

Short Sermons
FOR A
Sunday Half-Hour

Theme:

LIFE.

BY DR. ALBERT FITCH.

Text—Enter ye in at the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction; and many there are who enter by it. How narrow is the gate and straight is the way which leadeth to life, and few there are who find it.

These are the words of Jesus. They are distinguished by their impressive severity. There are always people who are per verse and discontented, and who take no interest in these words, and are in the habit of rejecting them as absolutely inconsistent with their idea of a Christian life.

You and I are the children of the twentieth century; that is to say, we are an easy-going, pleasure-loving generation, and we receive these words, for the most part, if we receive them at all, with an inner prejudice and a definite irreligion. They carry with them a message that provokes a challenge from our twentieth century civilization; they seem to set forth a reflection on the world from the point of view of the new idea, as against the admirable old idea of a past generation, the deeply rooted institution of human nature. It is no wonder that men balk at this idea, when it seems to be out of harmony with present day twentieth century life.

Stones don't roll up hill. They always take the easy path of rolling down hill; a shot does not leave the gun by the butt end, but goes right out at the mouth of the barrel. It takes the way of easiest resistance. So the Scripture tells us to follow the straight path which leadeth to glory. Some Christians never reach the greatest happiness, because they always follow the lines of least resistance—the lines of no resistance. They are living what they think is the perfect life. Is not that the rule of all human development; the survival of the fittest. The strong man dominates the weak man, and he must give in.

Read your history and see the nations and the men who have fallen because they have followed the paths of least resistance; see where they have ended.

On the other hand, see the men who have succeeded because they followed the straight and narrow path. See our modern commercial life, with its one code of ethics for the multimillionaire and another code of ethics for the poorer man—for you and for me. You can see it in our commercial life to-day, wherever we see men getting together enormous amounts of money; wherever you see men putting pleasure before principle, desire before justice, conquest before character, self before one's neighbors, the things of the world before the glory of God.

Whenever you find these things and find men following the easy path, you find that they come to destruction. They have come to the end they set out to reach. On the other hand, true progress has come only when men have been willing to travel along the straight and narrow path. What is the thing that sustains society to-day? It is the thing we call home. The home is simply a group of people who have made up their minds to lead the straight life. Here the individual member sacrifices all for the sake of the group. The father sacrifices himself for his children. Whenever you see a home where there is discord, there you will see a broken home, a disrupted home, one that ends in divorce; one in which the children are moral bankrupts.

That is the whole foundation of our society; that is where we do good to the greatest number; when men agree to walk in the straight and narrow path under any government whether it be that of a Republic or a monarch. Instead of the easy path principle, along the lines of least resistance, there you have a sturdy people. When men endeavor to set forth their own ideas of government independent of other men, such government is not government at all; it sometimes means anarchy.

Why do we build our hospitals to-day? Because we believe in the new Christian civilization. Why do we take care of our old people in homes for the aged and the sick instead of getting rid of them as they did in Sparta of old, by killing them? Because we are a civilized people. Why do we have reformatories now instead of prison. Because we have learned that by simply turning a key on a man and locking him up apart from his fellow-men, we destroy him and he destroys us. We do it for our own property's safety and for the reform of the individual.

There are many, many men, in our own day who find themselves at the end of four, or three, or even one year, not as good as they were before, to whom money and its pursuit are the main objects in life. Some cannot look their own children in the face or their neighbors, or their God, because they have lost their character. But character costs a great price, and everything is sacrificed to attain it.

SAVED BY A TRICK

I was the only American of my time at the University of Bonn who joined the dueling corps. In the corps was young Baron Steiger, who was considered the best swordsman at the university.

Toward the end of the term I had the good luck to be pitted against Baron Steiger when he had been drinking and got the better of him. This gave me some renown and made Steiger my bitter enemy.

