

Sunday Reading

The Honey of God's Word.

A singular incident in the old H-brew history illustrates the sweetness and light that flow from God's blessed Word. Jonathan was leading the army of Israel in pursuit of the Philistines, and King Saul had forbidden the troops to taste of food during the march. When the troops reached a forest where the bees had laid up their abundant stores several honeycombs were found lying upon the earth. Jonathan—not having heard of the royal edict—put forth the rod in his hand and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put it to his mouth, and his eyes were enlightened. Refreshment came to his hungry frame and enlightenment to his eyes, which were dim with faintness and fatigue.

What a beautiful parable this incident furnishes to set forth one of the manifold blessings of God's Word! In the superbly sublime nineteenth Psalm David pronounces that word to be sweeter than honey and the droppings of the honeycomb. In the same passage he declares that it is pure, enlightening the eyes. Again the psalmist says: 'The entrance of thy word giveth light.' It is not the careless reading or the listless hearing of the book, but its entrance into the soul, which produces this inward illumination. There is a sadly increasing ignorance of the Scriptures; when read publicly in the sanctuary thousands give but little heed. They do not take the vitalizing, heaven sent truth into their souls as Jonathan took the honey into his system.

But when the Word is partaken of hungrily, and the Holy Spirit accompanies it, there is a revelation made to the heart like that which the poor blind boy had after the operation of a skillful oculist. His mother led him out-of-doors, and taking off the bandages, gave him his first view of sunshine and sky and flowers. 'Oh, mother, he exclaimed, 'why did you never tell me it was so beautiful? The tears started as she replied, 'I tried to tell you, dear; but you could not understand me.' So the spiritual eyesight must be opened in order that the spiritual beauty and wisdom and glory of the divine Word may be discovered. Many a poor sinner has never found out what a glorious Gospel our Gospel is, until he has swallowed the honey for himself. Dr. Horace Bushnell voiced the experiences of many of us when he said, 'My experience is that the Bible is when I am dull. When I am really alive and set in upon the text a tidal pressure of living affinities, it opens, it multiplies discoveries and reveals depths even faster than I can note them. The worldly spirit shuts the Bible; the Spirit of God makes it a fire, flaming out all meanings and glorious truths.'

The most growing Christian never outgrows his Bible; in that exhaustless jewel mine every stroke of the mattock reveals new nuggets of gold and fresh diamonds.

Even as a mental discipline there is no book like God's book. Nothing else so sinews up the intellect, so clarifies the perception, so enlarges the views, so purifies the taste, so quickens the imagination, strengthens the understanding, and educates the whole man. The humblest day laborer who saturates his mind with this celestial schoolbook becomes a superior man to his comrades—not merely a purer man, but a clearer headed man. It was the feeding on this honey dropping from heaven which gave to the Puritans their wonderful sagacity as well as their unconquerable loyalty to the right. The secret of the superiority of the old-fashioned Scottish peasantry was found in that 'big ha' Bible' which Burns described as the daily companion at every ingle-side. Simply as an educator the Scriptures ought to be read in everyhouse, and there ought to be a chair of Bible instruction in every college. As the honey strewed the forests for Jonathan and his soldiers to feed upon, so the loving Lord has sent down his Word for all hungering humanity high or humble; as the sunlight was made for all eyes, this book was made for all hearts.

Ab, there is many a one among my readers who can testify how the precious honey from heaven brought light and joy to his eyes when dimmed with sorrow! The exceeding rich and infallible promises were not only sweet, they were illuminating. They lighted up the valley of the shadow of death; they showed how crosses can be turned into crowns, and how losses can brighten into glorious gains. When I am in a sick room I almost always dip my rod into the honeycomb of the fourteenth chapter of John. It brings the Master there with his word of infinite comfort. One of my noblest Sunday school teachers so fed on this divine honey that on her dying bed she said, 'My path through the

Children should always increase in weight. Not to grow, not to increase in flesh, belongs to old age.

Present and future health demands that this increase in weight should be steady and never failing.

To delicate children, Scott's Emulsion brings richer blood and firmer flesh. Better color comes to the cheeks and stronger muscles to the limbs. The gain in weight is substantial; it comes to stay.

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valley is long, but 'tis bright all the way.' Nothing opens the sinner's eyes to see himself and to see the Saviour of sinners like the simple Word. The Bible is a book to reveal iniquity in the secret parts. If a young man will dip his rod into this warning, 'Look not upon the wine when it is red,' he may discover that there is a nest of adders in the glass! If the skeptic and the scoffer can be induced to taste some of that honey which Christ gave to Nicodemus, he may find hell a tremendous reality to be shunned and heaven a glorious reality to be gained.

