

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

BY THE REV. IRA W. HENDERSON, PASTOR, THE IRVING SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

SERMON—THE FAMOUS DIVINE

Subject—The Ten Words.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—Preaching at the Irving Square Presbyterian Church on the theme "The Ten Words," the Rev. Ira W. Henderson, pastor, took as his text Exodus 20:1-17. He said:

Whatever may be our personal and private convictions as to the manner of God's revelation of Himself to Moses; however much we may differ as to the exact form in which the law-giver of Israel received the message of Divinity; however much we may be at variance as to the exactness of the Bible story in its portrayal of the scene when Moses met Jehovah on Sinai, no matter what may be our belief concerning the date and the authorship of the book of the Exodus, the simple fact is that the ten commandments are the expression of fundamental truths that God has revealed to man. Behind all human laws and jurisprudence lies the code of Moses. These ten stern, terse negative commands that Moses got from God are at the basis of all legal theory and practice. The decalog is the codification of the divine will for the guidance and control of human action. The ten words are the rules of the Almighty for the regulation of man's relations with humanity and his Maker. Take them, merely, if you will, as the human recognition of man's obligations toward God and society; still the commandments are of God. Whether we reach the conclusion by the thirteenth philosophy of the Middle Ages, or by the simple reasoning of the earliest minds of Israel, or by the scientific discriminative processes of modern thought, the fact is that all truth is from God. "Thus saith the Lord" is the source of life's verities. It is God who inspires us. God who gives us knowledge and understanding and wisdom; God it is who leads us upward and onward. He it was who put into the hearts of Moses and of Israel the love of His laws and the desire to do His will. And to-day He strives with us as readily as He ever endeavored with the generations that are dead.

The question is not whether or no God gave Moses tablets of stone; the issue is not whether or no Moses wrote the story of the scene on the mount, as it is preserved to us; the point to be decided is whether or no Moses spoke God-given truth. It all hinges not on the manner of the delivery of the commandments but upon the nature and divineness of the matter revealed. Do Moses' words bear the marks of a heavenly origin gift, are they fraught with the power and the wisdom of Jehovah Himself? Are they stamped with a celestial brand and do they express everlasting verities? Are they just to men, and are they worthy of the King? Do they meet the needs of men? Are they inspirational? These are the tests of the usefulness and the worthiness of the commandments. These are the qualities that must inhere in them if they are to be the respect of humanity and evidence God's origination.

By these standards the ten commandments are divinely inspired. A glance at them discloses to us the seal of the Eternal. Experiences of their value in the midst of the activities of this world's life prove their worth to mankind. Analysis of their content and their aim leads us to declare them worthy of Jehovah. With all that inquiry asks and criticism demands the ten words are at one.

Consider the commandments separately and you will grant I speak the truth. The call of God for undivided loyalty to Himself is but the voice of reason. No man can serve two masters. And it is certain that at least of all can be serve two masters whose interests are diametrically opposed. We cannot serve righteousness and sin at the same time. God deserves the full devotion of every human heart. And it is certain that to lose the consciousness of the spirituality of Divinity; to mistake means for the end, material manifestations for the unseen dynamo. To play fast and loose with God's name is an insult to the Father. The self-respect of God's name demands self-control. Profanity is indecent and degrading to mind and soul. The need and the preciousness of a Sabbath's rest is too apparent to warrant comment. Common courtesy accords respect to our fellow creatures, especially when they are worthy of respect. Strict obedience to the command "thou shalt not kill" would spoil the business of the executioners; stop war at once.

The fruits of adultery are all too distressingly visible. The jails are full of thieves and would be overcrowded were the Mosaic code rigidly applied and enforced. Lying is mean, unmanly, despicable, diabolical, devilish. Satisfaction with a fair share of this world's goods is better than covetousness.

The decalog meets humanity at vital points and helps mankind ahead. Although included in the laws of love laid down by Christ it is by no means abrogated. The ten commandments bind us as well as Moses. The words of Christ emphasize their demands. The laws of Moses are not defensible or defunct. They will always be obligatory. No statement of our Lord and no bit of New Testament wisdom legislates them out of existence or countermands them. They still bind us. The eleventh command merely supports, supplements and reinforces the other ten.