I did not touch a sword again during my stay at the university, and after taking my degree I went to Vienna to see a little of life at that capital. I had letters to some of the best people there, and my associates were almost exclusively Austrian or German. One evening after attending the opera with a party of ladies and gentlemen I invited them to stop with me at a cafe. While we were there who should come, in but Baron Steiger. He passed close to me, not speaking to me, but glaring at me, and as he walked behind my chair he purposely ran against it. I was at the moment raising a glass of wine to my lips, and a part of the wine was spilled on my shirt front. I was angry and, acting on a foolish but natural impulse, threw what remained in the glass in his face.

The moment I had done so I realized that I had likely signed my own death warrant. Steiger would undoubtedly challenge me, and as I had not touched a sword in two years and he had become famous in its use as well as a merciless opponent I must either show the white feather or be disgraced among my Vienna friends or—die.

Steiger apologized for touching my chair, declaring that it was unintentional, and, raising his hat politely, passed on. Not one of my friends but understood what would follow, and the party broke up immediately. I went to my apartments with a young Dr. Koch, with whom I was very intimate. The challenge came before we separated, and I confess I was thrown into a serious mental condition. Since leaving the university Steiger had fought a dozen or more duels and had never spared his man. Dr. Koch told me to think no more about the matter or I would unfit myself to take advantage of what slight chance there was for me; that he had saved a friend of his once under similar circumstances and he would try his plan with me. I placed my case in his hands, turned in and after an hour or so fell asleep.

The next evening after dark Dr. Koch came to me and told me that he had arranged everything and if I would keep my head all would go well with me. I as the challenged party had the right to choose the weapons and the time and place of the meeting. Acting for me, Dr. Koch had chosen words in a dark room. The duel was to take place immediately in a room of a third party. Without giving me time to dwell on these horrible conditions Dr. Koch hurried me to the meeting place, but before entering the rooms in question he took me to another where a gentleman was waiting, to whom I was introduced—"Dr. Seiferth, the most noted oculist in Europe." The two doctors at once began to paint my eyes with a camel's hair brush that had been dipped in some liquid. As soon as they had finished a bandage was clapped over my eyes and kept there for some twenty minutes, when it was taken off, and we went immediately to the rooms in the same building where the meeting was to take place. A few moments later Steiger and I were thrust into the dark room, and the door was closed and locked.

Now, it is impossible to exclude perfectly either light or heat from any apartment. One might as well attempt to form a perfect vacuum. Scientifically speaking, there is no such thing as a perfect absence of everything from any given space. The treatment of the physicians had enabled me to take advantage of what light there was in the room, nearly all of which came through an imperfectly fitted door, under which there was a strip unprotected. Be this as it may, I could distinguish the principal objects in the room, including my enemy. I could not make out his expression, but his figure was quite perceptible, especially his face and hands, which were lighter than the rest. He remained perfectly quiet for awhile when I moved, and, hearing the creaking of my boots, he came toward me. I glided away, this time without making any sound, and in another moment gave him a cut on the hand which forced him to drop his sword. Before he could recover it I pricked him from the other side, which drew him from where the sword had fallen, and then I took it up myself.

"Baron," I said, "you are at my mercy. I have your sword."

"Finish the murder. That's what it is. It certainly is not dueling."

"I have no use for your life. I give it to you. Hello!"

The door was opened, and the party in the adjoining room entered. I had given Steiger an ugly cut on the hand and a slight wound in the fleshy part of his back. These the doctors dressed. Steiger insisted on a renewal of the combat under circumstances that would enable him to take his revenge, but my seconds declared that I would not be permitted to fight longer except in the dark room, whereupon Steiger sulkily declared himself satisfied, and the party dispersed.

As soon as I was alone with the two doctors they charged me, both on my own account and theirs, to keep their part in the matter a secret, since if it became known they would be ruined socially and professionally. I had no desire to publish it.



Milady's Mirror

The one drawback of the visiting hairdresser is that many of the appliances in use in a first class establishment are wanting.

Chief among these appliances is a shampoo board. There are various kinds, but most of them are of metal with a curved space for the back of the neck and grooves on which the hair is laid and from which the water runs into the stationary basin.

