

WOMEN'S INTERESTS

WHAT HAPPENED TO JANE

By Virginia Terhune Van de Water

CHAPTER XXXIII.

(Copyright, 1915, Star Co.) It was with the resolution to make the best of circumstances that Jane began life in her husband's home.

Difficult as she had expected to find some of her problems, she had not anticipated the existence of conditions which now confronted her.

It was like beginning a new existence. The world of which she had been a part seemed already remote. This was not only because she was now a wife and in a larger and more pretentious house than she was used to, but because Augustus discouraged the continuance of the habits and associations of former days.

At first Jane could hardly believe that it was his desire to monopolize her time and to keep her away from the friends of her girlhood. She took it for granted that he would be willing to have her go often to her parents' home and to have her people visit her frequently.

On the day after her return to Milton she told him that she would like to go to see her mother, but he shook his head.

"There's a lot for you to learn about the ways of my house, Jane," he said. "I'd rather you stayed home."

Heartless and puzzled, the girl tried to behave as if she was content. Yet so depressed was she that when, late in the afternoon, she saw a buggy stop at the farmgate and her father and mother climb out of it, she ran to open the front door, tremulous with delight.

"Oh, mother!" she exclaimed, throwing her arms around Mrs. Hardy's neck. "I am so glad you've come."

Her mother returned her kiss, but spoke in an aggrieved tone.

"Well, Jane," she said, "I heard from the neighbors that you'd got back. You might have let your parents know about it instead of leaving me to learn about it from Ruth Crosby."

"I couldn't come, mother, nor send any word," Jane tried to explain. Then she turned to her father and lifted her face for his kiss of greeting.

"You understand—don't you, father?" she said, "that I had no way of getting over?"

"I don't know anything about it," said Hardy, "except that you've always been able to walk where you

liked, so if Gus couldn't have you driven over you could have walked the mile to our house if you'd wanted to."

What could Jane say without seeming to complain of her husband?

"I meant to come," she remarked, "but Augustus wanted me to stay at home for a day or two and get used to the ways of the house."

"How had he been?" she asked, mollified by her child's manner. "I guess perhaps you couldn't get over right away. And never mind—we're here now, and that does as well. How are you?"

They had been seated for only a few minutes when Reeves himself entered. "Ah, how are you?" He greeted the callers patronizingly.

"You weren't long in coming over to see us, were you?"

Surely he would suggest that she ask her parents to stay to supper. Jane thought as she listened to his account of their visit to New York.

Slipping from the room she went into the dining room where Mary was laying the cloth for supper.

"Oh, Mrs. — I mean — Mary," the wife said nervously, "my father and mother are here. I wonder if it would be convenient to have them stay to supper?"

"For a full minute the woman setting the table did not reply, but continued to place forks, knives and spoons on the white cloth. At last she stopped and faced the nominal mistress of the house.

"Since you've come to rule here, I've nothing to say about anything," she remarked in a metallic tone.

"You'd best ask him," with a nod of her head toward the sitting room.

"Since he's the one you made up your mind to get, and since you've got him, you can fix such things with him. He's your boss now."

The hot blood rushed to the girl's cheeks, but she did not allow herself to speak the angry retort that trembled on her lips.

Going back to the door of the sitting room, she asked her husband if she might speak to him a moment. When he came out into the hall she put her request timidly.

"Augustus—would you mind if I asked father and mother to stay to supper?"

His answer was prompt. "Why should you? There's no reason for it. No, I'd rather have you to myself this evening."

(To Be Continued)

PETER CAME BACK AND MADE GOOD

Cut Himself Off From His Best Friend, but Was Forgiven

PREACHED AT PENTECOST

International Sunday School Lesson For Jan. 16 Is Peter's Sermon at Pentecost

A man who "came back," as the phrase of athletics has it, is the first figure in the present lesson concerning the most famous sermon preached since the ascent of Christ. Two months before Peter, the preacher, scared by a woman's question, had stood in Jerusalem cursing and swearing and declaring that he had never known his Jesus. A blustering renegade he was.

In cowardly fashion he had cut himself off from his best friend, in the hour when that friend needed him most.

Now we behold him, forgiven and restored, back in his old fellowship, and displaying his characteristic qualities of initiative and leadership. Like the words of redeemed men in the rescue mission his utterance is direct, personal, vital and assured. As we look upon Peter, the preacher at Pentecost, and the spokesman of the infant church, we are struck by the fact that he exemplifies the great truth that God's grace enables many men to "come back," restored to peace and power.

There is one church known to me which still follows the practice of Pentecost in that the other officers of the church surround the preacher on the pulpit. When he stood up, the other eleven apostles stood with him. The authority and endorsement of the whole body were behind the preacher's words. Many a clergyman nowadays has to speak in spite of his officers, instead of by their co-operation. They are among the critics down in the pews. It is a great thing when a congregation speaks unitedly to the commander.

Just Plain Preaching

That was a great day in the history of the world when Peter's message, following the sensation of gift of tongues, made three thousand converts for the little company of Christ's friends. It has always been a high-water mark and a standard for the Church.

There is an up-to-date message in the story. For it was not newspaper editorial, nor a learned essay, nor an enactment of the legislature, nor a scheme of the chamber of commerce that wrought this wonder, but just plain preaching. Whenever I read the occasional editorials and magazine articles about "the passing of the sermon" I smile to myself, for great sermons of the Peter-Pentecost type still have their old-time power. True, our day is hard upon commonplace preaching and upon sermons "got up;" but it responds as of old to a man of God declaring with power the word of God's redemption for man. The man of parts who goes into the pulpit goes into the place of greatest power on earth.