Love God and you won't serve Mammon and the no-gods of the aliens. Much less will you take His name in vain. Love God and you will treat His children well. Love the brethren and you will labor to make their lives joyous. The words of Christ are the most to instill the laws of Moses deeper in the minds of Christians who are honest.

Now it is very generally supposed that the laws of the ten tablets are of merely negative force. Explicitly, I presume, that is so. On the face of things the element of prohibitions enters, largest, into the commands. But every explicit prohibition and negation impliedly asserts a corresponding and correlated affirmation and positive admonition. "Thou shalt not," says the law, explicitly. "Thou shalt" says the same law implicitly. The law against murder implies the right of life. The discountenancing of falsehood puts a premium on truth. To smash our idols is the first step toward whole-spirited service of the alone true

EPWORTH LEAGUE LESSONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Wise and Foolish Building.—Matt. 7. 21-29.

Passages for reference: Rom. 2. 13; I Cor. 3. 11-13; 2 Tim. 2. 19.

The Scriptures sometimes represent men as builders. A comparison of messages on this subject will furnish many valuable hints for life. The foundation of the superstructure, the material, the design, the ornamentation, all these may be found here by a little research. It tells us that at the last, when the building is all done, there will be many disappointments. Some will have claim to have done things in the name of Christ, but the Judge will say to them, "I never knew you." Depart from me, ye that work iniquity; they by illustrations what he means. Hearing is not enough; the doing of the things we hear is the essential thing. The house on the sand may look just as nice as the one on the rock, but the testing time will come that reveals the fact that it is not safe. The importance of the foundation being sure is here indicated.

The subject for which the building is erected will have much to do in determining many things. The design, the material, the depth of foundation, and many other features are dependent upon this. A man's purpose in building his life will control many of these matters. We take it that we are to accept the purpose that God lays down, namely, to form a character that will stand the test of time and eternity.

The higher a building is to be, the deeper must go the foundations. So if we would build high we must dig deep. Our aim being a life like Christ, if we would build up to Christ we must get down to Christ. "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

We have to remember that we are not building for a day, though that would demand good material, but we are building to stand as long as eternity lasts. A man is foolish to put second-class materials in a structure that is to last. It will only mean loss. Nothing but the best ought to be built into my character. A house should not be erected just to stand in the sunshine, but to endure the storm and gale. Bridges are built to stand a greater strain than can ever be put upon them. So the wise man will build as to stand the storm of temptation, the struggle of life, the shock of death, and the scrutiny of the judgment day.

It is claimed that when a cow giving a large quantity of milk has been slaughtered and every drop of milk gathered up, the largest amount ever found was about four quarts, hence during the time of milking, and the cow must be placed under favorable conditions at the time, if one does not get the regular quantity of milk. Do not think that the milk is all ready there, and all you have to do is to draw it out, says an authority. Only a small portion is in this state; most of it is there ready to be changed into milk, but it is not milk, and you must have things favorable to the cow to have this change.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

FEBRUARY THIRD

What Christian Endeavor Means, to Me and to the World.—Phil. 2. 1-18.

C. E. means surrender. Phil. 1: 19-26. Having Christ's mind. I Cor. 2: 12-14.

Lowliness. Eph. 4: 1-5. Confession. Matt. 10: 32-39. Service. Matt. 10: 40-42. Obedience. 2 Cor. 10: 1-6.

The fellowship of Christian Endeavor, in our unions and conversations, does not prevent our caring for our own interests, but teaches us also to care for the interests of others.

The purpose of our Christian Endeavor committee work is to teach us so to master ourselves that we may be true servants of others.

Christian Endeavor may be defined as an attempt to see what difficult things Christ can enable us to do, to His glory.

The light of Christian Endeavor is the Bible, not hidden in solitude, but held forth in service.