With the use of one of these boards the fatigue of leaning over a washstand for a half hour while the hair is washed and rinsed is done away with. One can sit comfortably in a chair with the neck resting on the board and the hair spread over it.

The stout woman who objects to stooping or any one with weakness of heart and shortness of breath likes the board, which can be screwed to any washstand. It is restful and lends added benefit to the scalp treatments.

To Keep Young.

The little unnoticed strains are the ones which tell.

Women should not stand any more than necessary. If they would only remember to sit down whenever they have the chance it would add years to their lives.

For instance, it is not necessary to stand so much while doing housework. Sit down and read while you are waiting for the food to cook. Never pare apples or shell peas standing.

Even ironing may be done in a sitting position if the chair is high enough and has no arms.

Learn to take a few minutes' rest after each exertion, and this apparent loss of time will be to your gain in the long run.

The woman who is on her feet continually is the one who wears herself out and does poor work in the bargain.

It is not lazy to save yourself. It is only wise.

Rules of Sleep.

Those who think most, who do most brain work, require most sleep, and time "saved" from necessary sleep is infallibly destructive of mind, body and estate. Give yourself, your children, your servants—give all that are under you—the fullest amount of sleep they will take by compelling them to go to bed at some regular early hour and rise in the morning the moment they awake and within a fortnight time, with almost the regularity of the rising sun, will unloose the bonds of sleep the moment enough repose has been secured for the wants of the system.

This is the only safe and sufficient rule, and as to the question how much sleep any one requires each must be a rule for himself. Great nature will never fail to write it out to the observer under the regulations just given.

The Latest Massage.

Instead of using hot cloths or steam to get the face into condition for massaging, the latest idea is to use water charged with electricity.

This water is applied through a sponge-like substance at the end of two tubes attached to an electric wire or battery. The instrument is so constructed that surplus moisture is carried off in one of the pipes.

The advocates of this method say there is no danger of too much relaxation of the muscles, as is the case with steam, and the heat is so regulated that there is no danger of scalding the skin, as with hot cloths.

Restoring the Color of Teeth.

Dissolve two ounces of borax in three pints of water. Before quite cold add thereto one teaspoonful of tincture of myrrh and one tablespoonful of spirits of camphor. Bottle and mix for use. One wineglass of the solution added to half a pint of tepid water is sufficient for each application. This solution applied daily preserves and beautifies the teeth, extirpates tartarous adhesion, produces a pearl-like whiteness, arrests decay and induces a healthy action in the gums.

The Roughened Sewing Finger.

The bane of the average sewer or embroiderer is the roughened first finger. This is particularly trying when one is embroidering silks, which catch and roughen easily. To keep the hands in good condition wash them carefully before beginning work and rub off all roughness with a fine pumice stone. Then wash with a little acetic acid, which can be bought at any drug store. If this is not at hand a good cider vinegar answers the same purpose almost as well.

The Mouth.

Perhaps you have never considered the fact that the voice has an influence upon the mouth. When a woman speaks habitually in a loud voice her lips will become ugly. Wash yourself in the glass when you speak and you will notice that hard, rough lines come round your mouth when you speak loudly. Now, by speaking softly these lines will be replaced by soft, pretty curves.

SONDER BOATS
NOW POPULAR.

Yachtsmen Taking to This Class of Sailing Craft.

MANY RACES TO BE HELD.

First Big One of Season Is International Affair to Be Held Off Marblehead, Mass., Aug. 17. Between American and Spanish Yachts.

The sonderclass yacht seems to be growing in popularity. It first came into existence on this side of the Atlantic in 1906, when a series of races was arranged with the German yachtsmen, and since then some forty boats have been built for this class.

It is most popular in eastern waters and has proved successful. Those who are interested in the class do not propose to allow it to die out, and many races are to be held this year. The international races between the American and Spanish sonder boats are scheduled to start off Marblehead, Mass., Aug. 17. On Buzzards bay Sept. 3 there are to be races for the selection of a team to be sent to Kiel for international races in June, 1911.

