

SUNDAY'S SERMON.

ONE OF DR. T. DEWITT TALMAGE'S WEEKLY DISCOURSES.

Subject. "Home Religion."

Text: "Return to their own home and show how great things God hath done unto them."—Luke vii., 39.

After a fierce and shipwrecking night Christ and His disciples are climbing up the steep... They are at the head of the boat after having rowed some long on the billows...

Well, one would say a house with great wide halls, and antlered deer heads, and parlors with sculpture, and bric-a-brac, and dining hall with easy chairs and plenty of light and engravings of garb on the wall, and sleeping apartments commodious and adorned...

While I speak this morning there is knocking at your front door. If he be not already admitted, one whose locks are wat with the dew...

Every housekeeper needs great grace. If Martha had had more religion she would not have ruffled with such bad temper to so holy Mary in the presence of Christ...

Horrible Cannibalism in India. The fact that there are cannibals by race, tradition and profession at the present day in India is established beyond doubt.

Whole Orchard Stolen. A novel theft has been reported to the Sheriff by a farmer who lives near Stockton, Cal. This farmer came to town recently and left his farm in charge of his young son for the day...

Then we need the religion of Christ to help us in setting a good example. Cowper said of the oak: "Time was when settled on thy leaf a fly could shake thee to the root."

Your children are apt to think that what you do is right. They have no idea of truth but righteousness but yourself. Things which you do knowing at the time to be wrong they take to be right.

conduct more than your teaching makes impression. Your laugh, your frowns, your druse, your wails, your greetings, your goodbyes, your congratulations, your rebukes...

Now I would not have by this the idea given to you that you must ever resolve in the presence of your children. You are not an employer. You are a companion with them. As far as you can, you must walk with them, sit with them, play with them...

Besides that, how are your children ever to become Christians if you yourself are not a Christian? I have noticed that they want their children to do what you do. They are delighted to have us come to their homes...

So it was demonstrated in a police court in Canada, where a mother, her little child in her arms, sat by a table on which her own handkerchiefs lay, and the little babe took up the handkerchiefs and played with them and had gone to sleep without the sorrow of the hour...

How ever worldly and sinful people are, they can be trained to good. How are you going to have them good? Buy them a few good books? Teach them a few excellent catechisms? Bring them to church?

There is contention already among ministers of the gospel as to the manner in which the child should be brought up. Some say that the child should be brought up as a Christian, and some say that the child should be brought up as a heathen.

Again, I remark, we want religion in all our households. There are 10,000 questionnaires sent out in the best regulated household that must be settled. Perhaps the father has one favorite in the family, and the mother another favorite in the family, and there are many questions that need delicate treatment.

Tyranny and arbitrariness. Is it not a pity that there will be a spirit of selfishness and a spirit of forgiveness, and a kindness which will throw its charm over the entire household?

But there will be sorrows that will come to the household. There are but few families that escape the stroke of financial misfortune. Financial misfortune comes to a household more than religious. They break against divine allotments, they curse God for the loss of their fortunes, they withdraw from the world because they cannot hold as high a position in society as they once did, and they fret, and they sorrow, and they die.

But misfortune comes to the Christian household. If religion has fallen away in that home, they stoop gracefully. They say, "There is no fool like the fool who wishes in where angels fear to tread."

"This is right." The father says: "Perhaps money was getting to be my idol. Perhaps I was going to make me a better Christian by putting me through the furnace of tribulation. Beside that, way should I first any-how? He who owneth the cattle on a thousand hills and the oxen in the field and the sheep in the fold, and the fowls of the field, and the wild beasts, and the hawk, and the vulture, most certainly He will take care of me, His child."

But there are hundreds of families represented here this morning where religion has been a bitter grief. There are in your homes the pictures of your departed and things that have no wondrous value of themselves, but you keep them preciously and carefully because hands none out of this touched them.

And to other homes trouble will come. I say it not that you may be foreboding, nor that you may do the unwise thing of taking trouble by the hand, but that you may be ready. We must go on by one. There will be partings in all our households. We must say farewell. We must die. And yet there are triumphant strains that drown these tremulous accents, there are anthems that wield the dirge.

Saints will be the end and the beginning. Safely will the Shepherd lead His sheep. Go home this day and ask the blessing on your household. Do not wait until you become a Christian yourself. This day, then, as you go to your household, for the Bible distinctly to your families that call not upon His name. Open the Bible and read a chapter; that will make you strong. Kneel down and offer the first prayer in your household. It may be a broken petition; it may be only "God bless my father and mother."

Do not retire from this house this morning until you have resolved upon the matter. You will be gone. I will be gone. Your children may forget almost everything about you, but forty years from now in some Sabbath twilight your daughter will be sitting with the family Bible on her lap reading to her children when she will stop, and peculiar solemnity will come to her face, and she will say, "Mother, what makes you cry?" And she will say, "Nothing, only I was thinking that this is the very Bible out of which my father and mother used to read at morning and evening prayer."

All other things about you they may forget. They will train them up for God and heaven. They will not forget that.

When a queen died, her three sons brought an offering to the grave. One son brought gold, another brought silver, but the third son came and laid a stone upon the grave and opened one of his veins and let the blood drop upon his mother's tomb, and all who saw it said it was the greatest demonstration of affection. My friends, what is the grandest gift we can bring to the sepulchre of a Christian ancestor? It is a life consecrated to the God who made us and the Christ who redeemed us. I cannot but believe there are hundreds of parents in this house who have resolved to do their whole duty and that at this moment they are passing into a better life, and having seen the grace of the gospel in this place to-day you are now freely ready to return to your own home and show what great things God has done unto you.

May the Lord God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, be our God and the God of our children forever.

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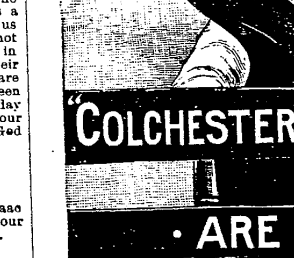
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YOUR ADDRESS will bring "The Self-Improvement Doctor," a 48-page book, "The Secret of Wealth," and "The Art of Living." Agents wanted. J. Orison Knowlton, Jersey City, N. J.

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Unlike the Dutch Process No Alkalies or Other Chemicals are used in the preparation of W. BAKER & CO.'S Breakfast Cocoa which is absolutely pure and soluble. It has more than three times the strength of Cocoa made with Starch, Arrowroot, Sugar, and is far more economical, costing less than one cent a cup when DIGESTED.

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