Suggestions.

Christian Endeavor will mean to the world no more than it means to Endeavorers.

Christian Endeavor will mean less and less to us if it is not all the time meaning more and more.

The person that gets the most of Christian Endeavor is all the time trying to put more into it.

Christian Endeavor has become a world-force, and its world-plans should dignify all its drudgery.

Illustrations.

Christian Endeavor is a piece of wood, out of which you may make a whip, or a staff, or a scepter!

Christian Endeavor is a crown—an iron crown, if its motive is love.

A tree spreads out in the air as far as its roots go in the soil. So does Christian Endeavor.

Christian Endeavor needs the guidance of older Christians. Plants that spring up wild are strong but not sweet.

What am I doing to help the world-wide interests of Christian Endeavor?

Is the motive power of my Christian Endeavor work duty, or love?

Am I growing in the power of service?

FEMINE NEWS NOTES.

Children are tired of the Teddy bear, it is announced.

French telephone girls must no longer say "Hello." They must say "Jecoute."

Country balls are the solace of English society now when London is so phenomenally quiet.

The national synod of Norway has recently voted by a large majority to give women equal rights with men in the government of the church.

Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst, who has spent the holiday season in New York, has returned to Paris, where she has made her home for the past year.

When Lady Clancarty died, on the last day of 1906, the world at large had to be reminded that she was the former Belle Bliton, concert hall singer with a history.

Mrs. Mabel Judson Cox, former wife of Dr. Rowland Cox, Jr., was married to Congressman Francis Burton Harrison in All Souls' Church, Portland Place, London.

The beggars who plague Mrs. Russell Sage will be discouraged when they find that she regards herself as a trustee who has responsibilities to the trust as well as to the indigent.

The Farm

Location of Garden.

One of the best locations for a garden is the strawberry bed that has been abandoned, as strawberry beds are usually well manured and carefully cultivated, while the shading of the soil by the plants conduces to the fermentation of humus. An excellent plan to treat the bed for a garden is to apply plenty of well rotted manure now, if it can be done, and then plow the bed in the spring, working the top fine soil with a harrow and rake.

Mange in Cattle.

Mange in cattle is a contagious skin disease caused by parasites. Three forms of mange occur in cattle, viz: Sarcopit, Psoroptis and Sympit. These forms are named after the variety of parasites which is the usual agent. Sarcopit mange in cattle is uncommon, the other two being the most prevalent forms and these frequently exist together in the same animal. Cows are the most often attacked.

Symptoms.—The most common sites of mange are the roots of the tail and the neck, especially the former. The psoroptic form may spread all over the body. If treatment is neglected, but this is unusual. The biting of the parasite gives rise to an itchy condition of the skin, which causes the animal to rub itself against fixed objects, with the result that the hair over the affected parts gets rubbed off. On examining the skin a considerable amount of scurf may be seen, red and yellow blood scabs appear on the surface and there may be even abrasions. If the animal has been rubbed against rough objects, if the psoroptic form should spread over the body, the patient may wear away and become greatly reduced in condition.

In cases of this kind, however, it will often be found that the wasting is due to some serious internal trouble such as tuberculosis, which reduces the animal's natural power of resistance to the less serious disease.

It has not infrequently been observed that cows appear to become cured spontaneously when turned out to grass in the spring. This usually means, however, that under open-air conditions the parasites do not increase at the same rate, hence the active symptoms are merely less marked. In the fall, when the animals are again stabled, the parasites which have persisted resume their activity and this may lead to the erroneous belief that re-infection has taken place.

Prevention.—The affected parts on the animal's skin should be softened by washing with soap and warm water. After this has been done, the parts should be dressed with one of the common mange dressings, such as spirit of turpentine and sulphur. The dressings should be applied twice or even three times at intervals of ten days. For the serious and rebellious cases above mentioned veterinary advice should be sought. The litter from an infected animal should be removed each time after dressing and the flooring and wood or other fittings should be sprayed with a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid in water.—W. R. Gilbert, Alberta, Can.

