

Salvation, a Matter of Fact, Not of Method

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But how he now seeth we know John 9:21 R. V.

These words come in the story of the healing of the man born blind, and to whom sight was given by Jesus Christ. The implication in the words "now seeth" amounts to a direct affirmation that the man saw it was a fact. The other words of the text are a distinct denial of knowing how the fact was produced.

Running through the chapter it is quite remarkable to see to what degree inquiring as to "how" obsessed some classes. At least five times the question asked in one form or other. The Troublesome "How."

Be Sure of the Fact. The Scripture case the man had been born blind and everybody knew. He met Jesus one day and in a very brief period of time was made to see, a fact to which there was no contradiction. Now this is a most important matter in the application of the word to moral or spiritual transformations.

As to the outward steps that may be taken, they may be known, in the case of the man born blind. In most cases of genuine conversion the outward steps can be seen, but so much has been made of these that they have become a belief that unless they could see the steps in their own conversion they had no claim to be called children of God.

Why Not Ask "How?" Summing up these thoughts, we may observe that the asking of the question "how" is frequently a mere quibble, the avoiding of the main proposition. It is oftentimes not sincere, the purpose being other than getting an answer for proper ends.

There is great impatience in asking the question, for it may belong to the secret things of God. The physician does not ordinarily feel under any obligation to tell the patient how the medicine works.

Wait Patiently. It is impossible for that man to compare who remembers that his help is omnipotent; and can do whatever he pleases. Let us rest there while—he can, if he please; and he is infinitely loving, willing enough; and he is infinitely wise, choosing better for us than we can do for ourselves.

God invites and cherishes the hopes of men by all the variety of his providence. He that believes does not make haste, but waits patiently until the times of refreshment come, and dares trust God for the morrow, and is no more solicitous for the next day than he is for that which is past.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill.)

LESSON FOR MAY 2 SAUL TRIES TO KILL DAVID.

LESSON TEXT—1 Samuel 19:1-12. GOLDEN TEXT—Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.—Prov. 29:25.

Although anointed by Samuel, victorious in arms and promoted at court, David was many years in reaching his throne. At first both court and army did him honor (ch. 18:2), yet he conducted himself with great modesty (18:18, 23). He also obeyed the king explicitly though he knew fully that he was the God-appointed successor of Saul. Escapes as wonderful and as providential as David's occur in the lives of most of us if we would but know them.

1. David and Jonathan, vv. 1-3. The story of the love of David and Jonathan is a classic. With such close family relations and a son-in-law so successful at arms it is strange that Saul's anger should vent itself upon David. At first Saul was much attached to David but the admiration of the people for David aroused his jealousy, (ch. 18:6) and jealousy is peculiarly a soldier's disease. The slave of Jehovah never has peace. As sin and disobedience developed in his life Saul became subject to fits of insane rage during one of which, as David played upon his harp and endeavored to quiet the monarch's spirit, he hurled a javelin, which served as his scepter, at the harpist (ch. 19:10). Saul felt that David was divinely protected and he knew that God had departed from his own life (15:23; 16:14). Saul did not keep his grief and rage to himself for Jonathan and the nation alike knew all about it. Jonathan gladly accepted God's decree, willingly gave up his rights in the kingdom yet he was loyal to his father. It is a tender and touching story of Jonathan's love for his friend David, and at the same time his loyalty to his father Saul. He "delighted much in David" (v. 2), gave full, explicit warning to David, and also sought to intercede with Saul.

2. Saul and Jonathan, vv. 4-7. It took courage and self-sacrifice on Jonathan's part to speak on behalf of David. Prudence and principle are combined in Jonathan's plea. Those who envy include in their hate and anger all who speak kindly in behalf of their enemy. But Jonathan's argument (vv. 4, 5) is unanswerable. David had not sinned against Saul; it was Jehovah who "wrought a great salvation for all Israel" on the day David took his life in his hand and overcame Goliath. Jonathan pleads for God as well as for his friend. He called to Saul's memory his former joy at seeing Jehovah's victory through David and for the time being Saul was persuaded (v. 6) and made another of those impetuous promises which proved so fleeting. Ushered by Jonathan (Matt. 5:9) David returned to Saul's presence, entered once more upon the discharge of his duties and desisted only when he saw that his presence only aggravated the king and that he was uselessly exposing his life in Saul's presence. David was faithful to God and to God's anointed king.

3. Michal and David, vv. 8-12. Saul's hatred was too deep to be permanently overcome. David went out and won a great victory over the Philistines and as he followed his courtly duty, Saul burst out with a fresh attack (vv. 8, 9). David had married Michal when about twenty-one years of age and Saul's attacks occurred during the next three years. The evil spirit mentioned was a demon (18:10; Acts 16:18; Mark 1:23-26), a messenger of Satan permitted by God for Saul's discipline (II Cor. 12:7). God permits evil to come upon men not to tempt them—solicit them to do wrong—but to bring them to repentance or to refine them as pure gold. Thus evil may be said to do God's work (ch. 4:1) "to be sent from Jehovah."

