

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON

SOME SEASONABLE ADVICE

Subject: "The Opening Winter."

Text: "I have determined there to winter."—Titus III, 12.

Paul was not independent of the seasons. He sent for his overcoat to Troas on a memorable occasion. And now in the text he is making arrangements for the approaching cold weather and makes an appointment with Titus to meet him at Neapolis, saying: "I have determined there to winter."

In the first place, I have to remark at this season of the year our allurances are especially bad. There is not very much sympathy in intelligent societies in Christendom in the strengthening and ennobling of moral character, and this winter to many of you will be the brightest and the best of all your lives, and in anticipation I congratulate you. But to others it may not have such a happy ending. I charge you, my beloved, look out where you spend your winter nights.

Then the winter has special temptations in the fact that many homes are peculiarly unattractive at this season. In the summer months the windows are open, and the air is fresh and bracing, and the evenings being so short, soon after daylight he wants to retire anyhow. But there are many parents who do not understand how to make the long winter months attractive to their children. It is amazing to me that so many old people do not understand young people. To hear some of these parents talk you would think they had never themselves been young and had been born with spectacles on. Oh, it is so true that young people are in the house from 10 to 11 o'clock at night and to hear parents groan about their ailments and the nothingness of this world. The nothingness of this world! How dare you talk such blasphemy? It took God six days to make this world, and He has allowed it 6000 years to be a world for man, and this world has done on you and blessed you and pressed you for these fifty or seventy years, and yet you dare talk about the nothingness of this world! Why, it is a magnificent world. I do not believe in the whole universe, I do not believe in God, except it be heaven. You cannot expect your children to stay in the house these long winter evenings to hear you denounce this star lighted, sun warmed, shower baptized, flower strewn, angel watched, God inhabited world.

Oh, make your home bright! Bring in the violin or the picture. It does not require a great salary, or a big house, or chased silver, or gorgeous upholstery to make a happy home. All that is wanted is a father's heart, a mother's heart, in sympathy with young people. I have known a man with \$300 salary, and he had no other income, but he had a home so happy and bright that though the sons had gone out and won large fortunes and the daughters have gone out into splendid spheres to become princesses of society, he has never thought of that earthly home without tears of emotion. It was there the vestibule of heaven, and all their mansions now and all their palaces now cannot make them forget that early place. Make your home happy. You go around your house growing and your rheumatism and acting the part of a man who will go into the world and plunge into dissipation. They will have their own rheumatism after awhile. Do not forestall their misfortunes.

Oh, what a beautiful thing it is to see a young man standing up amid these temptations of the world with a man with \$300 salary, and he had no other income, but he had a home so happy and bright that though the sons had gone out and won large fortunes and the daughters have gone out into splendid spheres to become princesses of society, he has never thought of that earthly home without tears of emotion. It was there the vestibule of heaven, and all their mansions now and all their palaces now cannot make them forget that early place. Make your home happy. You go around your house growing and your rheumatism and acting the part of a man who will go into the world and plunge into dissipation. They will have their own rheumatism after awhile. Do not forestall their misfortunes.

RELIGIOUS READING.

DO YOU WANT A REVIVAL NOW?

Do you want a revival in your church this year? If so, begin it now. The place to be given is in your own heart. Give it anew to God. Ask Him to direct you in your efforts to save others. Let a new song be upon your lips. Pay no attention to your circumstances, your circumstances cannot hinder God's revivals. When Paul and Silas were tied up in Phrygian jail, they began to sing and praise God. A great revival instantly broke out. There are twenty thousand persons in Methodist today who could instantly inaugurate tremendous revivals in their communities if they would. Were the silent-tongued to begin to praise and pray and testify, they would soon arouse their neighbors to new life. Were the hesitating ones to throw themselves on the strength of God and begin boldly to toll for Jesus, they would speedily witness their reward. In their inception, revivals are simply the quickened religion life of one or more people, but in their sweep they often gather in hundreds or thousands. They are the most important and the happiest events that can come to communities. They thrill souls and bring new life to the bringing more solid comfort and satisfaction to the community, than anything else that can be named in earthly experience. Oh, for ten thousand of them in Methodist now! They would cause a shout to jingle the globe and to penetrate the ear of heaven.—Michigan Christian Advocate.

