

# REV. DR. TALMAGE.

## THE BROOKLYN DIVINE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

Subject: "Over All Forever."

TEXT: "Christ came, who is over all."—Romans ix, 5.

For 4000 years the world had been waiting for a deliverer—waiting while empires rose and fell. Conquerors came and made the world worse instead of making it better—the centuries watched and waited. They looked for Him on thrones, looked for Him in palaces, looked for Him in imperial robes, looked for Him at the head of armies. At last they found Him in a barn. The cattle stood nearer to Him than the angels, for the former were in the adjoining stall, while the latter were in the clouds. A percentage of peasantry! No room for Him in the inn because there was no one to pay the hotel expense. Yet the peasant and the angelic cantata showed that heaven made up in appreciation of His worth what the world lacked. "Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen."

But who is this Christ who came? As to the difference between different denominations of evangelical Christians I have no concern. If I could by the turning over of my hand decide whether all the world shall at last be Baptist or Methodist or Congregational or Episcopal or Free Will Baptist, I would not turn my hand. But there are others which are vital to the soul. If Christ be not a God, we are idolators. To this Christological question I devote myself this morning and pray God that we may think right and do aright in regard to a question in which mistake is infinite.

I suppose that the majority of those here to-day assembled believe the Bible. It requires as much faith to be an infidel as to be a Christian. It is faith in a different direction. The Christian has faith in the teachings of Matthew, Luke, John, Paul, Isaiah, Moses. The infidel has faith in the free thinkers. We have faith in one class of men. They have faith in another class of men. But as the majority of these, perhaps all of those here assembled, are willing to take the Bible for a standard in morals and in faith, I make this book my starting point.

I suppose you are aware that the two generals who have marshaled the great armies against the deity of Jesus Christ are Strauss and Renan. The number of their slain will not be counted until the trumpet of the archangel sounds the roll call of the resurrection. Those men and their sympathizers saw that if they could destroy the fortress of miracles they could destroy Christianity, and they were right. Surrender the miracles and you surrender Christianity. The great German exegete says that all the miracles were myths. The great French exegete says that all the miracles were legends. They propose to take everything supernatural from the life of Christ and everything supernatural from the Bible. They prophesy the miracle of human nonsense to the glorious miracles of Jesus Christ.

They say there was no miraculous birth in Bethlehem, but that it is all a fanciful story, just like the story of Remulus said to have been born of Rhea Silvia and the god Mars. They say no star pointed to the manger; it was only the flash of a passing lantern. They say that the infant Jesus was not wrapped in swaddling clothes, but that it is a corruption of the story that Elisha gave 20 loaves of bread to a hundred men. They say the water was never turned into wine, but that it is a corruption of the story that the Egyptian plague turned the water into blood. They say it is not possible that Christ sweat great drops of blood; he had been out in the night air and was taken suddenly ill. They say that there were no tongues of fire on the heads of the disciples at the Pentecost; that there was only a great thunder storm, and the air was full of electricity, which snapped and flew all around about the heads of the disciples.

They say that Mary and Martha and Christ felt it important to get up an excitement for the forwarding of their religion, and so they dramatized a funeral and Lazarus played the corpse, and Mary and Martha played the weepers, and Christ was the tragedian. I put it in my own words, but this is the exact meaning of their statements. They say the Bible is a spurious book, written by men who stitios or lying men, backed up by men who died for that which they did not believe.

Now, I take back the limited statement which I made a few moments ago, when I said it requires as much faith to be an infidel as to be a Christian. It is a corruption of the story that Elisha gave 20 loaves of bread to a hundred men. They say the water was never turned into wine, but that it is a corruption of the story that the Egyptian plague turned the water into blood. They say it is not possible that Christ sweat great drops of blood; he had been out in the night air and was taken suddenly ill. They say that there were no tongues of fire on the heads of the disciples at the Pentecost; that there was only a great thunder storm, and the air was full of electricity, which snapped and flew all around about the heads of the disciples.

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one. "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." This everywhere-ness is characteristic of a man or of a God? And would we think this everywhere-ness would cease, He goes on, and He intimates that He will be in all the cities of the earth—Asia, Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America the day before the world burns up. "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Why, then, He must be a God.

