

"THE BOOK OF WISDOM"

A Scholarly Sunday Sermon By the Rev. A. C. Dixon, D. D.

"Thanks be to God who giveth the Victory Through Our Lord Jesus Christ."

New York City.—The following sermon was contributed to the Union Gospel News by the Rev. A. C. Dixon, D. D. It is entitled "The Book of Wisdom," and is for next week. The words of Solomon, the son of David, King of Israel, Proverbs 1:1.

To preach a sermon of the whole book of Proverbs may be a difficult task, but I shall attempt it this morning in order that, if for no other reason, I may impress upon you the importance of reading the whole book at a sitting.

If we should read a part of a friend's letter and another part to-morrow, and another part the next day, we should have at the close a very confused notion of what the letter was all about.

The first nine verses are the preface. In which we have the use of proverbs. They enable us to know wisdom, and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to give stability to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

From the tenth to the nineteenth verses there is described the socialism of sin, and the young man is warned against it. "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." If they say, "Come and let us have wine, let us all have one purse."

Beginning with the twentieth verse of the first chapter there is revealed to us the mission of wisdom. Many expound the word as if it were a name, as if he "is made wisdom for us."

The first eighteen verses of the third chapter establish the fact that godliness pays, even though chastisements come with it. And this chapter furnishes a motto which every Christian should adopt as the motto of his life.

The man whose trust is in the Lord, with entire lack of reliance in himself, God will direct, and the more he honors the Lord with the first fruits shall have an increase of wealth.

The application of the Proverbs of Solomon to the family life will make a perfect home. "He that spareth the rod chasteneth him belittles." Modern

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 19.

Subject: Jesus at the Pool of Bethesda, John v. 1-15.—Golden Text, John vi. 2.—Memory Verses, 3.—Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

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There is no anger, for anger only provokes anger. Love can administer wisdom and the greatest and best, but it must not shrink from the duty.

On the walls of every store should be hung the words: "A false weight is abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight." Our God believes in fair dealing.

And when you hear anyone laughing at an oath, a vulgar remark, or a wicked tale, quietly repeat the words: "Fools make a mock at sin." The man who plays with the poisonous adder is sure to be stung with his wit.

If you are tempted to surrender your convictions in order that you may further your interests, social or financial, recall the words: "Buy the truth and sell it not." They will give stiffness to your moral backbone and stamina to your character.

There are so many of these that hardly a man could possibly take the time of a sermon. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine." If, therefore, you would save the doctor's bill, be merry in heart, and if you have true heart merriment, let Christ the Lord of joy reign there.

When a man who has wandered from God needs only to hear the words: "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways," to realize that they apply to him.

Prayer a Mighty Power. There are none who ridicule the idea that prayer can do anything to accomplish anything, because they cannot understand how prayer can either affect God's action or change in any way the current of events on earth.

Watch For Opportunities. Watch, lest those duties of kindly benevolence which God puts in the way of all be easily omitted, unfulfilled, while each one doubts, hesitates, or while his business to step forward and meet them.

Be True to the Best. There is but one failure, and that is not to be true to the best one knows.—Dean Farrar.

The World's Richest Church. New York is counting heads and purses, one of the wealthiest cities in the world to-day; yet it was once in the market for a \$5 bill. Two hundred and fifty years ago Manhattan Island, on which New York now stands, was sold for \$5 to an Indian chief.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

FEBRUARY NINETEENTH.

"Glorifying God in Our Homes."—Eph. 6:1-9.

Scripture Verses.—Mat. 3:16; Matt. 10:22-25; Mark 5:18-30; Luke 8:38; 33:9; Col. 2:3-10; Eph. 6:1-9; 2 Tim. 3:14; 1 John 2:6.

Lesson Thoughts. It is a strange thing that in the home, the very place where we have the most opportunity to do so, we are frequently most careless about glorifying God by exercising a Christ-like disposition.

The very closeness and the familiarity of the relations of the lives within our own doors make it hard at times for us to preserve perfect sweetness of spirit.

The greatest hope that can touch the home, the hope that takes away sorrow and makes it an everlasting place, is the hope of the life which is to come, and that hope is sustained by the church.