THANKSGIVING SYMPATHY PORTENTS PEACE. The first holiday which comes to a home after it has been shadowed by bereavement, is very hard to bear. The general bitterness of the happy aspect of the day, contrasts with our own sense of loss and grief, and the pain deepens as we remember how happy we were only a little while ago, and feel how desolate we now are. "I will be very glad when Thanksgiving is over," you might say, "and I will feel the first feeling of loneliness, words of cheer avail little. Far better is it to extend silent sympathy to snow by tender tone, and firm hand-clasp, and loving looks, that one is grieved with the mourners, than to speak, be it ever so facetiously, when the ear cannot listen. To those who sit in the shadow, only one can bring the sunshine. In his own good time the Master will send peace, and perhaps show the trustful and confiding soul why He removed the desire of the eyes from the human sight.—Christian Intelligencer.

IN HAPPY DEATHS WE ARE UNITED IN CHRIST. But there are many happy families where there will be no mourning, no vacant chair, where no losses and sorrows will intrude, where virtue will preside and peace will abound, where three or four generations will meet around the hearthstone, and the children will light anew the torch of love at the old home. What a privilege it is to be on Thanksgiving Day. What sacred memories of the dead and absent will cluster about the occasion. And what a cause for thanksgiving are such homes, such memories and kinships. If the dead could come back to earth—and perhaps they do—what a joy to meet on Thanksgiving evening. They would make the old homestead a living place with their presence.—Christian Intelligencer.

"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE." We have a right to lay flowers on the coffins of our Christian dead. They will come forth in the beauty of new life. We open our New Testament and see Jesus, after He had risen, away beyond death. He has not been harmed by dying. No beam of the beauty of His life is quenched. The death of the earthly life is not severed. He has not forgotten His friends, but takes up again the old companionship and friendships. So will it be with our beloved ones who sleep in Jesus. They will rise; and they will be the same persons we have known here, only they will be cleansed of their earthliness and mortality. And they will not have forgotten us. Love never faileth. We shall resume friendship's story on the other side.—S. R. Meyer, D. D.

LET US PRAISE GOD FOR EVERYTHING. We cannot truly worship unless we are genuinely grateful. We are not likely to be grateful unless we meditate on our deliverances and mercies. Experience is a natural which ought to be worked up into psalms. Each of us ought to find enough in our experience to lead us to cry out as David did: "Exalted be the God of my salvation." Surely there is need of our enthusiastic praise of God. The thanksgiving of the saint and philosopher as naturally as the sparks fly upward. It would be better with us if we praised God more. If Christians praised God more, the world would doubt His less. One man in ten returns to give God thanks, but where are the nine?

LET ALL THINGS REJOICE AND BE THANKFUL. Let the Thanksgiving bell ring out! Sound forth the old "Gloria Patri," the "Te Deum," the "doxology in long measure!" Let organs swell their notes, and give utterance in tones of thunder to our human praise. Let Niagara roar, and let the falls of the great waterfall springing fountains. Yet, however we praise the thanks of the people to the God of the nations. Let the pains of the sunny South wave their fronts, and let the trees of the North and of the West clap their hands in praise to the God who has made them. Let the sparkling of the dew and the purifying blaze of splendor, you simply see concentrated into one dazzling focus the light that has stolen from every [of] darkened homes. Yet the more of every good it sucks out of a man's life, and the more hopelessly wretched he becomes, the more the saloon seems by contrast, like he grows to esteeming his destroyer his only refuge and hope. The lower the saloon casts him down, the more necessary the saloon becomes to him. But his wife and children can not flee to his glare and confusion. A far civilization will not yet tolerate that. They must stay in the desolate home. Now if this were honest poverty, forced upon them by hard necessity, which the man was doing all he could to share and brighten, a true wife would rally all "the beauty and truth of woman's devotion" to the man's support, and his husband and if all. But when she knows that the husband who brought her to it has deserted her in the midst of it for a selfish and swinish delight which will sink him—and then—lower yet, how can she endure it?—Sacred Heart Review.