Who, that He takes divine honors. He declares Himself Lord of men, angels and devils. Is He? If He is, He is a God. If He is not, He is an impostor. A man comes up to your store to-morrow morning. He says: "I am the great shipbuilder of Liverpool. I have built hundreds of ships." He goes on to give his experience. You defer to him as a man of large experience and great possessions. But the next day you find out that he is not the great shipbuilder of Liverpool, that he never built a ship; that he never added anything. What is he then? An impostor. Christ says He built this world. He built all things. Did He build them? If He did, He is a God. If He did not, He is an impostor.

A man comes into your place of business with Jewish countenance and a German account and says: "I am Rothschild, the banker of London. I have the wealth of Nations in my pocket. I loaned that large amount to Italy and Austria in their perplexity." But after a while you find that he has never loaned any money to Italy or Austria, that he never had a large estate; that he is no banker at all; that He owns nothing. What is he? An impostor. Christ says He owns the cattle on a thousand hills; He owns this world; He owns the next world; He owns the universe. He is the banker of all Nations. If He is, He is a God. If He is not, He is an impostor.

A man enters the White House at Washington. He says: "I am Emperor William, of Germany. I am traveling incognito. I have come over here for recreation and pleasure. I own castles in Dresden and Berlin." But the president finds out the next day that he is not Emperor William; that he owns no castles at Berlin and Dresden; that he has no authority. What is he? An impostor. Christ says He is the king over all—the king immortal, invisible. If He is, He is a God. If He is not, He is an impostor.

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Strauss saw that alternative, and he tries to get out of it by saying that Christ was sincere in accepting adoration and worship. Renan tries to get out of it by saying that Christ—not through any fault of His own, but through the fault of others—lost His purity of conscience, and he slyly intimates the dishonorable woman had tampered with his purity. Anything but believe that Christ is God. Now you believe the Bible to be true. If you do not, you would hardly have appeared in this church. You would have gone over and joined the Broadway Infidel club, or you would go to Boston and kiss the feet of the statue of Thomas Paine. You would hardly come into this church, where the most of us are the dejected souls who believe in a whole Bible and take it all down as easily as you swallow a ripe strawberry.

I have shown you what inspired men said of Christ; I have shown you what Christ said of Himself; now, if you believe the Bible, let us go out and see His wonderful achievements—surgical, alimentary, marine, mortuary, and surgical. Where is the medical journal that gives an account of such exploits as Christ wrought? He used no knife. He carried no spinals. He employed no compress. He made no patient squirm under cauterization. He tied no artery. He healed the blind with His word. He struck the Mameluk amputated ear. He stirred a little dust and spittle into a salve and with it caused a man who was born blind and without optic nerve or cornea or crystalline lens to open his eyes on the sunlight. He best muzzled the drum of the deaf. He straightened a woman who, through contraction of muscle, had been bent almost double for well nigh two decades. He made a man who had no use of his limbs for 38 years shoulder his mattress and walk off.

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who comes to pardon all our sins, to comfort all our sorrows. Sometimes our griefs are so great that we are beyond any human sympathy, and we want Almighty sympathy. Oh, ye who cried all last night because of bereavement or loneliness, I want to tell you it is an omnipotent Christ who is come.

When the children are in the house and the mother is dead, the father has to be more gentle in the home, and he has to take the office of father and mother, and it seems to me Christ looks out upon your helplessness, and He proposes to be father and mother to your soul. He comes in the strength of one, in the tenderness of the other. He says with one breath, "As a father pitied his children, then with the next breath He says, 'As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.' Do you not feel the hush of the divine lullaby?"

Oh, put your tired head down on the heavy bosom of divine compassion, while He puts His arms around you and says: "O widowed soul, I will be thy God. O orphaned soul, I will be thy protector. Do not cry." Then He touches your eyelids with His fingers and sweeps His fingers down your cheek and wipes away all the tears of loneliness and bereavement. Oh, what a tender and sympathetic God has come for you! I do not ask you to lay hold of Him. Perhaps you are not strong enough for that. I do not ask you to pray. Perhaps you are too bewildered for that. I only ask you to let go and fall back into the arms of everlasting love.

