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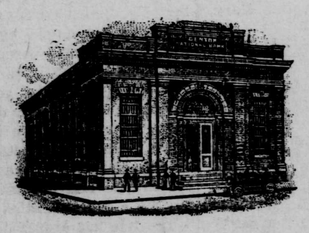

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REV. ZEIGLER PREACHES SERMON ON THE HOME

(Continued from Page 1)

take." Each home ought to have two bears: The "bear" of Galatians 6:2 and the "forbear" of Ephesians 4:2 and Colossians 3:13. It should be born in mind also what Paul says about this relationship. He says, (Ephesians 5:22) "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands." He could with equal propriety have said, "husbands submit yourselves to your own wives."

The ideal condition prevails where love is the impelling motive for every act and where all things are done harmoniously and in perfect agreement.

No home is complete that is childless. The home is the legitimate heritage of childhood, and that home is thrice blessed that is blessed by children. It is decreed by God and nature that children should be born unto man and woman who have united in wedlock. It is in the realization of this fact that one of old (Psalm 127:3) said, "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." And with the coming of children into the home there come tremenduous responsibilities and possibilities also.

The matter of discipline in the home is greatly misunderstood and abused. The opinion is current that no one has any rights in the home but the parents. This is a mistake. Parents do have certain inalienable rights. They have a right to be loved and respected, to give counsel and to be obeyed. We need a reign of "parental authority." Children are not capable of dictating. Even a naughty kitten is taught to have respect for its mother. If it is not subject to its parent, it gets a cuff about the ears and is sent scampering into a corner.

But children, also, have certain rights. They have a right first of all to be welcomed. It s one of the greatest tragedies between the cradle and the grave for the child not to be wanted. They have a right also to be heard, and understood. They need sympathy, answers to their questions, solutions for their problems. They have a right to be instructed. Parents should be interested in the children's sports, reading, etc. The child should be given facts about himself and herself. Perfect confidence should exist between parents and children. They should be chums.

Lastly, I should mention that children have a right to be taught the fear of God.

Now where there is not a proper functioning of both children and parents within their rights, there are several consequent alternatives for children at least. First of these is an abnormal social, physical and mental development. There is an ignorance about vital and necessary things even, that is pathetic. From here there is an easy descent through discouragement and the disgracing of home and parents to the reprobate and incorrigible and outcast.

So far as husband and wife are concerned, there has been no greater factor in wrecking multitudes of homes than the violation of the marriage vow. The marriage vow can be kept sacred only as each is true to the other and as each lives for the other.

Duties and obligations in the home become a pleasure where Jesus is a constant guest.

II—The Home and Society

The quality of society depends upon the quality of our homes. Society owes its purity and progress to the homes with lofty and holy ideals. It likewise owes much of its discontent and degeneracy to the broken and fallen homes. Every home and every member in it contributes to the sum total of human progress and happiness or of its woe and misery.

Somebody must be statesman, educators, financiers, business men, doctors, lawyers, etc. Somebody must help keep the ranks of thieves and thugs filled up, and bolshevists, human leeches, and moral lepers! There will always be the dishonest, the impure and the untrue. But it must not be you.

The home counts for a great deal on one side or the other. It is a matter of right attitude, right principle, and right training in the home. There is double credit due the child that turns out better than his or her father and mother. Jesus Christ is the "one thing needful" to point out the way.

III—The Home and the Church

Each exists for the other. Parents can do very much toward creating a love in the home for the church. There are two causes for so many children straying away from the church of their parents and never affiliate with it. The one is the discussion of unpleasant church problems from which children of immature judgment receive harmful impressions, and the other is a challenging attitude toward undesirable (?) individuals in the church. These things done in the presence of younger children have very disastrous results often. It breeds a disgust for the church and wrecks faith in human nature and in a general way breeds skeptics.

The church and the home should strive to build together. The training of the church and Sunday school should supplement that of the home Both have a definite and important place in character building. Neither can afford to endanger or destroy the work of the other. One of the deplorable things about our homes is the lack of religious teaching, reading the Bible and prayer. Too much of this is left for the church to do. Parents who let their children go to seed in all kinds of sin and then bring them to the church and expect them to be cured and cleaned up and transformed into angels do the children a great injustice, sadly neglect their duty and give the church often an impossible task. Eight parts of a home with Jesus in it—a home where the Bible is read, and the voice of prayer is heard and two parts church, will make a better boy and girl than two parts Christian home and eight parts church.