How to Digest Spiritual Food. Of course the religious instinct very often reveals itself in very natural and painful manifestations.

Courage to Forgive. This is nothing to be feared as much and as often as you think it is.

The True Cornerstone. The cornerstone of every truly regenerated church is not any man, but the foundation of God.

Trust Him More. The reason why you do not trust Him more is that you only know his love as you do, you only see him as he seems.

The Point of View. Everything related to our happiness depends upon our point of view.

The Son's Life Line. There is many a man who would rush for a life-preserver on a sinking ship who would not be rescued in his Christlessness and never think of the life-line.

We Judge Anise. We judge men so often because we judge moral offenses rather than their disposition.

Mink Caught With His Dinner. While out looking over his traps one day recently Uranus Stacy of Saco, Me., found two victims in one of them.

Not Strong on Orthography. A Cape Porpoise citizen received a letter the other day upon which was the address, "Cape Porpoise, Me."

The Sunday Breakfast Table

The Friend of Sinners.

Friendship is to love in the human affections and a willingness to be conformed in the physical affections.

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THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTemperance.

Horrible Cruelties That Would Cease to Attract if the Stimulus Afforded by the Traffic in Strong Drink Were Withdrawn—Destroy This Business.

[Below is presented a remarkable platitude from the Rev. Walter Walsh, Chairman of the Prohibition party of Scotland, and one of the most heroic characters now in Scottish public life.]

Round the drink trade, in concentric rings of flame, revolves the whole brutish phantasmagoria of gambling, brutal sports, prostitution, as well as drunkenness.

Without the drink trade, in concentric rings of flame, revolves the whole brutish phantasmagoria of gambling, brutal sports, prostitution, as well as drunkenness.

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Household Matters

Brain Bath Bagg.

A mixture that is put into bags for the baths, and is delicious, is composed of one-half pound of marshmallow flowers, one-quarter of a pound of hyssop herb, and four pounds of bran flour.

Testing Eggs For Cooking. A simple way for the housewife to test the eggs for a newly-found nest, or purchased from the grocery, is to put them in a pan of water.

Chintz-Lined China Closets. A collector of old and rare china originated a most attractive way of showing off her treasures.

Kitchen Wrinkles. A ham is greatly improved if after being boiled it is wrapped in buttered paper and baked for an hour.

Small Cottage Pudding—Cream together half a cupful of sugar with one-quarter of a cupful of butter, add one egg, and then alternately half a cupful of milk with one-half cupful of flour.

Fried Pie—Soak dried apples (after washing in cold water over night, stewing them till tender in fast enough water to cover.) Mash through a sieve and season with sugar, salt and spice to taste.

Peach Puffs—Beat two eggs very light, add one-half a cupful of milk, a pinch of salt, one cupful of flour with which has been sifted one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder and one tablespoonful of melted butter.

Peanut Puffs—Beat two eggs very light, add one-half a cupful of milk, a pinch of salt, one cupful of flour with which has been sifted one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder and one tablespoonful of melted butter.

Cocoanut Bonbons—Take two cupfuls of sugar, half a cupful of desiccated cocoanut, half a cupful of milk and half a cupful of flour.

Lord Roberts, the field marshal of the English army, said recently that one-third of the British army in India were abstemious furnished 200,000 more abstemious than the 200,000 third who were not abstemious.

The city of Omaha is stirred with indignation on account of a dastardly attempt to destroy by dynamite the house of an attorney who has been pushing the enforcement of the law against saloon-keepers and gamblers.



RAM'S HORN BLASTS

The walls of Jericho do not fall before men who blow their own horns.

If every ear were deaf to scandal every tongue would soon be dumb.

The windows of Heaven are not often opened on a wide-open town.

When a man really has free salvation he is always willing to give free service.

The ability to preach sermons may be quite different from the ability to reach souls.

It is better to live one verse of the Bible than to be able to preach about them all.

We seldom look to God for the Water of Life until some other springs have dried.

The church that runs behind on the preacher's salary is not likely to run ahead on spiritual power.

A man is not called upon to prove his faith in Divine Providence by his personal improvement.

Some men are so busy solving the labor problem that they have no time to earn their own living.