4. On the other hand if men will not have the good spirit, the spirit of truth, then God gives them over to error and evil spirits (II Thess. 2:10-12). Doubtless David was on his guard for when his insanity caused Saul again to attack him he fled (v. 10). Messengers were at once dispatched to his house (v. 11) and Michal lowered David from a window at some unguarded point, and as the spies escaped from Jericho, and Paul from Damascus, so he escaped from his dangerous position. There are suggestions in the Psalms which would indicate his grief over these experiences.

Michal's stratagem (vv. 12-17) was "one not necessarily sanctioned by God, though he bore with it for it occurred at that time of ignorance" which "God overlooked."—Ederheim.

IV. Summary. All who envy are murderers at heart (Matt. 27:18; I John 3:12, 15). The present day murderers hurl their javelins of slander, lying and vituperation against the reputation of the men whom they hate. Or else they hurl unfair and unjust business methods at others that they may perpetuate their power or else build themselves up upon the ruins of those whom they envy. Saul missed David but he was no less a murderer. Satan always overshoots the mark when he assaults one of God's anointed, chosen ones. Saul could not harm David though he wished to ever so much (Ps. 37:32, 33; Isa. 54:17; Luke 4:20; 10:39). Saul's hatred stopped not even at the threshold of David's house but invaded the sacred precincts of his home. Envy is blind, it assaults all that a man has, spares none with whom he is connected and colors every act and relation of life even to the relations of father and child. Saul was frustrated by his own children. Jonathan and Michal. David's danger was imminent, hence his speedy escape.

Temperance

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

DRINKING BEFORE MEALS.

At a meeting of a medical society a prominent physician read a paper on "Appetizers," in which he gave the results of scientific experiments made at Yale university. Dr. E. H. Cleveland of Flower hospital, New York city, writing of these to the New York Times, says:

"It seems that to one group of students a good dinner was given without alcoholic accompaniment, and in their case, a couple of hours later, normal digestion was found well advanced. To the other group of students the same dinner was given, preceded in each case by an 'appetizer,' such as cocktail, gin fizz, etc. After the same interval the digestive processes of this second group were found on examination to be imperfect. Certain chemical elements in the food taken showed that the digestive juices had failed to act upon them, owing to the presence of alcohol in combination with these elements.

"Serious and permanent interference with normal digestion was clearly proved by these experiments in every instance. Had the investigations been carried further, so as to include the efficiency of mental action and nerve reaction, as well as efficiency of digestive faculties, there is no doubt that precisely similar results would have been obtained.

"The appetizer, so called, is not in reality an appetizer at all, but is a devitalizer, pure and simple, destructive of the normal processes of the digestive apparatus and of the mental powers in direct proportion to the frequency with which it is taken."

CONCERNS DEMAND ABSTINENCE. The Milton Manufacturing company, the American Car & Foundry company, and S. J. Shimer & Sons of Milton, Pennsylvania, have issued orders demanding that their employees abstain from alcohol and refuse to sign license petitions of otherwise indicate sympathy for the saloon.

THIRTY MEN WERE DISCHARGED by the American Car & Foundry company because they signed liquor license applications. These companies do not desire to influence the opinions of the employees in regard to prohibition, but they take the stand that the man who signs a liquor license application does not properly appreciate the danger of liquor to himself and the community. He is, therefore, not a safe employee for a concern demanding efficiency.

"Indulgence in the use of liquor is a menace to all business interests," declared Mr. George S. Shimer, president of the Milton Manufacturing company. "If the employees should be protected by the employer, why shouldn't the employer be as well protected by the employee? Our employees have congratulated us upon the step we have taken."

KANSAS' TAX RATE DECREASES. In 1880, under license, the Kansas tax rate for state purposes was 5.5 mills on the dollar. The Nebraska rate was only 3.9 mills. In 1881 the Kansas rate dropped to 5 mills, while the Nebraska rate increased to 5.1. In 1882 the figures stood: Kansas, 4.5; Nebraska, 6.7. In 1883 the rate was, Kansas, 4.3; Nebraska, 7.8. In 1885 the Kansas rate had further dropped to 3.9, but Nebraska, with saloons to pay part of her revenue, had been compelled to raise her rate to 7.7.

In 1914 Kansas had reached the remarkably low figure of 1.2 mills, while Nebraska, whose people failed to follow Kansas' example in outlawing saloons, was suffering under a rate of 7.8 mills.

"And yet," says the Portland (Me.) Evening Express, "the booze representatives in local option contests have the effrontery to warn the people against outlawing the saloons because 'you will have to pay more taxes!'"