"The Wrath of God."

It appears strange that when the expression "the wrath of God," as aimed against sin, appears so often in the Scriptures, we so seldom hear it from the pulpit. When John came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, the burden of his message was, 'Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.' And to the Pharisees and Sadducees he said, 'Who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?'

The Gospel, in his apprehension, was not merely a dispensation of love and mercy, but of terrific judgment. And, therefore, in depicting the object of the Great Messiah in coming into the world, and the results of that coming, not a word is recorded in his preaching that he had come to forgive sin, but the message was only one of judgment, and the necessity of repentance in order to escape it. His only intimation was that he was ushering in a dispensation thorough and searching and fearful—'Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.'

In accordance with this, the expression 'the wrath of God' as directed against sin is used in the Bible no less than one hundred and twenty six times, as any one may readily see by consulting a concordance; often times of course, meaning by it only the infliction of temporal judgments; but oftentimes, also, judgments in the future world, e. g., 'We shall be saved from wrath through him.' 'Jesus, who delivered us from the wrath to come.' 'But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath, and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.' But how seldom do we now hear the expression used in the pulpit or indeed anything approaching it!

A very prominent and influential Congregational pastor closed one of his recently published volumes with this sentence: 'The one far off event to which every man and all men shall have reached the stature of the fullness of Christ. This is Universalism out and out, and yet it passes without censure.'

For several years past it has been the privilege of the writer to listen to the ministers of several denominations, at least three—the Presbyterian, the Congregational and the Baptist—and in five different communities besides Brooklyn, one a city of nearly 100,000 population, and in not a single instance has he heard the expression of the caption used in the pulpit, nor anything implying it, or approaching to it; and in not a single instance has the doctrine of the endless punishment of the wicked been insisted on. From these facts, and others which might be mentioned, he has come to believe that the doctrine that the wrath of God against the wicked and his determination to visit those who die in impenitence with his eternal displeasure, as well as to banish them externally from his presence, saying to them at the final judgment, 'Depart from me, ye cursed,' has been almost entirely eliminated from the preaching of the present day. He is disposed also, from this fact, to raise the vital question whether the pulpit has not, in this respect, departed from the teachings of the Master, as well as from the plain statements of the inspired Word generally; and whether, on

his account, we must not look forward to a corresponding looseness in the principles and practice of the entire evangelical Church. For the question, What is the proper penalty of sin in the perfect moral government of God? is vital and fundamental; and any looseness at that point endangers the stability of the entire edifice.

A Good Vacation.

Sometimes we hear a man say boastfully 'I have never taken a vacation in my life'; but we do not think this is anything to be particularly proud of. No man or woman either, who has the right views of life, wants to shirk work or be an idler. Work is a blessing to mankind, and while we are here upon earth we must do our share of it but an occasional rest has Christ's sanction and aids in recruiting body and mind. We have only to look at the forces of the men and women who have gone 'apart to rest awhile' for the best argument in favor of vacation. The man who takes no vacation may gain the reputation of untiring industry, but he will defeat his purpose of proving the benefits of perpetual grind by the sudden snapping of overwrought brain or muscles.

It is the toiler alone who fully understands and appreciates the enjoyment of a vacation. The luxurious idler who lives at continual ease, and who may have every wish and longing gratified, cannot feel the pleased and eager anticipation of the one who, having labored hard and faithfully, looks forward to a period of rest and recuperation. Rest is sweet to him, because it gives freedom for awhile from every-day care and worry, and the opportunity to gather new forces for the rest of the year. Nature enforces the command of renewal and recreation all around us and we may well learn the lesson of rest which she teaches.

A few weeks of recreation in the mountains or by the sea put new life into one, and draw the right hearted into closer fellowship with Christ. Who can gaze morning after morning upon the wonders and beauties of nature without being lifted up to Nature's God, and finding in him the true source of joy and delight? A vacation rightly improved will not only fit us for better work when we return home, but will leave behind a pleasant remembrance with those with whom we may sojourn. If we have had Christ as an ever present companion, we cannot fail to brighten the lives of those around us, and thus while resting ourselves we may have helped and encouraged some other toiling brother or sister. It may not be the privilege of every toiler to seek rest and change among the green pastures and beside the still waters of the country, but there is ever the Sabbath, God's own appointed rest day, and to those who may be denied the pleasure of a prolonged outing, and remember to 'keep it holy,' it will be full of tranquillity and grace, and they will come back at its close into the world of toil and labor refreshed and filled with a peace which passeth understanding.—Lina J. Walker.