To those who do not understand what the sonder boat is the following will no doubt prove interesting:

A sonderclass boat was designed to overcome yacht measurement rules and to produce the most boat on the water with the least boat under it—that is to say, with as little water line length and as much overhang as are possible in a racing length of thirty-two feet. In addition to this condition they must be weighed, and their displacement must not be more than 4,635 pounds, nor may they carry more than 550 square feet of sail.

In appearance they are not unlike the sneak box on longer and finer lines, for they have the long spoon bow and the square stern of the famous Jersey ducking boat. They are jib and mainsail rigged, with the forward end of the jib made fast inboard about two or three feet from the bow proper, one of the additional strange features of the boat.

They are flush decked, with a cockpit large enough to hold the crew of three men, the helmsman having to be both an amateur and a native of the country from which the boat hails, according to the rules. The boats are steered with an unusually long tiller. They have fin keels, are built of mahogany or cedar and average around twenty-five feet in length over all.

"SEND ME BACK TO MINORS"

So Requested Blackburne, \$8,500 Shortstop, of White Sox President.

Russell Blackburne, the Chicago Americans' young shortstop, for whom President Charles Comiskey paid \$8,500 last fall, yearns to go back to the minor leagues. Blackburne asked to be returned to the Eastern league, but his request was refused, Comiskey considering him too good a baseball player to lose at the present time.

With only three years' experience in baseball and only a few months' play with a major league team, Blackburne feels that he can be of greater service to the White Sox ultimately by playing the remainder of the season with a minor league team, where he will be kept in the game constantly. He wants to help the White Sox, he says, and believes he can make more rapid strides and be of greater service to the team by a little more experience with the minors.

Blackburne came to the White Sox at the beginning of the present season from the Providence team of the Eastern league. He was a distinct sensation on that club, fielding in a phenomenal manner and batting at a good average. Since coming to the White Sox Blackburne has had a checkered career of successes and reverses.

BRITONS ARE COMING.

Oxford and Cambridge Football Players Will Introduce Game.

Negotiations have been under way for some time for the sending of a combined Oxford-Cambridge varsity team to the United States with a view to re-establishing Rugby football in eastern schools and universities in accordance with the ideas of Theodore Roosevelt expressed to the students at the Cambridge union on May 26. No hindrances are seen now, and it is confidently expected that the team will make the trip.

Frank Gotch Not a Fighter.

Frank Gotch, the world's wrestling champion, who Jim Corbett is trying to foist on the public as the only man who can defeat Jack Johnson, has already taken a whirl at the prize ring game. Several years ago he met Frank Slavin in Alaska. The fight was held in Dawson City, and, according to the stories told by the wrestling champion, his fighting debut was anything but encouraging. Frank Slavin was an old timer even at that time, while Gotch knew little of the rudiments of the game. The result was a knock-out, with Gotch taking the count.

Pitcher Hall Does Standby.

Charlie Hall is Boston's standby in the box. The Californian has great speed and is always ready to be called upon to go to the mound.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, IN PURSUANCE OF ARTICLE XVIII OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Number One.
A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION Proposing an amendment to section twenty-six of article five of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, (if the Senate concur), That the following amendment to section twenty-six of article five of the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:

That section 26 of Article V., which reads as follows: "Section 26. All laws relating to courts shall be general and of uniform operation, and the organization, jurisdiction, and powers of all courts of the same class or grade, so far as regulated by law, and the force and effect of the process and judgments of such courts, shall be uniform; and the General Assembly is hereby prohibited from creating other courts to exercise the powers vested by this Constitution in the judges of the Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts," be amended so that the same shall read as follows:—

Section 26. All laws relating to courts shall be general and of uniform operation, and the organization, jurisdiction, and powers of all courts of the same class or grade, so far as regulated by law, and the force and effect of the process and judgments of such courts, shall be uniform; but, notwithstanding any provisions of this Constitution, the General Assembly shall have full power to establish new courts, from time to time, as the same may be needed in any city or county, and to prescribe the powers and jurisdiction thereof, and to increase the number of judges in any courts now existing or hereafter created, or to reorganize the same, or to vest in other courts the jurisdiction theretofore exercised by courts not of record, and to abolish the same wherever it may be deemed necessary for the orderly and efficient administration of justice.

