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Sunday Reading.

So Tired.

Dear Father, I am very tired, Too tired to night to pray, There was so much to weary me, Throughout this weary day. My heavy load of household cares, Has worn out heart and brain, I would I never had to wake, And meet those cares again.

And yet Thy wisdom planned for me, This lowly lot to fill, Giving me nothing grand or great, To be, or to fulfil; Bidding me bear my daily cross, And lift my daily load, Sure that each burden meekly borne, But brings me nearer God.

And I may make of cares and griefs, Fresh stepping stones to Thee, Until I reach a height from whence, They all look less to me, And I may feel Thee closer far, Than any earthly friend, And trust Thy great Almighty heart, To love me to the end.

Dear Father, I can only look, I am too tired to speak, I know Thou wilt not love me less, Because I am so weak. One look of love, one trustful thought, Links heart and soul to Thee, Into Thy keeping I commit,

Life, death, eternity!

EVA J. TRAVERS.

Associational Sermon.

Gospel Fellowship.

PREACHED BEFORE THE N. S. CEN-TRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, AT PUGWASH, ON THE 10TH JULY,

BY REV. M. P. FREEMAN. (Published by request of the Association.)

For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. Phil. i. 5.

The Church to which this Epistle was addressed was the first that was planted in Europe. Under the divine direction Paul was brought to Philippi. One, in the vision of the night, entreated saying "Come over to Macedonia and help us." In olden times the inhabitants of Thasus, an Island in the Ægean Sea, were attracted thither by the gold and silver that was found in that vicinity. The Lord would now, by the instrumentality of his servants, seek what was infinitely more precious. Souls for whom Jesus had died, must be rescued from the overlying mass of error and sin. A woman was the first convert. She opened her house for the preachers, for the Lord had opened her heart to receive the doctrines they proclaimed.

Philip of Macedon had taken possession of this land, and on the site of the old Thasian colony, built a city which was named Philippi in honor of the conqueror. Here Augustus Cæsar afterwards won a great victory over Brutus and Cassius, that decided the fate of the Roman Empire. The Lord Jesus now engages in a conflict with the powers of darkness, to wrest the prey from the mighty, and to constrain multitudes to bow in reverence at his feet. Massive walls shake to their foundation, and the limbs of prisoners are released from their iron manacles. But walls still more defiant give way to the conqueror; and fetters that had held captive souls in hopeless bondage yield at the touch of the mighty Deliwerer: The labors of the Apostle in this city were greatly blessed, notwithstanding the opposition he encountered. A Gospel Church was planted there, that became a comfort and joy to his heart. From his prison in Rome he addresses them in words of tenderness and approval. " My brethren, dearly beloved and longed for my joy and crown." (iv. 1.) "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you-for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."

They had been tested and were approved. They were found true in their allegiance to Christ and to his cause. My theme on this occasion, drawn from the text announced, is

GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP,

I. What is it?

The revised version renders it thus: "for your participation in the gospel, the subversion of the faith. er for your contribution to the gospel."

warding the glad tidings."

The word translated fellowship, in another form is rendered communicate in this epistle "Ye have done well tion. No church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving. but ye only." In Romans xv. 26 it is rendered contribution. "For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints that are at Jerusalem." 2 Cor. ix, 13 the word is translated distribution. "They glorify God . . for your liberal distribution unto them." In Rom. 12.13 the duty of believers is indicated. In the exercise of christian graces they are to be "instant in prayer -distributing to the necessity of saints." From these examples of the use of the word, it is not difficult to determine its signification and scope.

1. In Gospel Fellowship there must be oneness of spirit.

There will be diversities in respect to social position and mental attainments, but in spirit there must be unity.