TEMPERANCE NEWS AND NOTES. Topaka, Kan., has passed an ordinance forbidding the street car companies to transport drunken men. In Paris the demand for small dogs is met by rearing pups from an alcoholic diet, which retards their growth. Sims Reeves attributes the marvellous preservation of his voice in old age to the fact that he is a total abstainer. He holds that the use of stimulants will break a voice sooner or later. "Wherever I go," recently said Bishop Spalding, "I ask the children to take the pledge until they are twenty-one years old. By that time they will be able to see how good a thing temperance is."

THE SUNDAY LAW IN GERMANY hits the drinker instead of the purveyor. The Court of Appeal at Erfurt has just sustained the lower court in fining a brewery for allowing five casks of drinking a glass of beer at a tavern during the hours of divine service. Jane Cakobread's record is surpassed by that of William Onions, who has been convicted 326 times for drunkenness in London courts. In his case a small quantity of liquor that would have no effect on ordinary persons makes him violent and gets him into trouble and "grog."

A soldier in Africa, a former drunkard, refusing to drink, had holes burnt in his coat sleeves by his former associates, who thought by so doing they could make him get angry and lose his temper. He was then severely punished. The soldier neither lost his temper nor drank, but kept sober.—Christian Standard.

TEMPERANCE.

HE JUST QUIT.

A navigator of five years' and rare skill was discharged by his employer for drunkenness. He had used liquor for more than thirty years, but he began a new life. "What!" sneered an old-time companion, "won't take a drink? Haven't sworn off, have you?" "No," was the answer, "I've sworn off." To "swear off" is to begin a dreary struggle. To "just quit" is to win a quick, sure victory.—Sunday-School Times.

A NATURAL VICI. The sin of the tipping habit, which is rampant in this country, consists chiefly in this, that it starts many men on the road to alcoholic excess. It first tempts men to drink who do not wish to drink and do not wish to refuse. Then it brings them successively to the points where they take liquor because they like it, because they crave it, because they cannot get it any other way. And so their habit of tipping would seem to be a national conspiracy for the making of drunkards, its pernicious influence being all the more deadly that it is concealed under an innocent and respectable guise.

DRUNKARDS' RETREATS. Drunkards' retreats have now been in existence in England for fifteen years. The principle on which they are conducted is to make the patients stop drinking at once and to make them abstain entirely for a long period, twelve months when possible, keeping them busy during that time. The patients always come in an advanced stage of alcoholism. It has been found, as the Lancet reports, that no harm, but good, is done by the sudden and complete disuse of alcohol in such cases; that a large number of the cases are permanently cured, and that habitual drunkards in women is by no means a hopeless disease.

A BRAVE LITTLE JAPANESE. A little Japanese lad was engaged on the occasion of a special ceremony in the army to pour out the wine, and on being asked to do so by the General-in-Chief to take a drink himself, as he must be tired and in need of something refreshing, the little fellow refused. He was asked to take a drink, and he thought this strange, and urged him to take some anyway, as it would be good for his health, even though he disliked it. But the temperance youth persisted that he did not want any. This somewhat vexed the officer, to find a soldier of such quality of character, and he said rather roughly to the lad, "Well, if you won't do as I say, you never can become a soldier in the army."