Soon you and I will hear the click of the latch of the door of the sepulcher. Strong men will take us in their arms and carry us down and lay us in the dust, and they will bury us here again. I should be soared with infinite fright if I thought I must stay in the grave, if even the body were to stay in the grave. But Christ will come with glorious lionclan and spit and grind up the rocks and let us all come forth. The Christ of the manger is the Christ of the throne.

### SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

#### There is no cure for color blindness.

The curvature of the earth is eight inches per mile.

Only one death occurs in 2600 cases where ether is administered.

The aggregate surface of the air cells of the lungs exceeds 20,000 square inches.

A municipal plant gives Allegheny, Penn., electric light for one and a half cents per hour per lamp.

Scales are now made that will weigh the flame of a candle or the smallest hair plucked from the eyebrow.

Professor Ball, Royal Astronomer of Ireland, claims that once the moon was nearer the earth than now, that the day and the month were equal, each three hours long. At 40,000 miles distance the moon was a greater tide producer by 216 times. As the moon receded from the earth both revolved more slowly.

At the present time twenty-seven earth rotations equal one moon rotation.

Suppose a human being migrated from globe to globe and spending fifty years on each, he would require 100,955,000,000 years for the round.

If he stayed only one hour, he would save much time, but still need 230,400,000 years for the task. Yet these nebulae are only a part of the universe! Outside the nebulae limits we know of other nebulae not resolvable into stars. They appear to be primitive nebulae, pure unused world-stuff—matter for new creations.

#### A Dentist's Hint.

One of the best dentists in this city advises all his patients to use what is called "dental floss," and which is simply a heavy waxed silk thread, regularly every evening to remove particles of food from between the teeth. He favors the use of the tooth brush, but says if he were to be deprived of either his "floss" or his tooth brush he would sacrifice the latter. The judgment of particles of food between the teeth is generally the cause of decay and cavities, and where the "floss" is used regularly every evening before retiring there is little opportunity for food to lodge, ferment and destroy the tissues.

#### Fighting Cholera With Oranges.

It seems that we can successfully fight cholera with oranges and lemons. The Imperial health office, of Berlin, has issued an announcement to the effect that oranges and lemons are both fatal to the cholera bacillus. Placed in contact with the cut surface of the fruit the bacteria survive but a few hours. They remain active for some time longer on the uninjured rind of the fruit, but even then they die within twenty-four hours. The destructive property as regards the cholera bacteria is supposed to be due to the large amount of acid contained in these fruits. In consequence of this quality the health officer considers it unnecessary to place any restriction on the transit and sale of these fruits, even if it should be ascertained that they come from places where cholera is prevalent at the time. Not a single instance was noted in which cholera was disseminated by either oranges or lemons.—New Orleans Picayune.

#### How to Stretch a Small Fortune.

"One of the easiest ways to get a fortune out of \$10,000 in United States currency is this," remarked a great admirer of French finance yesterday. "Move over to France and turn it into francs. Ten thousand dollars makes a fortune of fifty thousand francs, and a man with that sum in France is rich. There can be no question of it—a man with 50,000 francs in France is a thousand times better off than a man with \$10,000 in America.

"The two principal reasons for this are, the actual cost of living in France is far cheaper than over here; and all of the luxuries, amusements and enjoyments of life are lower priced."—New York Journal.

#### GROWING BUSH FRUITS.

Professor S. B. Atwood, of the Virginia Station, says in bulletin 11: The ordinary method of growing bush fruits in the farmer's garden, along the fence rows or in situations where culture is quite impossible, is doubtless the worst sort of system ever devised, and the common prevalence of this no system is probably largely responsible for the



### COARSE HAIRED HOGS.

Western farmers generally want hogs that have considerably coarse hair. This indicates that they are hardy, but merely because the hair protects skin from cold and scalding sun, but also because the coarse haired hog has probably been inured to hardship from pigothod. When a pig is half starved or suffering from cold it will make growth of hair, though otherwise not increasing in size.—Boston Cultivator.

