for it points to the death of self, not the life of self.

21. "For in eating, every one taketh before his own supper; and one is hungry and another is drunken." Imagine people coming together for a good time, as they are, and the Lord's Supper is profaned to the full, proceed to commemorate the Lord's death. These did worse than that, for they actually made the Lord's Supper a drunken feast.

22. "What? have ye not houses to eat and drink in, or despise ye the church of God? The supplying of our bodily needs is one thing, but the worship of God is an entirely different matter. One of the most prominent characteristics of Christ was that He never sacrificed on His table, but also sacrificed for others (Rom. xv, 3; John vi, 18, 51). If we have not His spirit we are none of His (Rom. viii, 9). If we abide in Him we will walk as He walked (1 John ii, 6).

23. "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread." Hated by the world, betrayed by a professed friend and delivered to be crucified; this was the treatment Christ received, but He took the bread, and ate it, and drank the wine, and said, "This cup is the new testament of My blood, do ye as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me." It was after the eating of the passover on that night before He was crucified for thinking the other way (Luke xiii, 14-30) and gave to His disciples these emblems of His body and blood, to be used by them in coming days as memories of His death. He would have them not only filled with gratitude because of His sacrifice on their behalf, but also to lay down their lives for Him, or pour them out in loving service on behalf of others (1 John iii, 16; John xv, 13).

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25. "Whoever shall eat and drink of these things unworthily, he shall eat and drink his own judgment." It is not a worship of God, but a worship of the self. No, it is as fresh and fair and beautiful as though it were completed but yesterday. The kings of the earth shall bring their honor and glory into it.

I do not know but that Christ referred to the real juice of the grape when He said that we should drink new wine in our Father's kingdom, but not the intoxicating stuff of this world's brewing. I do not say it is so; but I have as much right for thinking it so: "What is the meaning of thinking the spider? But under the microscope inspection I find it more wonderful of construction than the embroideries on the palace wall and the upholstery about the windows.

All the machinery of the earth could not make anything so delicate and beautiful as the mechanism with which the spider clutches its prey, or as any of its eight eyes. We do not have to go far up to see the power of God in the tapestry hanging around the windows of heaven, or in the horses or chariots of fire with which the dying day departs, or to look at the mountain swinging out its sword arm from under the mantle of darkness until it can strike with its scimitar of the lightning.

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# NEWS NOTES FOR WOMEN

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Gray is the dignified color. Round waists are much worn. Velvet dresses are in fashion now. Sleeves are larger and fuller than ever. The craze for short hair has spent itself. Green is to be more fashionable than usual. There are 300,000 women engaged in industrial pursuits in Massachusetts. Miss Lawson, a young sculptor of Cincinnati, Ohio, has sold her statue, "The Mermaid," for \$6000. It is estimated that there is a daily display of \$5,000,000 worth of diamonds at Saratoga during the season. Lady Ponsonby may be said to be the most interesting and clever woman connected with Queen Victoria's court. London furriers announce the furs for the coming season to be unplucked otter, the three kinds of fox, sealskin, and Russian sable. The new imperial crown of Queen Victoria has its entire surface completely covered with jewels, several of which are famous in history. A bed quilt with 3000 pieces in it, and upon which a Coopersburg (Penn.) woman had labored for years, was sold at her death for \$125. Coat basques cut off at the waist and prolonged in coat tails at the back are being made up in heavy and serviceable material for street wear. Would you have dark lashes and brows and yet keep all pesty cosmetics at arm's length? Try walnut juice, applying it with a fine camel's hair brush. It is said that Queen Victoria cherishes a large number of dolls, chiefly wooden and of Dutch make, which she herself dressed when she was a girl. Olive Thorne Miller, the authoress, knows as much about ornithology as a professor. She devotes six months of every year to the study of birds and bird life. Mrs. Julia Stark Evans, of Hampton, Iowa, through the wife of an active lawyer and the mother of five children, is studying for graduation at the State University. The waists of some of the new dresses seem to be made entirely of trimming. They are piecemeals of garniture, and many of them are quite too fussy and patchy to be either pretty or becoming. It is said by those in authority that the fashionable coat of the future will be the long redingote, cut double breasted, with wide Directorate reverses, big buttons, and a double or triple cape. Much of the money which Mrs. Custer, widow of the General, realized by her seventy-two readings last winter has gone toward educating a young girl whose father died on the same field with her husband. One of the old insurance companies in Philadelphia makes a specialty of insuring women's lives on several plans, and has women physicians, Drs. Anna Broomall and Clara Marshall, to act as women examiners. Women with oval faces, and, unfortunately, many with less classical contour, have adopted the fashion of rolling the hair close to the head and twisting a ribbon in and out of the coils to tie in two pointed ends on top. The pretty fashion of flower-hung necklaces which has been carried out with enamelled blossoms hung on a slender gold chain, is gorgeously reproduced now by Parisian jewelers in diamonds and precious stones. Mrs. L. L. Polk, widow of the late President of the National Alliance, continues the publication of the Progressive Farmer at Raleigh, N. C., in her own name. The Farmer is published in the interests of the People's Party. Emilia Bazan, the Spanish authoress, runs a monthly review to which she is the only contributor. Each edition contains a dissertation on the principal topics of the day, a review of the most notable books of the month, and a story. The bell-skirt remains, but it is short, just clearing the ground, and is either plain or trimmed, according to taste. But however plain the skirt may be, the waist fully makes up for any lack of garniture on the lower portion of the costume. In one consignment recently a feather dealer in London received 6000 birds of paradise, 360,000 birds of various kinds from the East Indies, and 400,000 humming birds. In three months another dealer imported 356,398 birds from the East Indies. The jingling, nerve destroying chate-laine is to be worn again this year. Quite a little medicine case or surgeon's equipment is now appended to the silver or gold bow. There is a book, whose leaves are of court plaster, a silver flask of salts, a tiny casket and a scissors, knife and memorandum book! Miss Zella Nuttall, of San Francisco, Cal., is making a mark as an anthropologist. Just now she is in Dresden, Germany, where she has a fine collection of books on Mexico. Her apartments are furnished and decorated in Mexican style, and she is wonderfully well informed in Aztec history and arts. Eminent specialists are declaring that insanity, diseases of the eyes and nervous prostration are largely traceable to the tight-fitting narrow-toed shoes now so fashionable. There are certain nerves in the feet which seem to be abnormally sensitive to the pressure of narrow shoes, and untold suffering results from wearing them.