As there are lineaments common to all the children of the same parents, so it is also in respect to those who are born into Christ's kingdom. They have one common language, they have the same 'blessed hope." The love of Jesus is in all their hearts;—it flows included, 'Ruin by the fall, Redemp- its burdens. A refusal to co-operate surpass others in our efforts. We have gether within its mystic and sacred by the spirit.' To this, I humbly conbonds. They walk together in the ceive, should be added Repentance, body. light as He is in the light, and can say in truth "our fellowship is with one

Of this fellowship we have a beautiful illustration on and after the day of Pentecost, when all that believed were together, and had all things common; - "When they were all of one heart and of one soul,"-" when none which he possessed was his own." (Acts ii, 44; iv, 32.) God's people of every name sustain a relation to each other that nothing can sever. Wherever they may meet they recognize their kinship.

drawn together by common interests and sympathies. Even the nngodly idle, no extra energy or strength to ex- from their relationship to each other. join hand in hand in wickedness. How careful should christians be, and especially those who are united in church stumbling blocks are sources of weak- chosen delegates, in Association and fellowship, to "maintain the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace." The be done for the Master, united persist- effort. Seeing the need of faithful demon of discord was already looking ent work. He is not the greatest who men, called of God and qualified to inwith envious eye upon that holy occupies the highest place of influence, struct the people, and to defend the brotherhood in Philippi, and even at but he who does the most for Christ, truth; looking upon the destitution the very time the apostle wrote, he had according to his ability, in the sphere around them, hearing the appeals that gained a foothold amongst them. Two where God has placed him. sisters were at variance and there was ing up, that threatened the peace of the whole brotherhood. Hence the anxious easnest entreaty, "I exhort Euodia, and I exhort Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord;" and hence his admonition to them all " Fulfil ye mind and heart in carrying out the judgment seems the best adapted to acmy joy, that ye be of the same mind instructions of the Lord? . doing nothing through faction or vain glory, but in lowliness of mind, each counting other better than him-

O! for a Paul or a John to move brethren. amongst our churches, and with apostolical authority to reprove their jealousies, strifes, and divisions; to unite the jarring elements into harmony and peace! O, for the christian brotherhood that realizes the gospel conception of believers walking together in love and fellowship! Brethren let us labor to promote this gospel fellowship-" For in one spirit were we all baptized into one body. (1 Cor. xii. 13.)

own we may be liberal, but not with what belongs to God. His tfuth we must not surrender. With error there this gospel we find the terms of christian we are exhorted to keep.

thus: "For your fellowship in for- world. For the creeds we do not profess | Are you weary of his yoke? Can you heart you will need a spiritual micro- duty is plain-the continuance of our pathy for him who would deny them that your soul is safe, are you content to his ability, to the cause for which the oracles for our instruction, and shall be that ye did communicate with my afflic- all-and open the doors of the church -for universalists, annihilationists, unishape. Christians should have strong convictions, if they would be effective in the work of the Lord-weak minds have weak hands-feeble knees are not fit to stand in the trenches and defend the bulwarks. The traitor to the truth is a traitor to Christ, who would open the door to the enemy. I like a recent utterance of Spurgeon He says "Let us have a full assurance of the truth which we are to preach. I believe most solemnly in dogmatism for myself in holding what I believe with an intense and awful grip." The great preacher owes his success to the intensity of his convictions respecting gospel truth, and to his bold and faithful proclamation of what he sincerely believes.

> There may be fellowship amongst these who do not accept the distinguishing doctrines of the cross, but it is not in the gospel. There must be "unity in the spirit" of truth.

