

me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her." Jer. 12:9.

4. Men become famous for many things, but it is rare to hear of one who achieves more than local fame for his ability to chop wood. David refers to a man, however, "who was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees." Ps. 74:5.

5. Since the beginning of the war we have become very familiar with the expression "artillery barrage." Weapons of 1944 A. D. and 1062 B. C. are quite different, but it seems that Jonathan had his personal artillery. Read 1 Sam. 20:40.

6. A word or statement twice repeated indicates great emphasis and commands our attention. Jeremiah was so concerned that the people attend to God's commands that he repeated a word not twice, but three times in succession: "O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord."—Jer. 22:29.

7. It is not uncommon for people today to accept the parts of the Bible that please them, and to reject the rest. Jehoiakim, King of Judah, on hearing the scripture read to him from the sacred roll, "cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth." Jer. 36:23.

W. H. M.

### WINGS OF COURAGE

Give me the wings of courage, Lord,

To scale the utmost peak

Of difficulties, mountain high,

Let me be strong, not weak;

When from its highest summit there

I view each trial and test,

They are so small I feel no fear,

Above them I find rest.

—Selected

### THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

#### A SENSE OF SHAME

Rev. H. M. Kimball\*

The most immediate effect of Adam's fall was the loss of his innocent state, to be superseded by a sense of shame. The last thing said of the holy pair prior to their sin, was: "They were unashamed." The first thing related of them after the fall was the fact that their eyes were opened and they were afraid or ashamed, and sought to hide themselves from God, being seized with a strong sense of guilt. Thus we see that in spite of the fearful state of sin the human family has fallen into, God in His mercy has not left man in a hopeless condition, but has given him a conscience that, when enlightened by the truth, produces a painful feeling of guilt and a strong sense of shame and remorse. This acts as a powerful incentive to seek relief through the saving power of the Gospel.

It may be remarked here that this sense of sin and shame is the only true motive in seeking salvation. Indeed, no other motive is spirit-born. Multitudes are religious and identified with the church by membership, attendance, etc., but they are actuated to these religious activities by fear of hell or desire for heaven, without any real desire to be saved from sin. They want to go to heaven and escape hell, which is natural, but they don't want salvation from sin here and now.

The soul that is truly awakened by the Spirit of God feels less of a sense of apprehension of danger, than it does of disgust, loathing and repugnance for sin. This crystallizes into a deep hatred for sin in all

its forms and manifestations. When we have progressed this far, it is not at all difficult to believe to the saving of the soul. This is borne out in Rom. 6:21.

It must appear to all candid observers that the human race has largely lost this sense of shame, otherwise things that are taking place today would not be tolerated. This greatest of all wars, and the events leading up to it, would have been impossible if civilization had been truly Christian and built on Christian principles.

If right standards were being observed, many of the habits and customs of the day would not be so obnoxious and outrageous to decent people. The state of things in society and religious circles is alarming indeed. Many parents have cause to be ashamed because of their lack of fidelity and affection toward each other and their children. Much of the juvenile delinquency that is such a problem today, is attributable to wrong conditions in the home. Here's just one instance: A boy of tender years was found begging late at night in a rough section of a large city. When the father was finally located (presumably at some night club) he stated he couldn't come after the child until morning. The mother, when found, callously said: "We don't want him; he's too much of a problem to us." An extreme case, perhaps, but an indication of the trend of things. Much of the modesty and decorum that used to characterize young people have given way to a type of brazenness that is truly appalling. This is discernible in the dress, conduct and general demeanor. The customs and safeguards that have heretofore risen from the sense of decency and propriety are regarded as puritanical and old-fashioned and a barrier to happiness and self-expression. Many even go so far as to boast of their freedom from moral restraints and ethics. They glory in their shame and mind earthly things. The church has not entirely escaped this condition. Professing Christians are in danger of falling victim to this subtle spirit. How easy it is to get complacent, to become careless in religious matters, unmoved and unfeeling toward the great work of redemption and the salvation of souls. Multitudes in the church are moving in a little circle with themselves as the focal point and have little or no concern outside that which is personal to them. Their lives are barren and unfruitful; they make no determined effort to accomplish anything for the glory of God. The glorious work of promoting revivals and saving lost souls does not appeal to them, nor evoke much enthusiasm in their hearts. They are seldom stirred and quickened by the constraining love of God. They have reason to be ashamed of their neglect and apathy. They will be ashamed in the Judgment day, when their unfaithfulness and carnal indifference is revealed. See Rev. 3:14-22.

Happy is the person who has the sense of shame properly developed, who is ashamed of that which is corrupting and base and ungodly, but unashamed of the things pertaining to Christ and righteousness. Jesus said that if we are ashamed of Him and His words in this adulterous and sinful generation, He will be ashamed of us before the Father and the holy angels. The apostle said, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." We are exhorted not to be ashamed before Him at His coming. We are not to be ashamed if we suffer

as a Christian but we are to glorify God on this behalf. We can be workmen not needing to be ashamed, "rightly dividing the Word of truth."

Finally, if we measure up to God's standard and possess a true sense of shame, God will not be ashamed to be called our God.—Heb. 11:16.

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### THE INCOMPARABLE CHRIST

He came from the bosom of the Father to the bosom of a woman. He put on humanity that we might put on Divinity. He became Son of man that we might become sons of God. He came from Heaven, where the rivers never freeze, winds never blow, frosts never chill the air, flowers never fade. They never phone for a doctor, for there no one is ever sick. There are no undertakers and no graveyards, for no one ever dies—no one is ever buried.

He was born contrary to the laws of nature, lived in poverty, reared in obscurity; only once crossed the boundary of the land, in childhood. He had no wealth nor influence, and had neither training nor education. His relatives were inconspicuous and uninfluential.

In infancy He startled a king; in boyhood He puzzled the doctors; in manhood, ruled the course of nature. He healed the multitudes without medicine, and made no charge for His services. He never wrote a book, yet not all the libraries of the country could hold the books that could be written about Him.

He never wrote a song, yet He has furnished the theme of more songs than all songwriters combined. He never founded a college, yet all the schools together cannot boast of as many students as He has. He never practiced medicine, yet He has healed more broken hearts than the doctors, and broken bodies.

He never marshalled an army, drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun, yet no leader ever made more volunteers, who have under His orders, made rebels stack arms or surrender without a shot being fired.

He is the Star of Astronomy, the Rock of Geology, the Lion and the Lamb of Zoology, the Harmonizer of all discords, and the Healer of all diseases. Great men have come and gone, yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him, Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him, the grave could not hold Him.

He laid aside His purple robe for a peasant's gown. He was rich, yet for our sake He became poor. How poor? Ask Mary! Ask the Wise Men! He slept in another's manger. He cruised the lake in another's boat. He rode on another's ass. He was buried in another man's tomb. All failed, but He never.

The ever perfect One—He is the Chief among ten thousand. He is altogether lovely.—Author Unknown.

### SENTENCE SERMONS

A smothered emotion soon ceases to need smothering.

The church needs all of us but can spare any of us.

The man who says it cannot be done is usually interrupted by someone doing it.

When you absent yourself from the services you vote for the devil.

God needs workers, not a wrecking crew.

You have a right to your opinion but that does not mean that your opinion is right.