Insect Pests Easily Killed.

Destroying the winter hives is a most important detail in the control of our worst insect pests, many of which are easily attacked then, whereas in the active season they are hard to reach.

All insects pass through three or four stages in their development from the egg to maturity, and different insects pass the winter in different stages of existence; the grasshopper in the egg, the cutworm as a larva, the corn ear-worm as a pupa, and the white grub as a partly hardened May beetle. Late fall plowing or plowing is the best method of controlling all these, though it may not be advisable for other reasons, yet where these four pests are very troublesome, it will usually be found the best method of exterminating them.

The eggs of the grasshoppers are laid just under the surface of the soil, and get so deeply buried that they either fall to hatch, or the young are unable to emerge the next spring.

In the fall the cutworms enter the soil to the depth of three or four inches, where they hallow out small oval cells, and in which they remain until the next spring. By breaking up these cells and throwing out the worms to the influence of the changeable weather conditions after they have commenced hibernating, many of them are destroyed.

In the same way the corn ear-worms, which are such nuisances upon the tips of the ears of sugar corn, enter the soil in the fall, and form cells similar to those of the cutworms, in which they transform to the pupa stage. The pupae are easily killed by exposure to the weather, which is brought about by breaking up the cells in the digging.

The white grub is a pest of almost every garden crop, and very difficult to handle when its depredations are at their worst. The grub requires at least two seasons to become full grown, when it transforms to a pupa, and later to a beetle, the well-known May beetle or June bug, which flies in the lights and buzzes around the ceilings of rooms during the warm evenings of May and June. The beetles do not emerge from the soil until the following spring, existing during the winter in the earthen cells in a partially hardened condition, and without the brown color which exposure to daylight soon gives them. In this condition they are peculiarly helpless, and if disturbed in late fall are readily killed.

Wireworms, which are so bothersome by eating into seed corn, and necessitating replanting, may be attacked similarly.

Burying, as a result of fall plowing, will destroy many other pests which pass the winter safely sheltered under rubbish, leaves, stalks and such like, which are to be found scattered over most gardens.—Indianaapolis News.

Knowledge of the Soil.

We have but little more definite knowledge of the soil and the principles involved in its treatment than we had sixty years ago, says the Scientific American. Fertility is not nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium alone, though the potential value of any field, or State, or country, from the agricultural standpoint, is measured by these constituent elements in its soil, yet it has been demonstrated that soils which contain an abundance of these elements, and which are potentially capable of producing crops for centuries perhaps, are not capable of producing profitable crops without the addition of further amounts of these constituents. The chemical investigator is, therefore, obliged to take into consideration other facts than this. He must, if he would cover the whole field, know something of geology, of botany, of physics, of biology, of bacteriology, and of the other natural sciences, because chemistry alone is not capable of fully comprehending the problem, thus the opportunity for specializing in any branch

LITTLE THINGS

For the Home

What is supposed to be the tomb of Cleo has been found near Naples.

A cargo of black carrots has been received in Paris from Algiers, where they grow.

Ceylon is the hottest and North-west Canada the coldest possession that the British flag floats over.

With a wealth per capita of \$80, South Australia claims a place in the first ranks of prosperity throughout the world.

A Stockholm paper says that since the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war Russia has a great many more millionaires.

The other day a London food inspector took a sample of margarine from a grocer's shop and, on examining it, found it to be pure butter.

The farmers of Somersetshire, England, say that, thanks to the dust raised by motor cars, there is a remarkable freedom from blight in their orchards.

Because the lock of a Methodist Church in Hazlemere, England, wouldn't work it was taken off. The locksmith found 12 3/4 in it, some pious people having taken it for a contribution box.

Two locomotives on the North London Railway have been fitted with reservoirs containing oak liquor (oak chips and caustic soda), through which the boiler feed water is passed for purifying and softening purposes.

The labors of Sir George Murray Humphry proved that there is about one centenarian to every 127,000 people, and that of seventy authenticated cases not one reached 110 years; three only are said to have been 103 and one 106.