### WHAT HEENS SHOULD PAY.

Your hens under proper management should pay you \$1 per head profit per annum; this will mean something when keeping several hundred or even thousand fowls. You make her pay her board and this profit besides for your share of the fun of caring for her; certainly this is paying better than many investments one could make, with health and pleasure added. There is always sure returns in eggs; but the time, of course, to make good profits is in winter when "hen's fruit" is quoted high.—New York Independent.

### FERTILIZING ORCHARDS.

Professor I. P. Roberts sent to the Western New York Horticultural Society an interesting paper on this subject, in which he said that the particular advantage of forest soils is the great amount of humus they contain. The roots in the soil serve as drainage tubes, and as they rot away the soil becomes hard and compact.

In many orchards the cheapest way to get plant food is by the intelligent use of the drain tile. In those that are naturally underdrained this would not pay. Where an additional fertilizer is wanted stable manure is the most available and cheapest form, but it contains too much nitrogen in proportion to its mineral elements, and is apt to force the growth of wood too much. It should, therefore, be well rotted before being applied.

Where nitrogen is wanted it can be obtained cheaper by the use of vetches and other leguminous plants. The vetch is the most suitable plant for covering the land late in the season. The seed can be sown in June or July, and plants will cover the ground completely by winter.—Farmers' Home Journal.

### FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Fowls like shade in summer.

Set or "break up" the broody hen at once.

Kerosene is very effective for the cure of scaly legs.

Assafoetida in the drinking water is said to be good for gapes in chickens.

Poorly stocked farms are neither attractive nor are they made most profitable.

The horse that has steady work each day is the best able to stand hard work.

See that the fowls have fresh water and pure air, but not damp quarters or drafts.

Do what is necessary to be done in good season; there is often much loss in delay.

The knowledge of how to sell farm products will come largely from experience.

On plowed land there is very little loss of manure applied in winter by leaching.

A complete failure rarely falls to the lot of a really good farmer with any one crop.

When it is considered necessary to make a radical change of feed do it gradually.

Rice boiled till soft and mixed with dry oatmeal is good to vary the chickens' food with.

Dairy stock cannot be improved if a careless mixing of all breeds is permitted to go on.

If the coops for little chicks are on the barn floor give them some fresh earth for a carpet.

A very little food when it is needed will often make the difference between profit and loss in dairying.

Pekins are not fanciful as to food, take willingly what is given them and the ducklings fatten quickly.

Good pasturage is necessary in dairying. A cow must be able to fill her stomach without working all day for it.

Whitewash the coops before using them; it gives an air of neatness and air of healthfulness—air full of health.

If you have to confine your fowls so that they have but a small run be sure you keep it well spaded, that is, spade it often.

It is claimed that with plenty of charcoal, the same amount of feed will produce a far greater amount of flesh and fat.

For summer or autumn crops keep the manure on top as much as possible, to act as a mulch and help to retain moisture in the soil.

One advantage from clover is the roots, which penetrate and mellow the subsoil, and which make a rich manure soil when they decay.

Want of fresh water is numbered by some among the causes of leather eating; water should be replenished often and kept in the shade.

Little chicks want dry quarters to do their best. But that does not mean that they should never touch anything but a board or stone floor.

Many a farmer has made himself independent by supplying some trifling need of the market that the general producer has overlooked.

Peaches do not thrive in a wet soil and this is often a leading cause of failure to secure the best results. Good drainage is an important item.

A London journal commends American breeders for sticking much more closely to the original Italian type of Leghorns than the English have done.

### "The Innocence of the Eye."

Painters cultivate what is called the "innocence of the eye" trying to see nature simply as forms and colors as a child sees it, without reference to what reason and experience may teach them. No two of them see exactly the same way. One painter in New York says that he is astonished to find how gray everything is—even sky and foliage. Another finds the streets full of reds and purples. A younger artist says: "When I began to paint everything seemed to me dark. The longer I look at nature the more light I find in it. My great trouble now is to get my pictures as light as nature seems to my eye. I find more yellow in the landscape than I used to. But, after all, these things are subjective, and a man paints what is inside of his head, not what he sees outside of it."—Chicago Herald.

The favorite flower of the Princess of Wales is the Lily of the valley.

## The Testimonials