The value of parents' example is of immeasurable importance. Every church obligation ought to be above every other. Why should not a child's father and mother be his ideal in church attendance, in giving and praying? Indeed, unfortunate as it is, they are, precisely, in many instances.

Parents, would you be satisfied if every one in the church were just like you? Would you want your children to be just like you? Here is a question fraught with tremendous possibilities. Would it not be blessed if our future homes were better homes even than the ones we know? And would it not be possible to have more loyal churches? What we do for our children now, will help to make the future what it is going to be.

As Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, so ought He to be indeed the head of every home that it may be kept for Him.

Conclusion

1. I have stated that the home is the bulwark of power in the nation. The nation is what its homes make it. If the national conscience is below par, and if civilization is tottering, you can depend upon it there is chaos and moral inertia in the nation's homes. That was the trouble with Israel. It is the trouble with Russia today.

2. The home is also the source of supply for recruits for the church. Church membership is possible only where there is co-operation and a hearty response on the part of our homes. The work of the Kingdom can not be carried forward by pastor and priest alone. The folks in our homes must help.

3. If our homes were Christian there would be no question about having a Christian social order. Or if the homes that profess to be Christian were only thoroughly so, we could have a perpetual pentecost.

4. A greater degree of domestic happiness; national security, purified society, the growth of the Kingdom of God—all these are worthy ideals. What happens in our homes will help to crush or to realize them.

HOME EDUCATION IN CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship in any country and what it stands for is revealed through the literature, history and biography of that country.

The United States Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, has issued as a part of its work in home education several reading courses particularly adapted for the use of those who are interesting in knowing the facts of the discovery and colonization of our country and the causes of its remarkable growth and expansion, economically, politically, socially, and nationally.

The following home reading courses are ready for distribution:

Great Literary Bibles.
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Miscellaneous Reading course for Parents.
Miscellaneous Reading course for Boys.
Miscellaneous Reading course for Girls.
Thirty Books of Great Fiction.
Thirty World Heroes.
American Literature.
Thirty American Heroes.
American History.
France and Her History.
Heroes of American Democracy.
The Call of Blue Waters (Seamanship).
Iron and Steel.
Shipbuilding.
Machine Shop Work.

These courses may be secured, free of charge upon application, from the United States Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Federal Commissioner Commends

In commendation of the plan, the Commissioner of Education, John T. Tigert, says: "These Home Reading courses are something that the people of this country need more than anything else. Since coming to this country I have been astounded to find so little reading after graduation from high school. Instead of considering that period of education as merely an incentive to a better education, to be acquired not only from travel, but from reading the classics, they seem to think it the end of their acquisition of culture."

Liquid Sandpaper

An eastern paper tells the story of a citizen of New Haven, Conn., who had the misfortune, while moving into a new office, recently, to spill a large bottle of ink. Having nothing at hand as an eradicator, he made use of some "moonshine whisky" which had been presented to him. According to the story, the experiment was startlingly successful, for not only did every trace of ink disappear, but a large patch of the floor was bleached perfectly white.

Commenting on the incident a western journal suggests that "some day when human beings discard 'hooch' as a beverage, it may come into its own as a liquid substitute for sandpaper."

As an eradicator of sorts, however, moonshine is becoming constantly better known. It is found that it eradicates not only the lining of the digestive tract, but also the eyesight, the mind, and in a great majority of instances the very lives of those who use it. The sooner it is decided by the country at large that the only safe and sane way to use it is externally, as "liquid sandpaper," the better it will be for all concerned.

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Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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LESSON FOR APRIL 9

THE LORD PRESERVES JOASH

LESSON TEXT—II Kings 11:1-17.

GOLDEN TEXT—The Lord preserveth all them that love Him.—Psalm 145:20.

REFERENCE MATERIAL—II Kings 11:18-20; II Chron. 23:1-21; Matt. 2:13-23.

PRIMARY TOPIC—God Takes Care of a Boy.

JUNIOR TOPIC—How a Boy Became King.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—A Boy Saved for a Great Career.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Secret of Personal and National Safety.

Joash, viewed in the light of his ancestors, was a poor prospect for a king. His grandmother was the wicked Athaliah and his great grandparents were Ahab and Jezebel. There was enough bad blood in his veins to assure his doom. Despite this fact, he brought about some noble reforms and turned the people back to God.

I. Athaliah Usurps the Throne (vv. 1-3).

1. Her attempt to destroy the seed royal (vv. 1). In order to remove any rival claimant to the throne she tried to kill all the royal male children.