A true copy of Resolution No. 1.
ROBERT McAFEE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two.
RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so as to eliminate the requirement of payment of taxes as a qualification of the right to vote.

Resolved (if the House of Representatives concur), That the following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:

That section one of article eight be amended, by striking out the fourth numbered paragraph thereof, so that the said section shall read as follows:

Section 1. Every male citizen twenty-one years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections, subject however to such laws requiring and regulating the registration of electors as the General Assembly may enact.

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

Second. He shall have resided in the State one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector or native-born citizen of the State, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months), immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least two months immediately preceding the election.

A true copy of Resolution No. 2.
ROBERT McAFEE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Three.
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so as to consolidate the courts of common pleas of Allegheny County.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section six of article five be amended, by striking out the said section, and inserting in place thereof the following:

Section 6. In the county of Philadelphia all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the district courts and courts of common pleas, subject to such changes as may be made by this Constitution or by law, shall be in Philadelphia vested in five distinct and separate courts of equal and co-ordinate jurisdiction, composed of three judges each. The said courts in Philadelphia shall be designated respectively as the court of common pleas number one, number two, number three, number four, and number five, but the number of said courts may be by law increased, from time to time, and shall be in like manner designated by successive numbers. The number of judges in any of said courts, or in any county where the establishment of an additional court may be authorized by law, may be increased, from time to time, and whenever such increase shall amount in the whole to three, such three judges shall compose a distinct and separate court as aforesaid, which shall be numbered as aforesaid. In Philadelphia all suits shall be instituted in the said courts of common pleas without designating the number of the said court, and the several courts shall distribute and apportion the business among them in such manner as shall be provided by rules of court, and each court, to which any suit shall be thus as-

signed, shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof, subject to change of venue, as shall be provided by law.

In the county of Allegheny all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the several numbered courts of common pleas shall be vested in one court of common pleas, composed of all the judges in commission in said courts. Such jurisdiction and powers shall extend to all proceedings at law and in equity which shall have been instituted in the several numbered courts, and shall be subject to such changes as may be made by law, and subject to change of venue as provided by law. The president judge of said court shall be selected as provided by law. The number of judges in said court may be by law increased from time to time. This amendment shall take effect on the first day of January succeeding its adoption.

A true copy of Resolution No. 3.
ROBERT McAFEE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

A JOINT RESOLUTION
Number Four.

Proposing an amendment to section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Amendment to Article Nine, Section Eight.

Section 2. Amend section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:—

"Section 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation," so as to read as follows:—

Section 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation," so as to read as follows:—

Section 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district, or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, except that any debt or debts hereinafter incurred by the city and county of Philadelphia for the construction and development of subways for transit purposes, or for the construction of wharves and docks, or the reclamation of land to be used in the construction of a system of wharves and docks, as public improvements, owned or to be owned by said city and county of Philadelphia, and which shall yield to the city and county of Philadelphia current net revenue in excess of the interest on said debt or debts and of the annual installments necessary for the cancellation of said debt or debts, may be excluded in ascertaining the power of the city and county of Philadelphia to become otherwise indebted: Provided, That a sinking fund for their cancellation shall be established and maintained.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4.

ROBERT McAFEE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

TWELVE muslin trespass notices for \$1.00; six for seventy-five cents. Name of owner, township and law regarding trespassing printed thereon. CITIZEN office.

SPENCER
The Jeweler
would like to see you if you are in the market for
JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, WATCHES, CLOCKS, DIAMONDS, AND NOVELTIES
"Guaranteed articles only sold."

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF ERIE TRAINS.

Trains leave Union depot at 7.20 a. m. and 3.45 p. m., week days.
Trains arrive Union depot at 1.10 and 6.45 p. m., week days.
Saturday only, Erie and Wyoming arrives at 3.45 p. m. and leaves at 5.50 p. m.
Sunday trains leave 2.48 and arrive at 7.02.