Providential.

We often read in the papers accounts of men and women who take pills and powders in the dark, and never read the labels on medicine bottles. The special providence which so frequently watches over them, intervened in a still more wonderful way in behalf of certain recent travellers in South Africa, and more particularly in behalf of their native friends.

Upon returning to camp, writes one of them, we found that John, the driver had purchased a load of pumpkins, which the native men and women from the Mazoe Valley had brought to the wagon to barter.

At first I was pleased, but when I found that John had traded away about twenty

Hale Old Age.



Sad to see people advanced in years suffering from Backache, Lame Back, Urinary Troubles and Kidney Weakness. A hale old age, free from pains and aches, can only be attained by keeping the kidneys right and the blood pure.

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

benefit the aged by freeing them from pain and correcting all Disorders of the Kidneys and Urinary System.

Mr. Thomas Ash, an old resident of Renfrew, Ont., spoke as follows:

'I am 72 years of age, and have been troubled for a number of years with pains across my back. When I would stoop over it gave agonizing pain to straighten up. I was so bad that I could scarcely walk. I have taken many kinds of medicines, but got nothing to help me. Being recommended to try Doan's Kidney Pills I got a box. After taking three doses I noticed a great change for the better, and I can now get around as smart as a cricket. I can split my own wood and am, in fact, just like a new man.'

pounds of preservative, consisting of alum and arsenic, which he had mistaken for salt, I was filled with dismay.

We knew not the village's whence the natives had come, nor could we explain the mistake, being ignorant of the language; and before my scared mental vision rose piles of dead Mashonas, pestilence, and war on whites, provided there remained enough live Mashonas to make it.

Hence it was that before daylight the next morning we left for the fort. We made no mention of the matter to any one; but a year later, when visiting the Mazoe Valley, I inquired of the natives if there had been any disease among them about the time when the white men arrived in the country.

They said that there had been an epidemic of stomach ache, but fortunately no one had died from it. My conscience was profoundly relieved.

H. M. SPEARS' STORY.

Nova Scotia Cheesemaker's Experience with Backache and Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Says Pain Has Left Him—Can do a Good Day's Work again—Entirely Cured by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

ANTIGONISH, N. S. Dec. 4.—Nova Scotia cheese commands as good a price in the English market as any shipped from Canada. And just as good cheese is made in the town of Antigonish as is manufactured in Nova Scotia. One of the most successful cheesemakers here is Mr. H. M. Spears.

It was thought last winter that Mr. Spears would have to quit work owing to the fact that his back was giving way. Nothing renders a man incapacitated for hard work like that in a cheese factory as backache. But he didn't quit work, and what is more, he is no longer troubled with backache.

Mr. Spears is always willing to give people the facts of his case, and when asked recently to explain his recovery, replied as follows:

'When I came to Nova Scotia two years ago I was so troubled with backache that I began to think I could not attend to business. I am a cheesemaker as you know, and before I left home I told my folks I did not think I could attend to my work unless I got help. After I came to Antigonish, however, I purchased a box of Dodd's Kidney Pills, which benefited me so much that I did my work for the season without trouble.'

'I had so much faith in them,' continued Mr. Spears, 'that I purchased half a dozen boxes last winter for lameness about my body and limbs. There was not a day last winter but I was lame somewhere till I began taking Dodd's Kidney Pills and by the use of three boxes my lameness has all left me, and I am able to do a good day's work. I recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to anyone troubled with backache or lameness in any way. I would not be without them.'

THE DOCTOR'S BILLS.

A Man Whose Business It is to Make Patients Pay Promptly.

There was nothing remarkable about the appearance of the man. Nevertheless one of the party felt himself called upon to say that he probably had the most curious job of anybody in the city. 'He's a business manager for doctors,' he explained.

'There's nothing new in that,' was the retort of another member of the party. 'I know of a number of physicians and dentists who pay a certain sum each month to have their bills made out. The man so employed goes to their offices for a day or two, writes up their books, makes out their bills and mails them. Sometimes three or four doctors having offices in the same building will employ one man among them for this purpose. Members of these professions are notoriously poor business men and some of them lose about half they make owing to that fact.'