STUDENTS FOR TOTAL ABSTINENCE. It is stated that the drink habit among the students at the Michigan university has decreased 25 per cent annually during the last three or four years. This is the result: First, of a movement of the fraternities in the interest of good fellowship, and second, of the good offices of the university health service in throwing light upon the inevitable penalties of drinking. Says Mr. Lewis C. Reiman, member of the football team: "Any practice that dissipates our energies and lowers our efficiency can mean only one thing—a lower standard of school work and athletics."

INCREASED SAVINGS. M. Kharitonoff, comptroller of the currency for the Russian empire, in a speech before the duma budget committee announced that "the national savings which in December, 1913, amounted to 700,000,000 rubles (\$250,000,000), had increased to 23,100,000,000 rubles (\$14,550,000,000) in December, 1914. The total savings for 1913 amounted to 34,000,000,000 rubles (\$21,400,000,000) compared with 84,000,000,000 rubles (\$52,400,000,000) for 1914."

WHAT ONE GLASS DID. One of Chicago's prominent surgeons said the other day that he drank a glass of wine at dinner on New Year's day. The next day he performed an operation. That operation took him twenty minutes longer than it did customarily. He attributed his slowness to that one glass of wine taken the day before. The usual coordination and judgment were lacking.

ALSO LOSES INDEBTEDNESS. Moundsville, W. Va., has reduced its floating indebtedness from \$52,000 to \$6,530. "This floating indebtedness was piled up several years ago while the city had a big income from saloon license," says the Moundsville Echo. Now that the city has lost the saloon revenue it has also rid itself of the indebtedness.

Wrigley's Spearmint Doublemint advertisement. Features an illustration of a family at a dining table with Wrigley's gum packs. Text includes: 'after every meal', 'WRIGLEY'S MOTHER GOOSE', 'To help you to remember - WRIGLEY'S for the kiddies - and yourself; its great benefits to teeth, breath, appetite and digestion; its cleanliness and wholesomeness in the air-tight sealed packages; its two different and delicious flavors—and the gift coupons too:'. Includes a 'UNITED PROFIT-SHARING COUPONS' logo and 'are good for many valuable presents—SAVE THEM!'.

Bringing Sunshine to the Darkest Day

Jolt to Car Owner's Pride. A citizen on the South side recently bought a moderate priced motor car, and a few mornings ago he called to his next door neighbor and offered to take him downtown to the office. That night the neighbor's little girl said to the proud car owner: "I know what kind of an auto you've got." "Is that so?" the man asked. "Yes, I heard papa say at dinner what it is. It's a Tin Lizzie!"—Kansas City Star.

THICK LOVELY HAIR Because Free From Dandruff, Itching, Irritation and Dryness. May be brought about by shampoo with Cuticura Soap preceded by touches of Cuticura Ointment to spots of dandruff, itching and irritation. A clean, healthy scalp means good hair. Try these supercreamy emollients if you have any hair or scalp trouble. Sample each free by mail with box. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. XY, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

One Condition. "Are you afraid to trust your daughter's happiness to me, Mr. Gole-roy?" "Not if you can prove that the tradesmen are not afraid to trust you for the necessities of life."

Speaking of Position. Patience—How does your father stand on woman suffrage? Patience—He wants to sit on it.

Torturing Twinges Much so-called rheumatism is caused by weakened kidneys. When the kidneys fail to clear the blood of uric acid, the acid forms into crystals, like bits of broken glass in the muscles, joints and on the nerve casings. Doan's Kidney Pills have eased thousands of rheumatic cases, lumbago, sciatica, gravel, neuralgia and urinary disorders.

A Virginia Case A. Umberger, of Spiller St., Wytheville, Va., says: "I had work and heavy lifting brought on kidney trouble. The pain in my back were so bad I could hardly straighten. Mornings, it was all I could do to get up. Doan's Kidney Pills rid me of the pain, strengthened my back and kidneys and freed me up all right."

LADIES!! USE GILBERT'S JEWEL TALCUM POWDER The Talcum of Quality, for reduced people; Perfume rich, lasting, and exquisite; Powder of velvety fineness. In Glass Jars—15c. and 25c. Sold by all dealers. MADE BY GILBERT BROS. & CO., BALTIMORE, MD.

SAVE YOUR MONEY. One box of Tut's Pills save many dollars in doctor's bills. A remedy for diseases of the liver, sick headache, dyspepsia, constipation and biliousness, a million people endorse Tut's Pills

Plan Humane Sunday in May. The American Humane association, a federation of societies and individuals for the prevention of cruelty, requests clergymen of all denominations throughout the country to observe Sunday, May 23, as Humane Sunday, calling attention to the need for protection for suffering and helpless children, and also for unfortunate animals.

