

NEED OF RELIGION.

JESUS IN THE HOME.

Dr. Talmage Says Family Religion is of Great Value to Children.

TEXT: "This day is salvation come to this house."—Luke xix. 9.

Zaccheus was a politician and a taxgatherer. He had an honest calling, but the opportunity for "stealings" was so large the temptation was too much for him.

Jesus was coming to town. The people turned out en masse to see Him. Here He comes, the Lord of glory, and reputation there are about as many men. Gold is found in quartz, and sometimes in a small percentage.

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Zaccheus had mounted the sycamore tree out of mere inquisitiveness. He wanted to see how this stranger looked—the color of His eyes, the length of His hair, the height of His features, the height of His stature.

Why he perplexed about the way sin came into the world when the great question is how we shall get sin driven out of our hearts. How many spend their time in criticism and religious speculation?

Dr. Lindsley, in the theological seminary, taught me a lesson I shall never forget. While putting a variety of questions to him that were perplexing he turned upon me, somewhat in sternness, but more in love, and said, "Mr. Talmage, do not have it in your mind to say that you love a man."

I notice that this taxgatherer accompanied his surrender to Christ with the restoration of property that did not belong to him. He says, "If I have taken anything by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been paid out in the restoration of property during the past few years as "conscience money."

You say, "I cannot make restitution. The prices upon which I bought are gone. Then I say, 'Take the money up to the American Bible Society and consecrate it to God.'"

see us. And all the day we be tossed about, at eventide we sail into the harbor of home. Though there be no rest for us in the busy world, and we go trudging about, bearing burdens that will crush us, there is a refuge for us in the easy chair in which we may sit, and a lounge where we may lie, and a serenity of peace in which we may repose, and that refuge is home.

Now, suppose Christ should come into your house. First the wife and the mother would feel His presence. Religion almost always begins there. It is easier for women to become Christians than for us men.

Do not fight so against God. If woman tempted man originally away from holiness, now she tempts him back. She may not make any fuss about it, but somehow everybody in the house knows that there is a change in the wife and mother.

Now the husband stands in any lower. Some Sunday night, as they sit in the church side by side, the floods of his soul break forth. He wants to pray, but does not know how.

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SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 30.

Review: Lesson of the Third Quarter—Golden Text: Mark 1, 15—Commentary.

LESSON I.—The Birth of Jesus (Luke II, 1-16). Golden Text, Luke II, 11. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

LESSON II.—The Presentation in the Temple (Luke II, 25-38). Golden Text, Luke II, 32. "A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people, Israel."

LESSON III.—The Visit of the Wise Men (Math. II, 1-12). Golden Text, Math. II, 11. "They saw the young child with Mary, His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him."

LESSON IV.—The Flight into Egypt (Math. II, 13-23). Golden Text, Mat. xxiii, 8. "The Lord shall remove thy going out and thy coming in."

LESSON V.—The Youth of Jesus (Luke II, 40-52). Golden Text, Luke II, 52. "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

LESSON VI.—The Baptism of Jesus (Mark I, 1-11). Golden Text, Mark I, 11. "Thou art My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

LESSON VII.—The Temptation of Jesus (Matt. IV, 1-11). Golden Text, Heb. iv, 15. "In all points tempted like as we are, without sin."

LESSON VIII.—The First Disciples of Jesus (John I, 35-49). Golden Text, John I, 41. "I have found the Messiah, which is being interpreted, the Christ."

LESSON IX.—The First Miracle of Jesus (John IV, 46-54). Golden Text, John IV, 46. "This beginning of miracles Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory."

LESSON X.—Jesus Cleansing the Temple (John II, 13-22). Golden Text, John II, 16. "I have found the Messiah, which is being interpreted, the Christ."

RELIGIOUS READING.

HAVE A PLACE FOR PRAYER.

We do not need to enter the closet in order to find the Lord. He is ever near us. But we enter it in order to escape from distraction, and in order to regain those associations, and it may be, to surround ourselves with those memories, which we formerly found in our prayers.

There is an appointed time for every event, and God in all things is never too soon nor too late. The great things of God are nothing to the world living in the wicked one, and so the great event is made known not to the mighty ones of earth either in church or state, but to the humble shepherd on the plains of Bethlehem (I Cor. I, 26-29).

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TEMPERANCE.

A TALE OF ANCIENT GREECE.

[Philip, King of Macedonia, had a son Alexander, who, after his father's death, formed the plan of invading the Persian Empire. He did so, and in a few years he gained that vast kingdom, and marched his troops as far as India. He founded the city of Alexandria, in Egypt, and might have been a great blessing to the world if he had not been a lover of strong drink.]

Now, we can never hope to be so famous in the world as he: So famous in the world as he: So we can keep the pledge, and then We're sure to grow up sober men.

And if we're sober, who can tell, In what good things we may excel? So we'll not drink, but ahn the fate Of Alexander, called the Great.

My own experience of thirty-four years in the practice of my profession has taught me that in nearly all cases and kinds of disease the medicinal use of alcohol is unnecessary, and in a large number of instances is prejudicial and even dangerous.

There is a good story which is told of Sir Arthur Sullivan. It was at dinner, and a young lady inquired of Sir Arthur whether Bach was composing anything at present.

John Verdon, a penitentiary convict at Columbus, Ohio, from Cincinnati, who dropped dead from heart disease, predicted the day and hour of his death.

Belgium has increased its number of beer breweries by 240. Atlantic City, N. J., has one saloon to every sixty-nine persons.

The Chicago Tribune says "a strike never hurts the trade in whisky." There are now 1939 breweries and 4791 distilleries in the United States.

In Zurich, Switzerland, 2790 of the insane patients were aggravated cases of alcoholism. There were 1039 criminals convicted in Canada last year, of whom thirty only did not use intoxicants.

The Chicago Lever, referring to the recent riots in that city, said "the spirit of alcohol was omnipresent, and the police were almost powerless to prevent trouble."

The Insurance Newspaper and Building Society Review says "In our opinion the traffic in alcohol prevents more people from becoming the possessors of their own homes than all other causes combined."

CURIOUS FACTS.

Blue wood is the heaviest. England taxes gravestones. Glass coffins are used in Russia. Holland admits coffee duty free. Austrians are great chess players. There are no natural white sponges. Germans are most prone to suicide. Crabs can see and smell, but can't hear.

In Arabia Mocha coffee is taken for taxes. Silk making originated in India B. C. 400. Ostrich farms return handsome profits. There was a medieval association of engineers. The greatest depth of ocean yet sounded is 466 fathoms.

Duplex telegraphy was first accomplished by Gintl in 1853. A Russian is not legally of age till he is twenty-six years old. Mary Stuart was one of the most fascinating widows that ever lived. Bleached sponges are the best to use, as the bleaching process disinfects them.

The first American cotton factory was established in 1787 at East Bridge-water, Mass. The Spartan phalanx was commonly eight deep; the Athenian, eight, twelve and twenty-five. In Lower Canada the ardent lover begs a wooden shoe from his sweetheart to keep his tobacco in.

Do not use hot water on leather. Water over 150 degrees will scald it, pucker it up and destroy its strength. That succession taxes, on the occasion of succeeding to an inheritance or bequest, are levied in almost all European countries.

Fanny Crosby, the blind Methodist hymn writer, has written 3000 Sunday-school hymns, many of which are widely known. Here is a good story which is told of Sir Arthur Sullivan. It was at dinner, and a young lady inquired of Sir Arthur whether Bach was composing anything at present.

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