

THE HOLY CITY.

IT IS A SYMBOL OF HEAVEN.

Dr. Talmage Preaches an Eloquent Sermon at Jerusalem.

Text: "Jerusalem, Jerusalem" - Matt. 23: 37.

This exclamation burst from Christ's lips as he came in sight of this great city, although things have marvelously changed, who can visit Jerusalem to-day without having its mighty past roll over on his memory...

What do you say, "If there is any man happy, he ought to be." But I hear that happy to the palace and see his robes actually incriminated with jewels as he stands in the front and looks out upon the vast domain...

What do you say, "If there is any man who craves for the favor and the confidence of your fellow men, he ought to be rich." I see a man in the position as though that upon some high mountain the mountains of earthy honor are the mountains of Switzerland, covered with perpetual ice and snow...

But here you pass through these streets, as in a far better man, quite as wonderful, the King, the poet. Can it be that I am in the very city where he lived and reigned? David, great for power, and great for grief. He was a splendid boy, but he was a wretched man.

single bloom. The Bible says that he had been rescued by the mob. No such attempt was made in this case, for the mob were against him. From nine in the morning till three in the afternoon Jesus hung a-dying in the outskirts of this city. It was a scene of blood. We are so constituted that nothing is so exciting as blood. It is not the child's cry in the street that so arouses you as the crimson dripping from the lip in the dark hall, seeing the finger marks of blood on the plastering, you cry: "What terrible deed has been done here?"

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

FIRE LESSON FOR DECEMBER 15.

"Solomon's Fall," 1 Kings, x. 4-13 Golden Text: 1 Cor. x. 12.—Votes.

4. "If we could pass when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods." As to the things of this world, on which the hearts of people in all ages have been so firmly set, Solomon was filled with them. Riches and honor he enjoyed to the full and all the pleasures that wealth could purchase.

7. "Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh." He did not stop at building an high place for Chemosh, but he also built an high place for Ashtoreth, for Milcom, for the gods of the Ammonites, and for the gods of the Philistines.

8. "And Solomon built an high place for the Lord." He did not stop at building an high place for the Lord, but he also built an high place for the Lord of hosts, and for the Lord of armies.

9. "The Lord was angry with Solomon." So we read that Jehovah was angry with Moses and Aaron and Israel (Deut. iv. 21, ix. 8, 20; II Ki. xvii. 18); and that while he was angry with Israel, he was not angry with David, his king and his anointed one.

10. "He kept not that which the Lord commanded." It was a case of direct and willful disobedience. He was forbidden to multiply horses or to multiply chariots, and yet these were the very things that he was commanded to keep by him a copy of the law and read therein all the days of his life.

TEMPERANCE.

THE WATER.

The water! The water! The water fresh and sweet, I saw it bubble in a spring, Where fields and forests meet.

TEMPERANCE.

The water! The water! In well, and lake, and sea, We drink, we swim, we bathe, we row, And love the water froth!

TEMPERANCE.

The water, sunshine, and fresh air, With fish and bird, and flower we share -National Temperance Almanac.

ALCOHOL AND THE HEART.

The smallest amount of alcohol, says Dr. Keck, Mitchell in the Temperance Journal, will increase the beats of the heart, and generally take it in order to produce this effect.

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11. "I will surely lead the kingdom from thee and give it to thy servant." The record of this will be found more at length in our next lesson; but notice here how disobedience robs a man of the right to the kingdom, and becoming persuaded by him that to eat of the tree of knowledge would prove an advantage, Adam and Eve, in disobedience to God, sought a present gratification and thus brought ruin upon themselves and their human race.

12. "Notwithstanding, in thy days I will not do it, for David thy father's sake." While godliness is not hereditary, yet who can estimate the benefit of godly parents, or the blessing which comes to us through those who love Lord Jesus. Let the children consider this and contrast the condition of many whose parents know not God with the condition of the children of pious parents.

13. "For David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, which I have chosen." The blessing that will yet come to Jerusalem, because God has chosen it, shall be seen in millennial days, but leaving that to the future, let us turn to the case of the father: David was not only Solomon's father; he was the servant of Jehovah; one of the highest who can be given to mortal man, inasmuch as it is one of the titles of the Lord Jesus Himself, who shall yet be the servant of God unto the ends of the earth (Isa. xlii. 1, xliii. 6, and for whose sake any one may now be saved who comes to God in His Name.—See "Help.")

RELIGIOUS READING.

CHRIST IN THE HEART.

The veteran soldiers of Napoleon idolized him. In their estimation he was the perfection of all military genius and nobility. They were right for him, suffering for him, and die for him as emperor, he was much their idol as he was on the tented field. No language could exaggerate their devotion to him.

The believer, in whose heart Christ is formed the hope of glory, can say the same about the Captain of his salvation. "Thou a little deeper and you will find the Master. To him Christ is 'the chief among ten thousand and the one altogether lovely.' Christ has no rival in that soul. His consecration is honest, and it sings:

"I love to kiss the prints where Thou Hast set thine unseen feet; I cannot fear thee, blessed Will, For mine eyes are so sweet."

"When obstacles and trials seem Like prison walls to be, I do the little I can do And leave the rest to thee."

Consecration to Christ must reveal itself and justify itself in the visible conduct of life. Our Christ is a revealed Christ. He is not a cloistered Christ. He does not keep himself in the cloister, nor in the dazzling light of heaven. His work, His great redeeming work, was done in the sight of men on the common places of the world.

Since he went away, his followers, by open confession and conduct, have reproduced his life in lowly and unworldly ways. It may be, but in methods and character which he has graciously accepted and blessed, and on which he has pronounced his "well done."

It is not enough to experience religion in the closet. It is not enough to conform to God in repentance and faith, and to make loyal vows in private. They who follow the Master will follow him openly before kings and rulers, in the temple and in the street, and in the presence of all eyes. He would have all who love him confess him before men.

Dr. Joseph Shaler, author of "Our Country," says: "At no time in all the year are so many people in all the land there so much of the saving power of the nation gathered together as at the annual convention of the W. C. T. U."

In the first nine months of last year England consumed 12,314,471 gallons of wine, 25,251,251 gallons of spirits, and 18,831,818 gallons of beer. In this year she has consumed 12,565,291 gallons of wine, 25,750,201 gallons of spirits, and 19,930,000 gallons of beer.

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