ELIXIR BABEK WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD IN THE PHILIPPINES. I contracted malaria in 1909, and after a year's fruitless treatment by a prominent Washington physician, your Elixir Babek entirely cured me. On arriving here I came down with tropical malaria—the worst form—and sent home for Babek. Again it proved its value—it is worth its weight in gold here. Brasie O'Hagan, Troop E, 5th U. S. Cavalry, Bataan, Philippines.

Puzzled Uncle Pash. From the time the coal and iron territory round about Jenkins was opened up and the town began to form itself out of the construction and prospecting camps, P. C. Dix, secretary of the state executive committee of the Young Men's Christian association, took a deep interest in its development and spent much time there assisting in the formation of a strong and active branch of the association.

Bird Calls and Their Names. Most of us know the chickadee when we hear him calling, over and over, "Chick-a-dee, dee dee, Chick-a-dee, dee, dee!" But when he sings his clear whistling note, "Phoebe, phoebe," we are likely to mistake him for the phoebe bird. The chickadee stays in the North in winter, and the phoebe does not come North till the early spring. The phoebe bird sings its name over and over, a very sweet but penetrating sound. The peabody bird says, "Peabody, peabody, peabody," over and over, in a rather senseless way, as if he went round in a circle. Another bird that sings his name is Bob White, the quail. Only he often says "Poor Bob White!" He notes go up and down, and are stronger than the notes of the smaller birds and may be heard at a long distance. Of course these birds do not really sing their names! But people listening to them have fancied that these names are what the notes sound like, and so they have given the bird the name.

Emphatic Distinction. "Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "why do you take an interest in prize fighting?" "As a matter of physical culture." "Well, it may be physical. But it isn't culture."

The Old Excuse. "You ought to know better, my child, than to pitch into a tipsy man. Now you've fixed your husband and he's gone off." "But I didn't know he was loaded."

If you want anything done well, do it yourself. That is why most people laugh at their own jokes.

MUST HAVE SHOCKED JUDGE What He Regarded as "Dribblings" of Hay Was All He Was Going to Get. A distinguished member of the United States judiciary has discovered that he still has something to learn in the direction of agriculture. He bought a farm as a summer home for his family, and finds especial delight in walking about the place, commenting on the condition of the crops, and in many ways showing his interest in his new possessions.

Washington Sufferer IS GREATLY RELIEVED William H. Lacy Says One Dose of Mayr Remedy Ended His Troubles. William H. Lacy of Washington, D. C., for three years suffered from derangements of the stomach and digestive tract. He was threatened with an operation.

Chinese and Japanese. Chinese and Japanese do not speak the same language, nor can they be said to have the same religion. Confucianism is the prevailing faith of China, while Buddhism is the chief religion of Japan. Geometry probably had its rise in Egypt, though it was perfected by the Greeks.

Old English Coin. An "angel" was an ancient gold coin weighing four pennyweights and valued at 68 sh in the reign of Henry VI, and at 10s in the reign of Elizabeth in 1562. It took its name from the effigy of an angel embossed on one side.

Hard to Penetrate. Rankin—"It takes a long time to get anything through Deenbrough's skull, doesn't it?" Phyle—"I should say it does; that man will be dead and buried before he ever finds out he is sick."—Youngstown Telegram.

DAISY FLY KILLER. LAND WARRANT HOME. USE SILO and cut your OUR SILO feed bill in half.

POETIC SLUMBER. "There's a tramp asleep under this tree." "Ah! an idle of the woods."

WHY PATENTS. W. N. U., BALTIMORE, NO. 18-1916.

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher.

YOUR OWN DRUGGIST WILL TELL YOU Try Martin's Eye Remedy for Red, Weak, Watery Eyes and Irritated Eyelids. No stinging! No smarting! Just Eye Comfort. Write for Book of the Day by mail free. Martin's Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Sorry for the Chickens. Dorothy was visiting her grandparents in the country for the first time. Seeing a quantity of feathers scattered about the henyard, she shook her head in disapproval. "Grandpa," she told him, gravely, "you really ought to do something to keep your chickens from wearing out so."—San Francisco Star.

Good Reason. "What makes you think we'll have better times when the war is over?" "Well, for one thing, all these men who do nothing but stand around discussing the war news will have time to go back to work."

DON'T VISIT THE CALIFORNIA EXPOSITIONS Without a supply of Allen's Foot-Ease, the anti-static powder to be shaken into the shoes, or dissolved in the foot-bath. The Standard Remedy for the feet for 25 years. It gives instant relief to tired, aching feet and prevents swollen, hot feet. One lady writes: "I enjoyed every minute of my stay at the Expositions, thanks to Allen's Foot-Ease in my shoes. Get it TODAY. Adv."

Peatic Slumber. "There's a tramp asleep under this tree." "Ah! an idle of the woods."

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