The strong feature of the New South Wales liquor law is when a person is found on licensed premises during prohibited hours he must go before the court and prove himself to be a traveler or regular boarder or submit to a fine.

When a serpent is about to strike an intended victim he raises his head, jaws distended and fangs protruding. With lightning rapidity he directs the fangs to the point of attack. The fangs are hollow muscular tissue growing from two glands placed on either side of the head.

PHILIPPINE SURPRISES.

Lovely, Cool Plateaus—Also Marvels of Scenery.

It seems to me, says Hamilton Wright, in Leslie's Weekly, that the least appreciated feature of the Philippines is the diversity of climate. Though the Philippines are all in the tropics, yet frequently within a day's travel one will come upon strong climatic contrasts.

Whether you go to the lovely, cool mountain plateaus or down to the warmer cities of the sea level you will find that though there are changes of the seasons, still the climate from day to day varies little.

By dressing properly one does not feel the heat so much.

Manila, the hottest place in the Philippines, is often intensely warm in March, April and May. Yet protrusions never come as they do in New York in midsummer, and above all there are cool nights everywhere.

Perhaps no country in the world possesses so many scenic marvels as the Philippines; regions which were they known would attract tourists the world over. There is the wonderful Taol volcano, rising from the middle of a lake; there are the vast Cordilleras, not surpassed in beauty and grandeur by any ranges in the world; there are the wonderful mountain plateaus and valleys covered with seas of rich and waving grass and bordered by forested hogbacks which project into them as capes project into the ocean.

Here wild deer and bear roam in great abundance, while occasional herds of wild carabao move clumsily over the ground. Perhaps for days in these regions one may not see a native. The Island of Luzon alone is over 700 miles long; most all the population live along the seacoast; but were its wonderful resources developed, many times its present population might dwell there in great prosperity.

Marvels of a Watch.

The lifetime of a good watch is fifty years. In its daily duties the balance vibrates 18,000 times every hour, 430,000 times a day, or 157,800,000 times a year. The hairspring makes a similar number of vibrations and an equal number of ticks from the escapement. If it is a really good watch, multiply 157,800,000 by fifty, which gives 7,890,000,000 pulsations for fifty years. The chances are that the watch may even then be in serviceable condition. This is a marvelous record, considering the small quantity of food that has been consumed by its constant action. We say food because whatever labor must be fed, and the watch "lives" on about sixteen inches of mainspring every twenty-four hours, which furnishes the power.—Baltimore America.

How They Look.

The Horticulturist—Sandy.
The Dentist—Down in the mouth.
The Nobleman—Rank.
The Traveling Man—Fast.
The Farmer—Rakish.
The Jeweler—Bright.
The Pirate—Cheaty.
The Milkman—Pale.
The Barber—Trim.
The Plumber—"Just dear!"
The Soldier—Forward—Life.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 3, BY THE REV. I. W. HENDERSON.

Subject: Noah Saved in the Ark. Gen. 8: 1-16—Golden Text: Ps. 73: 30—Memory Verses: 1-3—Helpful Notes.

The lesson for this Sabbath is uninteresting unless we read Genesis 6 and 7. Especially, by way of resume to read Gen. 6: 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 14, 18, 22; 7: 1, 12. With these verses we are secured in some measure a synopsis of the events that preceded that which is related in our Scripture for the day.

The story of Noah, as we have it here, crowds the mind with morals, and for the second parent of the race, as Adam was for the first, we find in the father of humanity, in the natural sense. In the same sense Noah is the savior. They are, so to speak, the Washington and Lincoln of humanity's earliest days.

The reason of Noah's life, so far, is the lesson of obedience and its rewards. Adam's career is the exemplification of refractoriness and its consequences. Noah is a distinct advance upon Adam. Adam's character is primarily one of innocence. It is carried at first and weak when tested. Noah's predisposition for upwardness is the result of a willing obedience to God's commands. Born, after Adam, with the seeds of evil innate through heredity, Noah, in the midst of an evil world, a just and upright man, and favored in the eyes of God. Noah is the simple, good man, the well-pleasing unto God, through His grace, by volition. Noah's will is strong. Possessing, as did Adam, the power of free choice; and, unlike Adam, being surrounded with evil companions and weakened by an inherited predisposition for downwardness, Noah, yet, deliberately "walked with God." Adam, we remember, ran away from God.