THE SALOON AND THE HOME. The saloon devours the money on whose wise expenditure much of the happiness of the home depends. If the wife has toiled at the wash tub till every muscle aches and her whole being is weary, it is simply exasperating to have her husband leave her and go to spend in one hour in the saloon the money that she has needed for her household needs. Clothes wear out. No amount of washing or mending can keep things forever neat. The rags will come, and when they come those who wear them will look shabby. Not even cleanliness can be fully maintained when there is a lack of change of towels, and these cost money. The saloon puts the fire that should be in the grate into the man's stomach. The rations grow short. The children cry, and the mother weeps from exhaustion. The man looks over the bare table and grumbles, "There's no comfort at home." Then he claims he is driven to the saloon because it is so bright and his home so wretched, and authors, moralists and philosophers are all against him. This is putting effect for cause. The fact is, that if we could put out the saloon lights and free every one empty the barrels, smash the corkscrews, and make the saloon dark as the traffic is, those homes would soon grow dark. This represents one of the wretched characters showing a cup of foul water to a visitor, and saying: "If you had such water, wouldn't you drink it?" Very touching! But if that man had been willing to pay for water the price of his gin, he could have had the cleanest water to drink.

THE SALOON AND THE HOME. The saloon devours the money on whose wise expenditure much of the happiness of the home depends. If the wife has toiled at the wash tub till every muscle aches and her whole being is weary, it is simply exasperating to have her husband leave her and go to spend in one hour in the saloon the money that she has needed for her household needs. Clothes wear out. No amount of washing or mending can keep things forever neat. The rags will come, and when they come those who wear them will look shabby. Not even cleanliness can be fully maintained when there is a lack of change of towels, and these cost money. The saloon puts the fire that should be in the grate into the man's stomach. The rations grow short. The children cry, and the mother weeps from exhaustion. The man looks over the bare table and grumbles, "There's no comfort at home." Then he claims he is driven to the saloon because it is so bright and his home so wretched, and authors, moralists and philosophers are all against him. This is putting effect for cause. The fact is, that if we could put out the saloon lights and free every one empty the barrels, smash the corkscrews, and make the saloon dark as the traffic is, those homes would soon grow dark. This represents one of the wretched characters showing a cup of foul water to a visitor, and saying: "If you had such water, wouldn't you drink it?" Very touching! But if that man had been willing to pay for water the price of his gin, he could have had the cleanest water to drink.

"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD." Do not be afraid of God. He has a shepherd's heart and skill. He will not over-beric. When He puts forth His own sheep, He will certainly go before them, and they shall follow Him, and He will lead them to waters. Words can never tell His tender consideration. If the track lies over difficult and stony roads, it is because there is no other way of reaching the rich meadows beyond. When strength fails, He will carry them, and He will never leave them. He will be gentle with them. He is the Good Shepherd, who knows His sheep.—Rev. F. B. Meyer.

"A GOOD THING TO GIVE THANKS." That it is really a good thing to give thanks "everyone may discover for himself by making the experiment. Many a soul has been driven from the spiritual and mental sky by a headlong prayer. It is not a good thing to count over our sorrows and losses and perplexities; as a rule, we make them worse by doing so; but the counting of our mercies has an invigorating effect and we are often surprised to find how much richer we are than we had thought.—Christian Advocate.

GAINERS IN THE SHEAVES. Most gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew, we yield Thee unfeigned thanks and praise, as for all Thy mercies, so especially for the returns of seed-time and harvest, and for crowning the year with Thy goodness, in the increase of the ground, and the gathering in of the fruits thereof. And, we beseech Thee, give us a just sense of this mercy; such as may appear in our lives by a humble, holy, and obedient walking before Thee all our days.—The Prayer Book.

CELEBRATE YOUR HEALTH IN THANKSGIVING. There ought to be on Thanksgiving Day an uplifting of all Christian hearts into a loftier spirit of gladness. Thanksgiving should become more an integral element in all our worship, in all our spiritual life. Another carries are and days because they recall the losses and sorrows of the past. In many homes there is a vacant chair today. Voices that sang in the songs last Thanksgiving are missed and faces that brightened the circle have vanished. Tears will choke many a young man's eyes, and even the sadness, Thanksgiving should not let out of our song. Indeed, the purest, sweetest joy of earth is transformed sorrow.—J. R. Miller, D. D.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR DECEMBER 15.