2. Joash preserved by Jehosheba (vv. 2, 3). Though Athaliah was keen-eyed she was checkmated by another woman. Her fatal omission was not to get rid of the women too. This woman, the wife of the priest, stole away the child and hid him in the bedchamber for six years. God had promised that through the Davidic line the Messiah should come. In order that this line be unbroken Joash must be preserved. No purpose of God can fail.

II. Joash Crowned King (vv. 4-12).

1. Jehoiada's preparations (vv. 4-11). The high priest and his wife were intelligent and strong characters. As the high priest, Jehoiada felt that it was his duty to thwart the heathen project of Athaliah. Doubtless his co-operation with his wife made possible the saving of Joash.

(1) Secured the aid of the military leaders (v. 4). He knew somehow that these men were not loyal to Athaliah. (2) Bound them under solemn oath (v. 4). He took an oath of them in the house of the Lord. Honest men will stand by their word. (3) Excited their spirit of patriotism (v. 4). He gave them a sight of the king's son. This, no doubt, was a great surprise. Now having seen the heir to the throne they would risk everything, even their lives, in order to set him on the throne. (4) Co-ordinates all matters (vv. 5-11). The soldiers were divided into companies and arms were distributed to them. Each group was assigned to specific duties.

2. The coronation (v. 12). (1) The king's son brought forth. This was a great day in Jerusalem. After six years of usurpation, the people all the while supposing that all the heirs to the throne were dead, now to gaze upon the king's son would be a notable event. (2) Put the crown upon him. This was the formal induction into office. (3) Gave him the testimony. This was a copy of the law, showing that the king was to rule according to the law of God. The act of putting the law upon his head showed that the king himself would be under the control of the law. (4) Made him king. This shows that he was made king by the choice of the people. (5) Anointed him. They poured oil upon his head. This was the usual method of consecrating prophets, priests and kings. (6) Clapped their hands. This was a token of joy.

III. Athaliah Slain (vv. 13-17).

1. The noise of the coronation of Joash brough Athaliah to the temple (v. 15). Up to this time she thought her place on the throne was secure and that her heathen religion had free course.

2. Her dismay (v. 14). Upon her arrival at the temple she saw the king wearing the crown and surrounded by the guards, so that she could do nothing. In her despair she exclaimed: "Treason, treason!" How prone wicked men and women are to cry out as though they had been wronged when their wicked plots and conspiracies are exposed and thwarted!

3. Athaliah executed (vv. 15, 16). The orders were that she should not be killed in the temple. They led her out by the way of the horses' entrance to the king's palace and slew her. What a tragic end for the sinner! Sin can only prosper for a time.

IV. Worship of the True God (vv. 17, 18).

Joash was seven years old when he was made king. The high priest made a covenant between the Lord, the king and the people that they would be the Lord's people. In carrying out this covenant they broke down the temple of Baal and slew the priest of Baal.

The Way to God.

Prayer carries us halfway to God, fasting brings us to the door of His palace, and alms-giving procures us admission.—Koran.

The Saddest Thing.

The saddest tning that can befall a soul is when it loses faith in God and woman.—Alexander Smith.

Hope and Joy.

A propensity to hope and joy is real riches; one to fear and sorrow, real poverty.—Hume.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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HOBBS

Mrs. William Stafford spent a part of the past week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen of Denton.

Miss Mary Nuttle has returned to her home in Philadelphia after her ten days of vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Nuttle.

Mr. Howard Brooks was the guest of his mother, Mrs. Fred Stafford, of Federalsburg Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Collison spent Sunday in Burrsville, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Collison.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Hubbard were Sunday visitors of Mrs. Hubbard's father, Mr. Daffin at American Corner.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Kirby entertained little Ruth Andrews, of Baltimore, Monday afternoon.

The Ladies Aid was entertained at the home of Mrs. Mary Merriken last Thursday afternoon. After the usual exercises were gone through, the society was reorganized. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. E. M. Willey, vice president, Mrs. Mary Merriken, treasurer, Mrs. O. J. Chaffinch, secretary, Mrs. C. D. Collison; organist, Mrs. Willey; program committee, Mrs. J. R. Rickards, Mrs. W. Hubbard and Miss Annie Tarr. Refreshments were served after which the meeting adjourned.

Counteracted

"I'm surprised to hear Maude is married. She once told me that she would never promise to obey any man."

"Oh, she got around that by making the bridegroom promise never to command."

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