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Series II(b). Radio Sermons. Folder 3. Radio Sermons, n.d.

Melville Homer Cummings

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RADIO MESSAGE FOR JULY 28th.

Good afternoon, friends. Today we shall endeavor to answer ^{three} ~~four~~ Bible questions.

The first is one asked by a Fayetteville parishioner, "When was the first rainbow formed?" The first reference to a rainbow is in the ninth chapter and the thirteenth verse of the book of Genesis. The mighty waters of the terrible flood had subsided and Noah and his family had departed from the ark. With a heart full of gratitude to God for his deliverance, this patriarch erected an altar and offered on it such a sacrifice as had probably never before been presented to the Lord: "He took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt-offerings on the altar." The fragrance of the offering was pleasant to Jehovah; and in order to calm the spirit of this wonderful patriarch, God said, "~~and~~ I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud; and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: and I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you, and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth." This is the first mention that we have in the Bible of a rainbow but it does not necessarily follow that it was the first rainbow. In all probability, it was not. Many beautiful poems and songs have been inspired by the rainbow. ^{a number of} For ~~many~~ years in the Billy Sunday Tabernacle campaigns, at nearly every service Homer A. Rodeheaver led the great congregations in singing,

"If the dark shadows gather as you go along,
Do not grieve for their coming, sing a cheery song,
There is joy for the taking, it will soon be light,-
Ev'ry cloud wears a rainbow if your heart keeps right.

"If your heart keeps right, if your heart keeps right,
There's a song of gladness in the darkest night;
If your heart keeps right, if your heart keeps right,
Ev'ry cloud will wear a rainbow, if your heart keeps right."

Our second question is, "Who was Job?" According to the leading commentators, Job was a personage of distinction, wealth and influence

RADIO ADDRESS FOR JULY 28.

Good afternoon, friends. Today we shall attempt to answer four Bible questions.

The first is one asked by one of our Fayetteville parishioners, "When was the first rainbow formed?" No one is able to give us this information. The first reference to it is in the ninth chapter and the thirteenth verse of Genesis.

who lived in the north of Arabia, near the Euphrates. His life was patriarchal, his language the Hebrew of that early day, when it was interspersed with the Syriac and Arabic. He lived before Moses. The book which bears his name is probably the oldest book in the world. It is now interpreted as a public debate in poetic form, dealing with the Divine government. It abounds in figurative language. Job is referred to in the Bible as being a perfect ^{and an upright} man and one that feared God and eschewed evil. When his sons and daughters were slain and his property was taken away from him, it is stated that he arose and rent his robe, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground and worshipped, and said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." When he was afflicted with boils from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet he cried, "I know that my Redeemer liveth.....He knoweth the way that I take and when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

Our third question is, "Will many people be saved?" Yes, John tells in the book of Revelation that he beheld a multitude which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, ~~stood~~ before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands, and cried with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." But even though many will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven, it appears from a study of the Scriptures, that a great majority of mankind will be lost. Christ came unto His own but His own received Him not. "Ye will not come unto me," He said on one occasion, "that ye might be saved." In the sermon on the mount, he exhorts us to "enter in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth to life; and few there be that find it."

M. HOMER CUMMINGS

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And now I shall ask you a few questions to test your knowledge of the Bible. Let us see how many of them you can answer.

1. Who was the first man mentioned in the Bible? and what does his name mean?

Answer. Adam and the name means red earth.

2. Who was the first woman mentioned in the Bible and what does her name mean? Answer. Eve and her name means "life"

3. Who was ^{the} first boy mentioned in the Bible? Answer. Cain.

4. Who was the first murderer mentioned in the Bible and whom did he slay? Answer. Cain and he slew his brother Abel.

5. Who was the first musician? Jubal.

6. Who was the oldest man of whom we have any record and what was his age? Answer. Methuselah and his age was 969 years.

7. Of whom was it said, "He walked with God and he was not for God took him." — Answer. Enoch.

8. Who built the ark? Answer. Noah

9. What were the names of his three sons? — Answer Shem, Ham & Japheth.

10. What ~~were~~ ^{are} the first four words in the book of Genesis? — "In the beginning God"

11. What ~~are~~ ^{are} the last four words in the book of Genesis? — "A son was born in Egypt."

Thank you Good morning, everybody! I am, indeed, glad to have had the privilege of speaking to you each day this week. I want to express my appreciation to Rev. B. W. John for inviting me to conduct this devotional program and I wish to thank the radio station WMON for the courtesies that they have extended to me. I am especially pleased to meet my old friend, Campbelle Craver, whom I have known for - oh, well, if I were to tell you how long, it would make both of us appear too ancient.