Lesson Text: "David and Jonathan," I Samuel xx., 32-42—Golden Text: Prov. xviii., 24—Commentary.

32. "And Jonathan answered Saul, his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? What hath he done? After David had slain Goliath and had finished speaking with Saul, it is written that Jonathan, son of Saul, loved David as his own soul and gave him his robe and garments and sword and bow and girdle (chapter xviii., 1-5), and that Saul also set him over his men of war and would let him go no more home. But when the women sang: 'Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands' (xviii., 7), then Saul became jealous and sought to take David's life. Having rejected the Lord by his disobedience, he became the prey of an evil spirit, but the Lord was with David and prospered him (xviii., 10-16). As Saul's persecutions of David increased, David said one day to Jonathan, 'As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is not a step between me and death' (xx., 3), but Jonathan could not believe that his father would do to David and so agreed to sound his father (xx., 12) in David's absence, and then let David know. Saul's answer was that David must die (vers. 31), hence Jonathan's reply in this first verse of our lesson.

33. "And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him, whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David." If there was anger enough in Saul to kill his own son, then it was certainly a poor prospect, humanly speaking, for David. We see in Saul what may become of a man who rejects God. Saul might have been the Lord's own representative, honored by God and man, for everything was put within his reach for his good.

34. "He was grieved for David, because his father had despised him, although Jonathan loved him as he loved himself, and he went without eating." It is easy to fast when the heart is grieved, and if our love to Jesus Christ was more like the love of Jonathan to David we would be more sensitive concerning the sins that put upon our Saviour and not find pleasure and a degree of satisfaction in persons and places and things which dishonor Him. Oh, for a whole heart for Christ!

35. "And it came to pass in the morning that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a javelin lay with him." See the story of this appointment in verses 18 to 23 and note Jonathan's faithfulness in keeping it. Our comfort is not in our faithfulness in keeping our word, but in the faithfulness of our covenant-keeping God and Saviour. See David's story when he came to his dying hour (II Sam. xliii., 5). See also I Cor. i., 9, x., 13; I Thess. v., 24; II Thess. iii., 3.

36. "And he said unto his lad, Epher, fetch unto me the arrows which I shoot." Jonathan was not to be shot at, and he did not want to obey such orders. His own (the boy's) father, he said, had lost his life through striking "sake," and when he left home he solemnly promised his mother that he would never set foot on the ground that he must keep his word. The officer and General were so filled with admiration at the boy's simple firmness, that they from that time showed him special kindness, and it is said that the boy became one of the most trusted officers in the army.

37. "Jonathan cried after the lad and said, Is not the arrow beyond thee?" See the significance of this in verse 23. How it must have gone to David's heart, for it was as though he feared. He must separate himself even from Jonathan, he must become a stranger and flee for his life because an enemy is on the throne which rightfully belongs to him. But it is all a part of the foreordained plan for him, and God's way for the throne in due time. See Eph. i., 10; Matt. xvi., 28.

38. "And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not." Jonathan's grief was for David from the heart that loved him as his own life, and he knew that David's sake and just because Jonathan loved him so, for if hurt Jonathan as much, if not more, than David. All that God says or does to us is infinite love; the very worst that can come to us is love and goodness and mercy, and we must not resist it.

39. "But the lad knew not what he said, only Jonathan and David knew the matter." So we go on not knowing. He holds the key of all unknown, and we are glad. When He asked Philip about feeding the 5000, it was only to prove him, for "He Himself knew what He would do." The fact is, that with the leaves know nothing, but was evidently ready to be used, "Jesus knew from the beginning," and that is enough.