> received by all who would enjoy true Faith, Baptism, Judgment and Eternal Retribution. The words of Jesus, 'Ye must be born again,' 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned,' include all these. In the defence of these and kindred doctrines, our us walk.' (Phil iii. 16.)

in Christian work.

are to be 'fellow-helpers' and 'workers her exalted Head by whose law alone together with Christ.' The church has she is held, and by whose Spirit she Men of kindred pursuits in life are no place for honorary members. She pend in carrying upon her shoulders There is a community of interest. those who will not walk. Drones and Hence their annual gatherings by their

no knowing to what the evil might in name, of churches where a few faith- solemn charge 'Go preach the gospel grow. Unholy rivalries were spring- ful ones are compelled to bear the bur- to every creature,' and urged by the that expect their ministers to do all and by their concern for the glory of the work, while they stand off and God, and the honor of his truth, they criticise and grumble. But who will devise such measures, and recommend show us a church where all are of one such action for the churches as in their

necessary in order to effective work- churches in gospel work, a bringing

any particular affection. They have live without him? Can you die with- scope of more than ordinary power to church organizations is unwise and sinperhaps been of service, and still may out him? Can you endure his frown discern it. The christian who will not ful. But on these points we shall be have their place; but we have less sym- at the judgment seat? Or, if assured cheerfully give his substance according certain so long as we have the living barely to enter heaven, and with a star- | Saviour died, and martyrs bled, for the less crown to mingle with the happy tarians, and errorists of every hue and throng who rejoice in the glad rewards consecrated their lives, is an anomaly, before us in the word, the demand of faithful service rendered to their I might say an impossibility. Such an upon us is most imperative—and if, this Lord on earth? Brethren we ask you one, according to the divine rule cannot day we should prove recreant to our to pray for sinners; would it not also be a christian. The covetous man is duty and quit the field, God would be well to turn your attention to those an idolator and has no inheritance in raise up those to-morrow to do the work who professedly are saints, and pray until the prayer-meeting and the conference are full-until the house of God upon the Sabbath day is fulluntil the fellowship of the gospel is realized that will fill your hearts with to men in the interests of fraternity and truths that distinguish us from others, praise, and heaven with joy.

4. Giving to the cause of God, going forth to work, is necessary to the realization of Gospel Fellowship.

already sufficiently indicated.

obligations to meet. This is a necessity. Meeting houses must be built, must be lighted and warmed. The Sunday school must be sustained; the

But we are required to give for the gospel abroad as well as at home. 'The field is the world.'

