

SUNDAY SERMON

A Scholarly Discourse By Rev. Robert H. Carson.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—In Grace Presbyterian Church the pastor, the Rev. Robert H. Carson, preached Sunday evening from the book of Ruth.

We miss a great deal of the beauty and power of the Bible because of the manner in which we are accustomed to read it. There are very few who take time to read a whole book through at a single sitting.

It is our hope this evening to point out some of the beautiful lessons contained in one little book of the Bible, in one of the most delightful stories ever presented for our consideration by the mind of man.

It is a great pleasure, therefore, to turn from these books that tell of the ups and downs of national life, and to read the quiet, charming story of Ruth.

It is not so, however, in the book of Ruth. There we have life truly depicted, there we have the very essence of the story of a man and a woman as we find them today.

It is not my intention to enter upon the story. I trust that you all know it, or that if you do not, that you will when a quiet hour comes this evening.

In coming into touch, then, with this piece of sacred literature, and considering for our edification some of the lessons which it teaches, we see first of all the superiority of character.

The two chief figures in the story are Boaz and Ruth, and it is their characters that make them such. There is not in the whole range of literature a better type of manly, healthy religion than is exemplified in the case of Boaz.

And the most noteworthy fact in this connection is that these characters were produced amid surroundings and an environment that would have discouraged the average person. It was a lawless time, the restraints were weakened or entirely removed, and men became a law unto themselves.

Nothing is more wonderful about our Lord than His perfect naturalness. His absolute baseness, His reality, reasonableness, artlessness, completeness. Nothing excessive, nothing wanting; nothing artificial, nothing unsymmetrical, no underlining, no overdoing.

What a glorious gift conscious existence is in itself! Heaven must essentially consist in the absence of what ever disturbs the quiet enjoyment of that consciousness—in the intimate conviction of the presence of God.

Company Inherits Glory After Death. Many an Austrian believer in a post-mortem glory, provided he is not a convicted criminal and can pay the subscription to the "Universal Memorial Insurance Society," may secure the erection of a monument or mural tablet to his memory after his death.

faith and works is daily receiving more attention. Far be it from me to lightly criticize any Christian teacher, still, as we read about these heroic men of whom the world was not worthy, does it not sometimes seem as if the necessity of faith was emphasized at the expense of the necessity of works to correspond?

You remember Christ's words, "Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" The man who rises from his knees with the glow of the divine communion upon his face, the man whose faith has made him a partaker of the power of God, and who has been able to live the life which his faith has revealed to him, is the man of whom Christ alone will not be ashamed when He cometh in the glory of His Father and of the holy angels to judge the world.

It is noteworthy, too, I think, that the virtue in which Boaz and Ruth excelled was the plain, everyday virtue of kindness. The greatest material blessings are the most common; air, light, water, these are within the reach of all. So also the greatest virtues are the most common. We are all made of the same clay, differing only in the degree to which we are higher than others, but there is none of us, no matter what our limitations may be, who cannot speak the kind word, do the kind deed and pass the kindly judgment, and that is charity.

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EPWORTH LEAGUE LESSONS

SUNDAY, JULY 8.

The Claim of the Church Upon My Life.—1 Cor. 3, 10-15.

The church has a valid, indivisible claim upon those who profess to be followers of Christ, and has a standing and imperative commission to demand that all others yield themselves to Jesus Christ and formally join his army for their own good and the conquest of the world for their Lord.

The church brings great privileges and immunities to the Christian; shall we receive, and give nothing back? That is what makes the Dead Sea dead—it is ever receiving and never giving. "Cannot I live a Christian life and not be a member of the church?" is sometimes asked. It is the testimony of a multitude of observers and watchers over souls that almost, if not quite, invariably those who undertake the business of Christianity without going into the church, and becoming a part of it, make a dismal failure.

Some will lay the foundation of religious performances, and some will build the superstructure, leaving the commandment, saying with the rich young man, "All these have I kept from my youth up." In vain! Hear Paul: "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." Even relationship to the visible church will go for nothing unless there is a real building on Jesus Christ.

There was considerable written a few years ago about cement and gravel floors for poultry houses and raking of the litter to the same every morning. Of late years there has been more in the poultry papers about board and plank floors.

There is now generally conceded that soft food or mash, as it is usually called, should not be fed to laying hens until near the noon hour, unless, perhaps, in very small quantities—just enough to partially satisfy their hunger.

Experience has shown that hens, when given a full meal early in the day, will have no desire to scratch, but will stand around, content to wait until the next feeding time, while on the other hand, those that are given only, say, one-fourth of a full meal, will begin once to scratch and hustle for any grain that may be concealed beneath the litter of the scratching shed.

Contrary to what the uninitiated may suppose, the sweet potato is by no means difficult to grow. Given a sandy loam—one not too rich, or, at least, on which too much fresh manure has been applied, this tendering to induce a heavy growth of vine at the expense of the tubers—it can be easily raised and made to yield a large crop.

One of the very best feeds for ewes with lambs is oats and wheat bran mixed. Keep the floor of the sheep quarters dry, and to this end use plenty of bedding. Sow parsimony and satisfy now for next winter's use. They require the entire season to develop.

When bringing cleavers out of the cellar, cut them back a little before they start into growth. Growing chickens should be fed three times a day, just what they will eat up clean, no more. The object of caponizing is to improve the quality and increase the quantity of the flesh of fowls.

Continue to plant all the hardy vegetables. May is the month in which to sow the tender sorts. Plant some flowers in the vegetable garden. It is as important to please the eye as the stomach. Tobacco stems covered with straw are an excellent preventive of insect breeding when the hens are sitting.