40. "And Jonathan gave his artillery (II. S. weapons) unto his lad, and said unto him, Carry them to the city." The lad's business was simply to do what he was told; bring after the arrows, gather them up, bring them to his master and not take them home. His master knew what he was about, and the lad did not need to know. There are many things that we do not need to know, and we do need to obey and to have implicit confidence in our Master, and in all that He does. Thus in quietness and in confidence we shall find strength (Isa. xxx., 15). Whatsoever the King doth shall please all His people (II Sam. iii., 22).

CLIMATE BAKING POWDER

PUREST AND BEST

LESS THAN HALF THE PRICE OF OTHER BRANDS

HALVES, 10¢ QUARTERS, 5¢ SOLD IN CANS ONLY

GET THE BEST

When you are about to buy a Sewing Machine do not be deceived by alluring advertisements and be led to think you can get the best made, finest finished and

Most Popular

for a mere song. See to it that you buy from reliable manufacturers that have gained a reputation by honest and square dealing, you will then get a Sewing Machine that is noted the world over for its durability. You want the one that is easiest to manage and is

Light Running

There is none in the world that can equal in mechanical construction, durability of working parts, fineness of finish, beauty in appearance, or has as many improvements as this

NEW HOME

It has Automatic Tension, Double Feed, alike on both sides of needle (patented), no other has it. New stand (patented) driving wheel hinged on an adjustable center, thus reducing friction to a minimum.

WRITE FOR CIRCULARS.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO. CHICAGO, ILL. BOSTON, MASS. ST. LOUIS, MO. PHILADELPHIA, PA. NEW YORK, N.Y. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. ATLANTA, GA. FOR SALE BY

D. S. Ewing, Gen'l Agent, 1127 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa.

WHAT IRON WILL DO.

IS NATURE'S OWN TONIC. Stimulates the appetite, induces refreshing sleep, gives vital strength to nursing mothers.

Checks wasting diseases, stops and cures chronic consumption. Increases strength and flesh. MAKES RED, RICH BLOOD. Promotes healthy lung tissue. Will give the pale and puny the rosy cheeks of youth. CURES ALL FEMALE COMPLAINTS. Makes strong men and women of weaklings.

GILMORE'S IRON TONIC PILLS

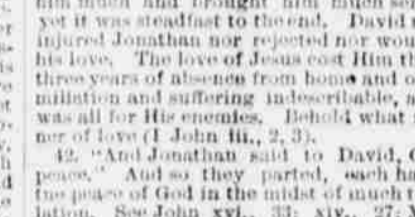
Care all Wasting Diseases and their consequences, BRONCHITIS, CONSUMPTION, &c.

They are neither styptic nor astringent and have no constricting effect on the contents of the stomach or intestines, consequently do not hurt the teeth or cause constipation or diarrhea, as do the usual forms of Iron. They are pure, palatable, and free. If not kept by your druggist, address

GILMORE & CO., CINCINNATI, O.

For sale in Middleburgh, Pa., by T. B. McWilliams.

What Nerve Berries have done for others they will do for you.



VIGOR OF MEN

Easily, Quickly and Permanently Restored. A positive cure for all Weaknesses, Nervousness, Debility, and all their train of evils resulting from early errors and later excesses; the result of overwork, sickness, worry, etc. Develops and gives tone and strength to the sexual organs. Stops unnatural losses or nightly emissions caused by youthful errors or excessive use of tobacco, opium and liquor, which lead to consumption and insanity. Their use shows immediate improvement. Insist upon having the genuine NERVE BERRIES, no other. Convenient to carry in vest pocket. Price, \$1.00 per box, six boxes, one full treatment, \$5.00. Guaranteed to cure any case. If not kept by your druggist we will send them by mail, upon receipt of price, in plain wrapper. Pamphlet free. Address mail orders to AMERICAN MEDICAL CO., CINCINNATI, O.

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

R-I-P-A-N-S The modern standard Family Medicine: Cures the common every-day ills of humanity. Cruel Woman. He deeply loved the learned eddres To whom loved pretty verses he directed; But then she blighted all his happiness, For both his suit and verses she rejected!—Detroit Free Press.