A correspondent of the London Times says: "The armorial bearings of the Washingtons are: Argent two bars gules, in chief three mullets of the second. Consequently there seems little reason to doubt that the liberator himself designed the flag from the charges in the Washington arms as they appeared on the very seal which he used."

A Distinguished Physician. Every one has heard of Dr. Hoxsie's Certain Cure. This great remedy was used by Dr. Hoxsie himself for twenty years among the most notable families in Buffalo, N. Y., with unflinching success for Congestive Colds, Pneumonia, Croup and Bronchitis. Sold by Druggists, 50c. Manufactured by A. P. Hoxsie, Buffalo, N. Y.

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J. S. Parker, Fredonia, N. Y., says: "I shall not call on you for the \$100 reward, for I believe Hall's Catarrh Cure will surely cure it. It was very bad." Write him for particulars. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

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Scrofula Afflicted me four years—bothered all over my body, swelling in my neck, and in less than a year had lost 40 lbs. I was induced by H. L. Tubbs, our druggist, to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and the blotches disappeared, and I soon began to gain in flesh. In 4 months there was none of the disease left in my system, and I was as well and strong as ever." G. W. DORR, Okeola, South Dakota.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic, gentle and effective. Try a box. Only 25c.

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THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

### "August Flower"

I have been troubled with dyspepsia, but after a fair trial of August Flower, am freed from the vexatious trouble—J. B. Young, Daughters College, Harrodsburg, Ky. I had headache one year steady. One bottle of August Flower cured me. It was positively worth one hundred dollars to me—J. W. Smith, P.M. and Gen. Merchant, Townsend, Ont. I have used it myself for constipation and dyspepsia and it cured me. It is the best seller I ever handled—C. Rugh, Druggist, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

### TREES FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL

SHRUBS, ROSES, HARDY PLANTS, RUBUS, for Fall PLANTING. Immense quantities. Catalogue free. H. E. KEE, Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y.

### RISING SUN STOVE POLISH

DO NOT BE DECEIVED. With Paraffin, Kerosene, and kerosene which stain the wood, and injure the stove. The Rising Sun Stove Polish is Brilliant, Odorless, and does not injure the stove. It is the best glass and metal polish ever prepared.

### CICLERA

Its Origin and History; PREVENTION AND CURE. An interesting Pamphlet mailed to any address on receipt of Stamp. Dr. L. H. HARRIS, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### GO TO JANSSEN'S

310 Broadway, N. Y. "BEST BICYCLE AT LOWEST PRICE" Celebrated RAGLAN Bicycles

### FRAZER AXLE GREASE

BEST IN THE WORLD. Its wearing qualities are unsurpassed, actually outlasting three times of any other brand. Not affected by heat. GET THE GENUINE. Full size 10c. Half size 5c. per cent. grade.

### WORN NIGHT AND DAY!

ELASTIC TRUSS. Perfect Support. New! Improved! Holds the weak rupture with ease and comfort. Perfectly reliable. Best for all cases. Dr. J. C. Smith, Totoket, Conn.

### YOU CAN BORROW MONEY

Counted Out. The BAIN & ESTER CO. is the only place where you can borrow money on your own note. No security required. No interest. No charge. Dr. J. C. Smith, Totoket, Conn.

### WHY DIE WITH CHOLERA

When YOU can live without it for 25 cents! A new, simple and wonderful remedy. Guaranteed. Dr. J. C. Smith, Totoket, Conn.

### W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 SHOE FOR GENTLEMEN.

A genuine sewed shoe that will not rip. The only \$3.00 shoe made with 100% complete security, secured at the outside edge of the sole in cut, and the only \$3.00 shoe made with 100% complete security, secured at the outside edge of the sole in cut, and the only \$3.00 shoe made with 100% complete security, secured at the outside edge of the sole in cut.

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