God's covenant with Noah and His condemnation of the sin of men throw lights on the character of God. Jehovah is a God of love, of patience, of discrimination. His judgments and characteristics are shown in the fact that while He hates evil, He has yet commendation for and joy in men who are good. Loving all humanity the Father is, however, guilty of no sickly sentimentalism. He is long-suffering, but long-suffering toward humanity must, except it obey Him, take the consequences of voluntary sin. But while He condemns the evil, God never forgets the root of righteousness apparent among His people. And so God acts here. He discerns the good in the wickedness of Noah and his evil neighbors, and with patience with them all until they become utterly steeped in iniquity. His heart is grieved at the wickedness of men, for He loves them as the children of His own creation. But He does not allow His love to become so degenerated that He will sin, or forget justice and His own divine integrity.

The story of Noah is the story of God's determination to afford humanity a chance to prove itself worthy of its lineage. When all the worst of the world's inhabitants are overwhelmed with the consequences of their willfulness, God puts the seal of His sanction upon Noah.

The lessons are obvious in their present day application. Obedience brings divine approval. Disobedience works for death. Character is the result of a will subordinated to divine control. To find favor in the eyes of God is the business and duty of humanity and the especial longing of the Christian. It is goodness that makes us worth while here and for God. To be wicked is to be self-condemned. If wickedness is sorrow and destruction. Faithfulness to God and faith in Him is the finality of happiness. For God is as faithful now, and to you and me, as he was to upright Noah.

These notes may be of use:

Vs. 1. "Remembered." This does not mean that Noah was forgotten and forgotten about Noah. It implies that God had never forgotten them. Hebrew: "Renewed His covenant for." "Ark." Probably 450 by seventy-five by forty-five feet.

Vs. 3. "Continually." The waters receded gradually. "One hundred and fifty." See Gen. 7: 2.

Vs. 4. "Ararat." In Armenia. Pictured as the highest mountain in the world, as we see by vs. 5.

Vs. 7. "Raven." So called because of its blackness.

Vs. 11. "Olive leaf." Rev. Fresh leaf. It is said that olive trees put forth new shoots under water. The finding of the olive twig by the dove was, obviously, an indication that the water had gone down considerably.

The olive tree is very hardy and luxuriant under proper conditions; it is said not to grow at great heights, however. "Knew." Evidently in the construction of the ark while there was provision made for light and air there was none made for looking out. Otherwise after the rain ceased Noah might easily have seen the surrounding conditions for himself. This throws a light on his complete obedience to and dependence on God. They shut themselves up in the ark and left the outcome to the Almighty.

Vs. 12. "Dried up." The waters were first drained away until there was no covering of water over the ground.

Vs. 14. "Dried." And then the ground dried up. Any one who has seen the surface of a marsh while the tide is out can understand the meaning. It precisely describes the difference between soggy and perfectly dry ground.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Marconi has been converted to Spiritualism.

Rudyard Kipling's uncle, the Rev. P. Macdonald, is making a first appearance as a writer.

King Leopold of Belgium is a prominent shareholder in some of the largest hotels in Europe.

William J. Bryan has eighty-six engagements to lecture the coming summer at \$500 a lecture.

False reports that J. P. Morgan was seriously ill revealed the fact that he has practically retired from business.

It is said in London that Lord Curzon might have been the head of the British Legation in Washington had he so willed.

Secretary Taft is not a rich man, and he tries hard to live on his \$8000 a year. His smallest annual bill thus far is said to have been \$15,000.

Senior Enrique Creel, the newly appointed Mexican Ambassador to Washington, is a multi-millionaire, the son of a Kentucky father and a Mexican mother.