The grass upon the lawn has made a sufficient growth to be cut. Mow across one week and lengthwise the next. It is the nice appearance of goods that sells them. Nice, large, fat, plump fowls always bring the best prices. Throwing food on the ground is wasteful. A clean board is much better. Feed no more than is readily eaten up clean.

In arranging the poultry house, so far as can be done, it is always best to have the doors and windows facing the south. Short-legged fowls fatten quickly; long-legged ones are hard to fatten. Those first hatched fatten quickest in a brood. The most important thing connecting with the work of the sheep breeder is in the selection of rams from which to breed. Never under any consideration brood from a scrub, or grade or inferior ram, for in doing this you do your flock and yourself an irreparable injury.

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Attractive Farms. If farms are not too large there will be fewer neglected fields, bad fences and weeds and the land will be better plowed and harrowed and cleaned in after culture, timely harvested and well secured, the profits being large proportionally.

Will some of the readers of the Tribune Farmer inform me how to get rid of horseradish?—L. R., Middleburg, Vt. Answer—There is no special method of getting rid of horseradish which is distinguished from other methods of eradicating perennial weeds.

Practice Rotation of Crops. That a proper rotation of crops is essential to success in farming is evidenced everywhere, for there is no land that is proof against depletion. Some soils hold out longer than others, but the ultimate end is failure if we persist in continual cropping with one crop.

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Germany breeds 250,000 canaries every year. A curious butterfly exists in India. The male has the left wing yellow and the right one red; the female has these colors reversed.

Japan has a wonderful avenue of trees extending from the town of Naniwa to Nishi. This avenue is fully fifty miles in length, and the trees are the troyometers. Each tree is perfectly straight, and from 130 to 150 feet in height, and twelve feet to fifteen feet in circumference.

Many animals feign illness. In military stables cases are recorded of horses pretending to be lame in order to avoid going to a military exercise. A certain chimpanzee had been accustomed to receive cake while ill. After his recovery he often feigned coughing in order to procure dainties.

A German student finds one of the causes of the inability of the Russian railroads to handle their traffic is the antiquity of their locomotives. The number of these seems intolerable in proportion to the traffic, for out of 14,320 locomotives no less than 9919 are from twenty-four to forty-six years old.

A curious fact is brought out in the official correspondence regarding the recent disturbances in British Guiana. It appears that some of the women arrested in the course of the riots were sentenced to have their hair cut. This is a legal punishment in the colony, but the Earl of Elgin has intimated that women are not again to be punished in this manner.

Some queer recent judicial decisions in Victoria are mentioned in the Australian Review of Reviews. A man who embezzled some money from a bank has received a sentence of nearly three years' imprisonment, while a man who murdered his mother by stabbing her to the heart received only one year, and another man who shot his sister and killed her was sentenced to only two years, and immediately after that a man who wrote a letter to another man threatening to kill him received three years' imprisonment.

Several torture relics were put up for auction at Stevens', Covent Garden, London, some days ago, but they did not excite much competition. There were no eager bidders for a hanging man's rope. A paltry 7s. was all that was given for one which had been used by the renowned Berry, says the London Daily News.

An iron screw, or foot squancer, was bought for £1, and the same figure was paid for a set of double stocks, and also for what is termed a "drunkard's cloak." The last named is one of those instruments of old which was intended to put the delinquent to shame. It is shaped like a huge pall, and the drunkard who was to be disgraced was fastened into it with only his head visible through a narrow aperture at the top.

Other articles sold were an ancient whipping post with shackles from Oxford, two sets of shackles which were used in old Newgate Prison, ancient branding iron and an iron "booi," into which the victim's naked foot was placed and boiling oil poured in, all of which sold at 12s. each.

An ancient chair from the Castle of Noreburgh, in which people were secured for torture, fetched 15s., and an iron torture collar with spikes, 21s.

A committee appointed by the British Parliament to investigate the tramp problem in England estimates that in seasons of depression there are 80,000 tramps in that country, and that it is never less than half that number. Tramps are everywhere and constitute an eyesore. They are considered to be vehicles of infectious diseases. Legislation by Parliament to regulate and mitigate the evil is recommended, though no solution of the problem short of finding employment and paying better wages is regarded as possible.

If the spirit of the age is incorporated and concisely expressed in anything, it is in the automobile. There is speed, mechanical genius and compactness. It constitutes, in fact, the triumph of the application of scientific principles to practical purposes, and if that is not the spirit of the age, can any well ask what it is?

Corned but not defeated automobilists now quote Nahum the Prophet: "The chariots shall rage in the streets; they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like scorpions; they shall run like the lightning." Still the man with the egg wagon refuses to be consoled.—Louisville Herald.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMISSION FOR JULY 8.

Subject: The Duty of Forgiveness.—Memory Verse: Matt. 18:21-22. Giving One Another Communion.

I. Christ's teaching concerning forgiveness (vs. 21, 22). "Canst thou forgive me?" Peter always made himself very inquisitive. His question was answered by Christ's words concerning forgiveness against others (Matt. 18:21, 22). "Canst thou forgive me?" Peter always made himself very inquisitive. His question was answered by Christ's words concerning forgiveness against others (Matt. 18:21, 22).

II. Our duty illustrated and explained (vs. 23-27). "Kingdom of Heaven likened." The teachings of Christ in respect to forgiveness are fully explained in the parable which follows, shows, 1. The character of man's sin to God. 2. The real meaning of man's part of a distinct refusal to give. "King." The king represents God. "What make a reckoning?"

III. The picture is drawn from a man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God.

IV. The picture is drawn from a man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God. The man who has committed great sins against God.

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