Some things that should mark every sermon characterized Peter's message that day. First, he told the story of Christ, and in plain words. No amount of intellectual brilliancy can take the place of the telling of the facts. Most modern sermons are long on exhortation and short on facts. It is the story that is winning the world. Peter quoted Scripture aptly. It is passing strange how little Bible gets into the pulpit discourses of our day, especially in the light of the fact that the people who know the Bible best understand the war news from the East.

Into the teeth of his hearers Peter hurled the brave truth that he had crucified the Messiah. No self-flatterer or trimmer was the fiery apostle. He dared rebuke sin. Then he preached repentance and baptism and the salvation provided by the Holy Spirit. A multitude of three thousand were crying out, "What shall we do?"

The Sermon Itself

Better than any comment upon it is Dr. Luke's report of Peter's sermon itself.

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and spake forth unto them saying, Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be ye known unto you, and give ear unto my words. For these are not drunken, as ye suppose; seeing it is but the third hour of the day; but this is that which hath been spoken through the prophet Joel:

And it shall be in the last days, saith God, I will pour forth of my Spirit upon all flesh: And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy: And your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: Yea and of my servants and of my handmaidens in those days will I pour forth of my spirit: and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in the heaven above: And signs on the earth beneath: Blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, Before the day of the Lord come. That great and notable day: And it shall be, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

"Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by Him in the midst of you, even as ye yourselves know: Him, being delivered up by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye by the hand of lawless men did crucify and slay whom God raised up, having loosed



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the pangs of death; because it was not possible that He should be holden of it. For David said concerning him, "I beheld the Lord always before my face; For He is on my right hand, that I should not be moved; Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; Moreover my flesh also shall dwell in hope; Because thou wilt not leave my soul unto Hades, Neither wilt thou give thy Holy One to see corruption. Thou madest known unto me the ways of life; Thou shalt make me full of gladness with thy countenance." "Brethren, I may say unto you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us unto this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins he would set one upon his throne; he foreseeing this, and speaking of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he left unto Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus did God raise up, whereof we all are witnesses. Being therefore by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he hath poured forth this, which ye see and hear. For David ascended into the heavens; but he saith himself: "The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Till I make thine enemies the footstool of thy feet. "Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly, that God hath made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom ye crucified. "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do? Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall give unto Him. And with many words he testified, and exhorted them, saying, Save yourselves from this crooked generation. They then that received his word were baptized: and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls."

Linking the Old and the New

Over in Japan many of the Christians practically discard the Old Testament. In effect many of us do the same. Not so Peter. He took his text from the Prophet Joel, and boldly proclaimed that the great dream of the Jews had come true, the prophecy had been fulfilled. His overwhelming news was that the long-expected and oft-expected Messiah had come to pass. He did not shrink from proclaiming a truth because its very vastness made it seem almost incredible. The supreme optimism is the preacher of the Good News. The pessimist is one who has not the courage to tell the whole truth about the coming of the Kingdom.

Some Bible students nowadays are so bent on the minute interpretation of prophecy that they have no vision for the vaster application of the truth. Unlike Peter, they do not link up the old with the new in a way that makes for a changed life. Light minds face peril in the study of prophecy; but for all who can differentiate the essential from the non-essential, the fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures in Christ is a soul-nourishing study.

This great sermon of Peter's all headed up in Christ; it was what the theologians call "Christ-centric." It produced the witness of the Scripture to Jesus, gave the testimony of the apostles themselves, appealed for confirmation to the experience of the listeners, and applied the Gospel to the needs of the people.

With sympathy as well as with fearlessness Peter addressed himself to his crowd, was understood by the Galilean fisherman who had been trained in the school of the tactful Christ.

Then the truth was driven home until each man felt himself a sharer in the rejection of Christ, and cried aloud for mercy. Dr. Bonar has expressed this feeling of contrition: "I see the crowd in Pilate's hall, I mark their writhing limbs, Their shouts of 'Crucify' appalling, With blasphemy between.

"And of that shouting multitude I feel that I am one; And in that din of voices rude I recognize my own.

"I see the scourges tear His back, I see the piercing crown, And of that crowd who smite and mock I feel that I am one.

"Around you cross the throng I see, Mocking the Sufferer's groan; Yet still my voice it seems to be, As if I mocked alone."

Understanding the Crowd

We can imagine some wisacene, called upon to consider this great mul-

PROMOTIONS AT DILLSBURG

Dillsburg, Pa., Jan. 14.—William Lewis, who for some time had been chief clerk at the Dillsburg depot of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, has been promoted to a clerkship in the Waynesboro station. George Stouffer, who has been warehouseman at the Dillsburg depot, has been promoted to clerk in place of M. Lewis, and Norman, who was extra warehouseman has been taken on regular to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Mr. Stouffer.

Dillsburg Is Unable to Organize Health Board

Dillsburg, Pa., Jan. 14.—One of the difficult propositions that confronts the new borough council is the reorganization of a board of health to which office no one aspires. Dillsburg has been without a complete board of health for some time, due to the fact that no one could be induced to serve on the board.

Two Killed by Black Damp in Burning Mine

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 14.—The fire since early in December in one of the slopes of the Lattimer mines of Pardee Brothers & Co., cost two lives yesterday afternoon when Con Hanley and Eugene Finch, of Lattimer, members of the crew fighting the fire, were killed by black damp. The fire is under control, and it was thought this week that all danger had been overcome.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION ELECTS

Annville, Pa., Jan. 14.—The Annville Building and Loan Association has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, H. Clay Deaner; vice-president, C. P. Saylor; secretary, Z. A. Bowman; treasurer, George W. Stine; solicitor, E. W. Miller.

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