

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

SUNDAY'S DISCOURSE BY THE NOTED DIVINE.

Subject: "Expurgation of the Scriptures."

TEXT: "Let God be true, but every man a liar."—Romans xii, 4.

The Bible needs reconstruction according to some inside and outside the pulpit. It is no surprise that the world bombards the Scriptures, but it is amazing to find Christian ministers picking at this in the Bible and denying that until many good people are left in the fog about what parts of the Bible they ought to believe and what parts reject.

It does not seem to be a commendable business for the crew to be helping the winds and storms outside their axes and saws inside. Now, this old Gospel ship, what with the roaring of earth and hell around the stern and stern and mutiny on deck, certainly being a very rough voyage, but I have noticed that not one of the timbers has started, and the captain says he will see it through.

When I see professed Christians in this particular day finding fault with the Scriptures, it makes me feel that the Scriptures are being so terribly bombarded, and the men on the ramparts, instead of swabbing out and loading the guns and helping fetch up the ammunition from the magazine, are trying with crossbars to pry the wall certain blocks of stone, because they did not come from the right quarry.

While I oppose this expurgation of the Scriptures, I shall give you my reasons for such opposition. "What!" say some of the theological evolutionists whose brains have been addled by Darwin and Spencer, "you don't really believe all the story of the garden of Eden, do you?" Yes, as much as I believe there were roses in my garden last summer.

There is nothing in the Bible that staggers me. There are many things I do not understand, I do not pretend to understand, never shall in this world understand. But that would be a very poor God who could be fully understood by man.

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It is a plain matter of history that Tischen-dorf went to a convent in the peninsula of Sinai and by ropes lifted over the wall into the convent, that being the only mode of admission, and that he saw there in the waste-basket for kindling the fragments of the Holy Scriptures.

Do you not know that the catalogue of the books of the Old and New Testaments as we have it is the same catalogue that has been coming down through the ages? Thirty-two books of the Old Testament thousands of years ago.

It is not an argument plain enough to every honest man and every honest woman that a book divinely protected and in this shape is in the very shape that God wants it. It pleases God and ought to please us.

This book saw the cradle of all other books, and it will see their graves. Would you not think that an old book like this, some of it forty centuries old, would come along hobbling with age and on crutches?

Walter Scott's Waverley Novels, Macaulay's "History of England," Disraeli's "Endymion," the works of Tennyson and Longfellow, and all the popular books of our time having no such sale in the last ten years as this old worn-out book. Do you know what a struggle a book has in order to get through one century or two centuries? Some old books, during a fire in a seraglio of Constantinople, were thrown into the street. A man without any education picked up one of the books, read it, and did not see the value of it.

A scholar looked over his shoulder and saw it was the first and second decades of Livy, and he offered a man a large reward if he would bring the book to his study. But the excitement of the fire that was parted, and the first and second decades of Livy were forever lost.

Not only have all the attempts to detract from the book failed, but all the attempts to add to it. Many attempts were made to add the apocryphal books to the Old Testament. The council of Trent, the synod of Jerusalem, the bishops of Hippo, all decided that the apocryphal books must be added to the Old Testament.

I am also opposed to this proposed expurgation of the Scriptures for the fact that in proportion as the people become self-sacrificing and good and holy and consecrated, they like the book as it is. I have yet to find a man or a woman distinguished for self-sacrifice, for consecration to God, for holiness of life, who wants the Bible changed.

Many of us have inherited family Bibles. These Bibles were in use twenty, forty, fifty, perhaps 100 years in the generations. They take down those family Bibles, and find out if there are any chapters which have been erased by lead pencil or pen, and if in any particular case they find words, "The Holy Spirit is not to be read." There has been plenty of opportunity during the last half century privately to expurgate the Bible.

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SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR JUNE 23.

Lesson Text: "Saviour's Parting Words," Luke xxiv, 44-53 (Miscellaneous Lesson)—Golden Text: Matt. xxviii, 19—Commentary.

"Go Ye."—This is the genius of the gospel. This its missionary spirit. Begin at Jerusalem, it is to be put with the faces turned from it. Start from the centre, but go to the circumference. The command was imperative. They were not to linger, or to exercise their discretion as to whether they were to go, but to go in obedience to His command. It was as abiding as the time was to be long in which the work was to be done.

A brief summary of Christ's teaching before the resurrection. Jesus speaks as though He were not now with His disciples. In the old form of existence He is not. He participates more in the heavenly than in the earthly life.

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SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Zinc can now be refined by electrolysis.

The summit of Mount Vesuvius can now be reached by a cable railway.

M. Cristiani, of Geneva, has made chemical tests which show that at a height of six hundred metres the air is free from bacteria.

Popcorn pops because the essential oil in the corn is converted into gas by heat, and thus an explosion occurs which tears the kernel open.

The albatross has been known to follow a ship for two months without ever being seen to alight in the water or take a moment's rest. It is believed to sleep on the wing.