persons to form separate churches, but

also an Association of the churches, for

denomination has greatly increased and work. We do not have a Baptist the fostering of feeble churches, the prospered. 'Whereunto we have a'- church for a province or a state, having providing for our infirm ministers, or of them said that ought of the things ready attained by that same rule let the power to control its ministers and the sending out of Foreign missionaries. congregations. No hierarchy compels 3. Gospel Fellowship demands union submission to its decrees. Each out our wishes. Let each do his part, church is independent of dictation or let us trust each other, and walk, and Believers are called to service. They control from any source save that of seeks to be guided. But there is never- it costs? Has it worthy aims? Is it has no storehouse for the supply of the theless, a mutual obligation resulting gospel fellowship? This latter is the ness and disaster. There is work to Conventions for consultation and united are subversive of the truth. come from the perishing in heathen the so-called christian world. But this We hear of churches, that live only lands, and having in their hands the question is not to be decided by the den and heat of the day, of churches divine command, by their love for souls, complish the end proposed. Hence given by such as the learned men ap- one faith, one baptism, one God and The combination of believers is arises a necessary fellowship of the pointed by the King of Holland to Father of us all, who is above all, and and those who refuse to do their share from every quarter the tithes into the Baptists, who were constrained to the glory, dominion and majesty, and blessare not in gospel fellowship with their storehouse, a flowing together of the admission that 'the Baptists may be ing forever.' The church that has most rills of benevolence, to create a reservoir considered the only christian communi- closely conformed to the divine oracles, Where the majority of the church are from which the nations of the earth may ty which has stood since the Apostles; will have the least to give up in order in their places on conference occasions, drink. The necessity for such united and as a christian society, which has to realize that blessed consummation. and the prayer meeting,-(of course we action is apparent. A church, in com- preserved pure the doctrine of the Let our churches strive to realize this must allow that circumstances will arise mon with all, has received the commis- gospel through all ages.' (See Orchard grand ideal. They are not by any to keep some away) - where the majori- sion from the Lord. But how shall Int. xviii.) Apart from the fact that means perfect, but they have an advanty are in their places on the Lord's day she singly and alone send out men and the influence of the Baptist body has tage over every other. In doctrine for the public worship of the Most women to teach the nations? We through all these times been most salu- they have the least to unlearn. Let High, and where those who are absent might point to a few that could support tary in correcting manifold errors, in them seek for greater holiness and are yet with their brethren in spirit, a missionary at home, or in the foreign the maintaining of the authority of the consecration to Christ. Let them value there is fellowship in the gospel, and field. But we all would share in this Holy Scriptures, and in the saving of the honor placed upon them, and prove prosperity and success. But tell me, grand enterprise. If we cannot do many, who, under the influence of their themselves worthy of their grand in-2. Gospel Fellowship involves union you who are seldom in the monthly much we can do a little. There is not creeds, had also lost sight of the neconference, and the social meetings of a church however feeble and poor that cessity of the new birth, and personal Agreement in all things is impossible the church,—you who, instead of being may not participate in the work, by the piety. Apart from all these admissions sopher were accustomed on a certain nor is it to be desired, but there are helpers in the gospel, are hindrances combination now effected, and no indi- and considerations, and many others we day to give him presents. After gold, grand distinguishing truths that must and stumbling blocks in the way of vidual-no church, realizing the nature might name, we must seek for an silver, robes, and food had been offered, be held without abatement. With our others-are you in gospel fellowship of the divine requirement and the answer from the only authoritative one approached and said, 'O Solon, with your brothren? 'You did run obligation to obedience, can deny their standard of appeal that God has given I am poor, I have nothing to give thee, well,' you promised fair. Who did obligation to co-operate with others. to man. Nothing can justify our exist- but yet I will give thee something hinder you? What hath turned you As to fellowship, in the case of refusal ence if we cannot abide this test. If better than all these have given, I give can be no compromise. The church is aside? These Philippians from the first there can be none. The confession of unscriptural in our faith and practice thee myself.' The believer yields him-"set for the desence of the gospel." In day of their conversion till the time the it is a falsehood, as real, if not as gross, we should as a matter of duty cease to self up to Jesus. Then has he fellowapostle wrote, in the midst of opposi- as the lie of Ananias and Sapphira who exist; if the New Testament does not ship with the Father and with his Son unity-it is the unity of the Spirit that | tions and trials you never knew, re- pretended to have given their property | require a converted church member- Jesus Christ. Then he is ready to take mained faithful to their profession. to the Lord when they had withheld a ship; if it teaches that the infant child- the yoke of service-to unite himself We may love those whom we cannot Why my brethren, I would speak ten- portion. I have heard of one who ren of believing, or of unbelieving with the people of God, and with glad-"For your fellowship in respect to the fellowship in the church. Even be- derly-(I do it sadly), why do you suf- boasted that, for a term of years, his parents, are to be admitted into the ness to associate himself with them in gospel." and in a foot note adds, or lievers may hold doctrines that tend to fer the ways of Zion to mourn your ab- religion had only cost him a half dollar! church; if it gives any warrant for the every good word and work. sence. Why do you discourage the What a miserable shrivelled specimen belief that baptism is aught else than Some would broaden the church and hearts of the few who bear alone the of a christian such a one must be! If the immersion of believers into the ippians, upon every remembrance of Coneybear and Howson renders it erase the lines that divide it from the purden? Has Jesus proved unfaithful? there is anything Christ like in such a name of the sacred Trinity; then our you, making request, joy for your

advancement of which the holiest have Corinthians were exhorted not 'to keep unworthy. company, no not to eat.'