'But this man,' persisted the first speaker, 'does even more than that. He has taken up that idea and carried it to its logical conclusion. He has an office of his own and all bills are payable at that office. He takes the books of his clients to his own office makes out the bills and collects the money. Of course he has to be a man of standing, in whom the professional man he serves place confidence, but he is all of that and he does just the work a physician needs to have done. For some reason a doctor's bill is the very last one that most men pay. The average citizen will pay his grocer or his butcher or any other tradesman with reasonable promptness, but will let his doctor wait. I don't know why this should be so, but it is. Perhaps it is due to the fact that the doctor has been in the habit of letting his bills run. He sends them out, but he doesn't follow them up. If a bill sent out by a business house doesn't receive attention within a reasonable time a duplicate is mailed, and if that is ignored a collector calls on the debtor to remind him that it is time to pay up. That is regarded as business and no exception is taken to it. If the debtor doesn't like to have a call from the collector he knows he can avoid it by paying the bill when he first receives it. The doctor's account, however does not receive any such attention ordinarily. If the doctor is busy and under-

takes to look after his financial affairs himself it may be two or even three months before a duplicated statement is mailed. And by that time it has come pretty close to becoming a bad debt unless put into the hands of a lawyer. It's the old bill that one doesn't like to pay. Every business man realizes that.

'Now this young man of whom I am speaking simply conducts the financial part of the doctor's business on business principles. He does just as much as a merchant would do and no more. The first bill is followed by another, and if that receives no attention he goes out as a collector and presents the third in person. But, he says, the mere fact of the bills being sent out on time and followed up with reasonable promptness, sometimes with a courteous letter requesting that they receive early attention, has had a wonderful effect in increasing the number that are paid promptly, for, after all, the doctors are largely responsible for their own trouble in getting pay for their services. The young man is not a lawyer and he never sees for the money. He does not pose as a bad debt collector, never writes threatening letters and never resorts to bulldozing tactics. Yet, as I say, he has been most successful, and has proved himself worth far more to his clients than they have to pay for having their business affairs methodically conducted. After he is through, if he has failed to get the money, it rests with the doctor to decide whether he wants the bill put into the hands of a lawyer, and he has the further satisfaction of finding out in a much shorter time than ever before just what bad debts he has on his books.'

'Of course every doctor has some charity patients and some others that, for one reason or another, he does not want pressed, and these are indicated on the books when they are turned over to the professional business manager. The doctor still controls his own business, but he has the satisfaction of knowing that details which have been neglected previously are now receiving the same attention that they would in a large commercial house.'

Pickpocket Piggott's Rise.

'Jack' Piggott, the noted pickpocket, used to tell a funny story about the difficulty he had in picking the pocket of a fashionably dressed woman who was looking in at the window of Strive's jewelry store. It illustrates the hardships that the light-fingered gentry are forced to endure in the pursuit of their of their profession.

It was a cold winter evening and the lady on whose purse Piggott had designs stood looking at the holiday finery so temptingly displayed. Piggott said that he tried all arts known to his craft for the extraction of the wallet, but all in vain, until as a last resort, he fished a toothpick from his pocket, and reaching around, tickled the lady's ear. Instinctively she raised her hand to brush away the invading insect or whatever it might be, and in doing so let go of her pocketbook that she was carrying in the pocket of her coat. It was only an instant but it was long enough for the expert pickpocket to get in his work, and when she put her hand back her money was gone, and in the crowd around her she could not identify the pale faced, fashionably dressed young man at her side as the person who had robbed her, and if she had accused him there would have been no proof against him, as the swag was at once passed to a pal who stood ready to receive it and run.

Catarrh.

Statistics prove that 97 per cent of our population is affected with some form of Catarrh, but since Catarrhoxone, the new medicated air treatment for Catarrh and kindred diseases, has been introduced this percentage has decreased. Catarrhoxone never fails to cure Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma and Hay Fever, and is warranted to cure the most chronic cases of these diseases, even after all else has failed. It cures by inhalation. No danger, no risk, pleasant to use. For sale at all druggists or direct by mail, price \$100. For trial outfit send 10c in stamps to N. C. POLSON & CO., Box 607, Kingston, Ont.

A New York housemaid has invoked the aid of the law to help her to recover the \$482 which she has paid out to a fortune teller in order to secure a husband. If at the outset, she had advertised in some matrimonial paper that she wanted a husband she could doubtless have found some man without spending all her earnings on a fortune teller. All of which shows that it pays to advertise.

FROM ALL OVER CANADA come letters telling us of the great benefits derived from the use of The D & L. Menthol Plasters in cases of neuralgia, rheumatism, lame back, etc. Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd., manufacturers.

The Puritan—'Is it not monstrous that a man should be put in the stocks for obeying his conscience?'

The Cavalier—'In sooth, it is! Most men who are put in the stocks manage to have some fun before they get there.'

CROUPS, COUGHS AND COLDS are all quickly cured by Pny-Pectoral. It lessens the cough almost instantly, and cures readily the most obstinate cold. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.