A prominent surgeon of the British army in India has been conducting an exhaustive series of experiments to determine whether strychnine is an antidote to snake poison. He says that it is not.

Professor Gurit, of Berlin, who has been carefully compiling statistics, finds that the use of chloroform as an anæsthetic is fatal in one case out of 1500, and the similar use of ether is fatal only in one case out of 3900.

Professor C. V. Riley, the eminent entomologist, who studies the habits of bugs for Uncle Sam, has advanced a theory of telepathy among insects—a sixth sense whereby they are enabled to communicate with one another at great distances.

Distinct tides in the atmosphere, corresponding to those of the sea, and produced twice daily by lunar attraction, have been traced by M. Bouquade la Grye in the barometric records of stations removed from powerful local disturbances.

At the last sitting of the French Academy of Sciences the announcement was made of the discovery of a serum capable of curing cancers and cancerous tumors. The system of cultivating the vaccine is the same as that adopted for diphtheria serum.

The bottom of the Atlantic forms a sort of terrace along the continent, sloping gradually for several miles, then suddenly descending to a far greater depth. In general, about one hundred miles from the shore there is a depth of one hundred fathoms, but in ten miles the depth exceeds one thousand fathoms.

The result of meteorological tests with balloons at immense heights is announced from Bremen. One balloon, carrying self-registering instruments, reached a height of twelve miles. The thermometer could not register the temperature, sixty-seven degrees below zero being marked at a lower height.

A well-known resident of the city is the owner of a cat that has proved its right to be classed as a reasonable being as clearly as a cat can. The gentleman removed to his present residence from Coronado last May, and took the cat with him.

A Cleveland man fatally burned by the ignition of Cologne.

S. M. Strong, a wholesale druggist, died at Cleveland, Ohio, as the result of a peculiar accident. He stepped from his sleeping room at his home, 2250 Euclid avenue to the bathroom adjoining, Monday night, clad only in his undergarments.

SEARCHING FOR A MATCH he knocked a large bottle of cologne from a shelf and it broke on a marble washstand, the contents saturating part of his clothing. Mr. Strong lit a match, and instantly the alcohol vapor from the cologne flashed into a flame.

Mr. Strong was sixty-five years old, and had been in the drug business in that city forty-five years.

BURIED ALIVE.

Stupidity and Red Tape the Causes of a Woman's Death.

A woman was buried alive at Anney in Savoy recently; while the gravediggers were throwing earth on the coffin they heard a knocking inside. They waited a moment before making up their minds what to do, and then instead of opening the coffin, went to notify the authorities.

Sheep Strained by Hailstones.

At Paint Rock, Concho County, Texas, an awful hailstorm, the stones of which were of enormous size, happened. One of the stones struck a sheep on the head and knocked out its brains.

Result of a Steamboat War.

People in St. Louis now find it cheaper to travel than to board at home. A trip of 600 miles may be taken on a first-class steamer for \$1.50 and no extra charge is made for either meals or stateroom during the two days and a half required for the journey.

Satisfied With the New Rifle.

A Projected Free Port.

A Prohibition Church.

Royal Baking Powder Absolutely Pure. The power of continuing motionless with the lifted head projecting forward for an indefinite time is one of the most wonderful of the serpent's muscular feats...

The Serpent's Trick. The power of continuing motionless with the lifted head projecting forward for an indefinite time is one of the most wonderful of the serpent's muscular feats...

Gold Mine in a Well. While digging a well in the heart of the city of Fort Smith, Ark., gold bearing sand was brought up, and the community is not a little stirred up at finding that they have been living over a gold mine.

Confidences. I had the same experience. Every now and then. And always at the most inopportune. One of those little pimple-like blotches would appear on my face and annoy me beyond expression.

Engines and Boilers. For all purposes requiring power. Automatic, Corlies & Compound Engines, Horizontal & Vertical Boilers, Complete Steam Plants.

You Need It. MAP OF TEXAS facts and figures. MAP OF TEXAS facts and figures. MAP OF TEXAS facts and figures.

These stopped using soap, long ago. This one stopped because—well, we'll have to guess why. Perhaps, because it gave him too much work to do.

Millions Pearline. What Brings Release From Dirt and Grease? Why, Don't You Know? SAPOLIO!

Life Passed in a Canal Boat. "It's the first time we've lived in a house," said a tenant, showing her landlord into the neatest and cleanest apartment imaginable.

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DAVIS CREAM SEPARATORS. Combined Separator, Feed Cocker, and Churn Power. Simple, Practical, Efficient, Durable, Cheap and Good.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR COMPANY. The "LINENE" are the Best and Most Economical Collars and Cuffs worn; they are made of fine Reversible Collar and Cuff material, and being reversible, one collar is equal to two of any other kind.

DENSION JOHN W. HOBBS. Successfully Prosecutes Claims. Late Principal Examiner U. S. Pension Bureau, 37 years' exp. in adjusting claims, sure success.