

"LIFE MADE OVER"

Sunday Discourse By Dr. Chapman, the Noted Pastor-Evangelist.

Some Lives Mentioned in the Bible Which Have Really Been Made Over Again Like the Clay Moulders.

A NEW YORK CITY.—The Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, the popular pastor-evangelist, who preaches to overflowing congregations in this city, has furnished the following eloquent discourses from the text "So he made it again." Jeremiah 18: 4.

To any one familiar with the prophecy of Jeremiah upon the breaking of the potter's wheel, it is apparent that Israel was rushing on to destruction, and Jeremiah seems powerless to stop them in their mad career. One day, as he passed by the highway he beheld a potter working at his wheel, and as he turns aside he beholds him with the clay in his hands and the wheel revolving, toiling away until this piece of work is done, and then he casts it with disappointment, and then crushing it into his hands he kneads it over and over and finally makes it again as the text declares. Jeremiah 18: 4.

There are some lives mentioned in the Bible which have really been made over again like the clay in the hands of the potter. First—Jacob. By nature he was a supplanter and a cheat; he stole his brother's birthright and deceived his father, but by the power of God he became Israel, the prince and patriarch of the Hebrew people.

Second—Peter. He was a man of like passions with ourselves and came from a rugged country, but God made his passions and his appetites to be like horses to a harness, the olive to a millstone, the water to a wheel, and he will make the weakness of your life to be power if you will let Him.

Third—Paul. He was a bitter nature and his spirit became a persecutor. He heard of the Christians in Damascus and lies away that he may cast them into prison, and from the man of bitterness and the man of persecution he came out as a man of peace and a man of prayer.

Fourth—Peter. He was a man of weakness, but transfigured into a man of power. He was a man of the world, but he became a man of the Father in the purest Greek of the New Testament, and all because he added Christ to his life.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL

International Lesson Comments For September 1.

Subject: Loving and Obeying God, Deut. xxx., 11-23—Golden Text, 1 John v., 3—Memory Verse, 1, 10—Commentary on Day's Lesson.

"The years of man are the looms of God, And from the warp of His life, the loom of His will, He weaves the fabric of our days. Till the mystic web is done, And when the task is done, He shall hear the voice of the Master, It shall say to him, 'Well done.'"

God has a way of making lives over. First, by outer circumstances, like the potter's wheel, such as trials and disappointments, and then by the inner work of His own word. It is called the light, and light reveals imperfections; it is called the fire, and fire purges the dross; it is called the hammer, and it smashes all displacements; it is called the hammer and the anvil, and it fashions the metal into the shape of the potter's wheel.

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God has a plan for every life. Jeremiah does not know what was in the mind of the potter, but he knows what he was working according to a plan, but we know what is in God's mind. Romans 8: 29, "For whom He foreknew, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be like Him."

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CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS

September 14—"Delight in God's House." Ps. lxxiv. 1-4; Ps. c. 1-5.

Scripture Verses.—Ps. lxxiv. 1-4; Ps. c. 1-5.

What peace, what revelation and spiritual uplift are associated with faithfulness in the sanctuary! As the gospel is preached, as prayer and praise ascend, as God's people fellowship in the observance of the ordinances, how joy and hope kindle, and take the place of doubt and despondency! The best memories of life, growing more hallowed and sweeter the older we become, have their source in the Lord's house.

The promises are many which give assurance that God reveals himself in His sanctuary. He is everywhere; but nowhere is he so near his children as in the place where his name is recorded. There he has covenanted to meet his people and to reveal himself in their midst.

Let down the stone, young man, and let the old man rise. Let the old man rise, young man, and let the old man rise. Let the old man rise, young man, and let the old man rise.

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THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTERTEMPERANCE.

From Some Fifteen Years Ago—The Post-Tells of the Groshops Revolted—How Drink Transformed a Good Man Into a Ferocious Demon.

I wandered to the groshop, Tom; I stood beside the bar. And I drank of lemonade and smoked a bad cigar; The same old kegs and jugs were there, The ones we used to know.

I asked about our old-time friends, those cherished sporty men, And some were in the parlour, Tom, and some were in the pen; And the one who had the best, the hangman laid him low; The world is much the same, dear Tom, as fifteen years ago.

I asked about that stately chap, that pride-marked for his own, He used to say that he could drink, or let the stuff alone; He perished, like James H. Jans, out in the cold and snow— Ah, few survive who used to boogie some fifteen years ago.

I wandered to the churchyard, Tom, and there I saw the graves; Of those who used to doze themselves in red fermented waves; And there were women sleeping there, Who weep and die of broken hearts some fifteen years ago.

And there were graves where children slept, have slept for many a year, Forgotten of the world that marked their fitful sojourn here; And 'neath a tall white monument, in death there leech lay; The man who used to sell the booze some fifteen years ago.

He was a good man when himself, A man walked to his home—a big, strong man physically—and when his wife met him he knelt her down. She fled shrieking into an inner room and locked the door.

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COMMERCIAL REVIEW

General Trade Conditions.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says:

"Gradual resumption of anthracite coal mining is encouraging, although the output is not yet sufficient to have any commercial value. Business conditions are unsatisfactory at the strike center, but reports from all other sections indicate unusually prompt revival after the summer vacation season with exceptionally large operations among dealers in the agricultural regions.

"Notwithstanding some bad weather, large crops are now practically assured, although the most sanguine results may not be obtained. Manufacturing plants are now fully occupied as a rule, the least gratifying reports coming from furnaces that cannot secure coke owing to railway blockades. The transportation problem is becoming serious, as the factor of crop moving is about to be added, and moreover, much coal must be moved by rail that usually goes to consumers by lake and canal.