which hopes thereby to increase its in any other course. numbers. Such are doing what the That the word implies this has been rest are aiming at, only in a less honorable way-to forward their own denom-Every church has its precuniary inational work. That there is activity much to Christ; what we are as a peo- the dust. ple, we owe to his word. The truth pastor must be supported, so that free by which we have been enlightened we to the work of the ministry. Every 'Freely ye have received, freely give,' fellowship? I reply, in the creed Dr. one coming into the church should, in and we should seek to communicate Ryland's three R's must certainly be due proportion, share in the bearing of with all possible diligence. Let us sufficient cause for expulsion from the greatest reason to expect ultimate success, and the approval of the Master. The Convention has suggested to us can unite our resources. This plan There is not only an association of recognizes the unity of work. The different spheres of our benevolent operations, are but the parts of a whole, the better carrying on of the Lord's whether it be the support of the College, We have men tried and true to carry work together in love.

5. An inquiry here arises,

Is our church fellowship worth what grand point to be decided.

Persons may combine together for some wicked purpose, or they may unite for the dissemination of doctrines that

Are we, then, I speak for Baptists, in the gospel order, and fellowship. Can

We know sufficiently well the views entertained respecting us throughout,

popular verdict.

constrained by the higher considerations to continue on in the good old way set the kingdom of God, and with such the for which we had rendered ourselves

If then we can show good reason for This is an age of intense sectarian our existence as a denomination, we are zeal. Some make their frantic appeals bound to maintain and defend those union; but we understand what that in order to the realizing of gospel means, as the watchword of a sect, fellowship. We cannot justify ourselves

We have nothing to say about other religious bodies. They can take care of themselves, without our help. We cannot expect to receive their assistance. and zeal all around us, is not a matter of They do not offer it. It is for us to be grief, but we should not lag in the race. true to our profession, and to see that and preserved from decay. The church We shall lose if we slumber. We owe the sacred flag we bear never trails in

Brethren, you are set for the desence of the gospel. The truth has made Do you ask what doctrines are to be from worldly cares he may give himself owe to the world; for the Master says, you free. It is your daily comfort and joy. You believe it to be that which transforms the affections, cures the wild disorder of sin, and saves from eternal woe. The gospel is the power of God from one to another, and binds all to- tion by Christ Jesus, and Regeneration with the brethren may be regarded as good motives to urge us onward, and the unto salvation. This gospel you have received, and you are required to announce it to mankind. The cost is not to be taken into the account. The the best possible method by which we command must be obeyed, whatever the sacrifice may be. There is I suppose no body of chris-

tians, so well agreed in doctrinal belief, as the so called Baptist denominations Untrammelled by creeds they recognize the sole authority of the scriptures. The Word of God unites them, as it will eventually bring all true believers together, when renouncing whatever of their standards is human they shall come with simple mind and heart to be guided alone by what God has revealed and enforced in his Holy Word. This day will most assuredly dawn upon the earth, when, as the devoted Cookman said from the watch towers of Asia, once the land of lords many * * there shall roll up the grateful chorus, one Lord, when from watch towers of Europe, distracted by divisions in the faith there shall roll up the grateful chorus, 'one Faith,' when from the watch towers of our own America, now torn we justify our denominational position? by controversies respecting the initiatory rite into the visible church of our Lord Jesus, there shall roll forth the inspiring chorus, 'One baptism,' when from the watch towers of neglected and despised Africa, there shall roll Apart from the fact that our rise forth the chorus, 'One God and Father cannot be traced from any period sub- of all,' when the sacramental hosts sequent to the apostolic age; apart trom | scattered all over the face of the earth the testimony given by such historians shall spring to their feet, and seizing as Mosheim of the Lutheran Church the harp of thanksgiving, they shall who affirmed that our origin is hid in join in the chorus, that shall be resthe remote depths of antiquity; or that ponded to by the angels, 'One Lord, investigate the claims of the Dutch through all, and in us all, to whom be

The pupils of a certain Greek philo-

'I thank my God,' said Paul, Phil-

To Dea WOU that pou