"Iron furnaces are suspending production because coke cannot be secured, and it is evident that the rate of output at the opening of the new month will show a serious loss.

"The dry goods jobbing trade reports a liberal distribution, and supplies are only moderate in the primary market. Changed conditions in the raw material have accelerated inquiries for cotton goods, buyers seeking figures on forward contracts and placing a fair amount of orders. Slightly less activity is seen in men's wear, woolen and fancy fabrics, but fancy worsteds are in better request. A last forecast makes have been able to secure a moderate advance in price in response to the recent sharp rise in materials.

"Leather is strong and active, while hides made higher record prices, but the market has quieted down.

"The United States, week numbered 173 in the United States, against 21 last year, and 14 in Canada, against 21 a year ago."

Flour—Spring clear, \$9.10a3.00; best Patent, \$4.50; choice Family, \$3.75. Wheat—New York No. 2, 74c; Philadelphia No. 2, 72a73c; Baltimore No. 2, 70c.

Corn—New York No. 2, 66c; Philadelphia No. 2, 65a66c; Baltimore No. 2, 67c.

Oats—New York No. 2, 43c; Philadelphia No. 2, 42c; Baltimore No. 2, 40c.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, \$18.00a18.50; No. 2 timothy, \$17.50a18.00; No. 3 timothy, \$15.00a16.00.

Green Fruits and Vegetables.—Beets, Native, per bushel, 10c; Cabbage—Native, per 100 lb., \$1.00a2.00; Wakefield, per 100 lb., \$2.00a3.00. Cantaloupes—per bushel, \$6.00a10.00. Cucumbers—per bushel, \$2.00a3.00. Eggplants, per 100, \$1.00a1.25. Lettuce, per bushel, 30a50c.

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE

READING FOR THE QUIET HOUR WHEN THE SOUL INVITES ITSELF.

From A Vacant Chair—Prayer to Be Answered Must Spring From a Free Motive—Every Grace of the Spirit Must Be Purchased by Sacrifice.

Though twain, our lives for years run on as one; But now I sit beside her vacant chair, And wonder if it's true that she is gone, Or if I'm dreaming in some stifling air.

I might presume myself it is a dream; But, when I look across the table there, To ask my thought on some engaging theme, My eyes fall on her lonely vacant chair.

But as I sit composed and think of her, And try to pray, "Thy will, O God, be done," The air so still about me seems to stir, And something tells me I am not alone.

I feel what must be truth I cannot prove, Faith bids me upward look, and not deplore. I cannot fathom Him, but "God is love,"— A star of hope shines o'er her vacant chair.

The mortal body cannot love and trust, 'Tis soul that loves, and soul is more than dust. And though the body moulders back to dust, The soul lives on forevermore with God.—E. A. Cull, in Christian Register.

Unanswered Prayers. There is a sense in which all prayers are answered. The best sense which we object to or by securing something far better adapted to the ultimate end of all true prayer—personal happiness through unbroken goodness.

All prayers will be answered when they accord with wisdom, unselfishness and the highest good.

To answer every petition literally under the present order of things would make infinite wrong the slave of human caprice, absolute selfishness a partner in human folly, and boundless compassion the author of endless misery.

Prayers are sometimes unanswered because of the character and tendency of the objects sought. Men, like children, frequently crave things which would be destructive to their best interests, both here and hereafter.

Like Elijah under the juniper tree, they pray for that which falls far below the highest good, and like Paul, with his thorn in the flesh, we too often seek ease rather than strength. It is better to have grace to bear burdens than to be weak and free from burdens.

Prayers sometimes remain unanswered because they spring from wrong motives. The soul of real prayer is unselfishness. Prayer in the case of Simon Magus was ignorant of the nature of the mere gratification of worldly pride.

RAM'S HORN BLASTS

HE Lamb of God is the Lion of men. Virtue lifts. Virtue is wealth. Disposition is more than position.

Silence is often the sign of strength. Piety does not pity the needy. Formalism is a bad faith can never agree.

The man who thinks leads the crowd. Self is a synonym for all sin. The church is a chisel and not a statue.

Innocence is not character. Pride needs to look out for puncture. Feuchery leads to tragedy. Better a clean sinner than a dirty saint.

Destiny depends on origina. The soul can be saved only by a soul. The Gospel is God's gate.

Christ is the criterion of all character. Many a small engine has a big whistle. Better a fair failure than a falsh success.

Drinking is Britanny. A writer in La Revue believes the people of the United States are peculiarly susceptible to the influence of alcohol.

One Ill-Health to Alcohol. Sir Andrew Clark, of London, one of the most noted physicians and surgeons of the nineteenth century, said, in his work "The Action of Alcohol Upon Health."

"I am speaking solemnly and carefully in the presence of truth, and I tell you that the habit of drinking the mark on my hospital wards to-day, seven out of every ten there owned their ill-health to alcohol. Now what does that mean? That out of every hundred patients whom I have charge of at the London Hospital, seventy per cent. of them directly owe their ill-health to the habit of drinking."

LABOR AND INDUSTRY. Texarkana (Ark.) barbers and linemen have organized unions. Cab drivers at Hamburg, Germany, struck for shorter hours and more pay.

Miners are being hired in California for work in the mines at Sonora, Mexico. Sydney, New South Wales, has 43 labor unions, with a total membership of over 35,000.

In consequence of the depression in the Hull (England) fish trade a large number of men have been thrown out of employment. Boston (Mass.) inside electricians will insist on a reduction of their working hours to eight a day.

Scavengers at Oakland, Cal., struck because the place for dumping the garbage was too far away.