This morning I shall discuss ~~tomorrow's~~ ^{the} Sunday School lesson ^{for tomorrow.} How about stopping your household work or whatever you are doing for a little while and sit down and listen. I shall read the printed portion. It is found in the first and ~~xxxx~~ ^{second} epistles of Saint John. "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth, is not made perfect in love. We love Him, because He first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment we have from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. He that believeth on the Son hath the witness ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ himself: he that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son, hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God, hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." These verses which I have just read are from the fourth and fifth chapters of the first epistle of Saint John. Then there are three verses from the shortest book in the Bible, the second epistle of Saint John. They are as follows: "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which ye had from the beginning, that we love one other. And this is love, that we walk after His commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it."

Our golden text, or memory selection, is in 1st John, "And this commandment have we from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also."

THE ANNOUNCER INTERRUPTS: "Excuse me, Rev. Cummings, did I understand you to say a few moments ago, that the second Epistle of Saint John is the shortest book in the Bible."

Yes, I did. There are five books of the Bible that contain only one chapter each. One is in the Old Testament and four are in the New Testament. The one in the Old Testament is Obadiah and it has 21 verses. The four books of the New Testament with one chapter each are Philemon, with 25 verses, the Second Epistle of Saint John, with 13 verses, the Third Epistle of Saint John, with 14 verses, and Jude with 25 verses. From this, we observe, that from the standpoint of verses, the Second Epistle of Saint John, is the shortest book in the Bible. It has thirteen verses and Third John has fourteen verses. However, from the standpoint of words, the Third Epistle of Saint John is the briefest. It has 294 words while Second John has 298, four more words.

John, the apostle of love, was the author of the books that bear his name. In all his writings, love is the dominating theme. It was he who told us, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:13,17). "A new commandment, I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another." (Jno. 13:34,35). "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." (Jno. 14:15). "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (Jno. 15:13).

In view of these statements that we find in his gospel, it is no wonder that he emphasizes love in his epistles, also. Life, light, and love were his favorite ^{themes some of his utterances} themes. "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (for the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) that which we have seen, and heard declare we unto you." (1John 1:1-3.) "If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7.) "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not." (1John 3:1)

(1John 3:1)

(1John 3:1)

2. "Pardon me, again, Rev. Cummings. In the Scripture lesson which you read there was something said about confessing Christ. Do you think that is all that is necessary for a person to do in order to be a Christian?"

Yes, and no. Not as it might be interpreted today- a mere expression of the lips but as meant by the Apostle John, I would say "yes." What he had in mind was not only the outward confession but a complete allegiance to the Christ. *Paul* said, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:9,10.) Jesus Himself once said, "Whosoever ^{therefore} shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven." (Mat. 10:32,34).

3. "Is a certificate of membership in a church sufficient to prove that one is a Christian?"

It should be but often it is not the case. It is possible for one to profess religion but not possess it. In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Not every^{one} that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." (Mat. 7:21-23).

4. "Is it possible for us to love God and harbor malice in our hearts toward anybody?"

No, not according to our Sunday School lesson. John plainly declares: "If man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? Yes, if we love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and with all our souls, and with all our minds, we will love our neighbors as ourselves.

5. "Brother Cummings, what is a Christian?"

A Christian is a person who has repented of his sins, accepted Christ as his Savior, and whose inward and outward life is conformed to the doctrines of the Master. He abstains from evil of every kind and seeks to do all the good he can. His daily prayer is, "Bless me, Lord, and make me a blessing."
He loves God and loves his brother, also."

And now, let me leave this word with you. Go to the church of your choice tomorrow

1. Excuse me, Mr. Cummings, did I not understand you to say a few moments ago that the Second Epistle of Saint John is the shortest book of the Bible?

2. Mr. Cummings, pardon me for interrupting you. In the Scripture lesson which you read, there was something said about confessing Christ. Do you think that confessing Christ is all that is necessary for a person to do in order to be a Christian?

Mr. Cummings,

3. Is a certificate of membership in a church sufficient to prove that a person is a Christian?

Mr. Cummings

4. Is it possible for us to love God and at the same time harbor malice in our hearts toward anybody?

5. Mr. Cummings, in your opinion what is a Christian?

ask Arthur Chandler, Jr. to mention Pat Warden's birth day, Fayetteville, aged?

Thank you, Mr. Hudock. Good morning, everybody!
I am truly glad to be accorded the privilege of being the
y. m. c. a. guest speaker for this week over the Nations' Station
w. l. w. It is my purpose to give a series of talks on
domestic themes.

Text.- "And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at eventide; and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold the camels were coming."
-Genesis 24:63.

After the death of Sarah, his mother, Isaac was very lonely and distressed; and since he was old enough to marry, Abraham sought a wife for him, for in those countries the parents have always chosen the wives for their sons, and the husbands for their daughters. Inasmuch as the women in the land where this venerable patriarch sojourned were all worshippers of idols, it was necessary for him to select a companion for his only child from his own people. Not being able to go into Mesopotamia in person, Abraham sent his most faithful and trusted servant, Eliezer. The account of this journey is exceedingly interesting and romantic. With ten camels and many presents from his master, he traveled over rough roads until he reached the city of Nahor. Just at the close of day, outside the gates, he paused at the well and made his camels kneel down. Then he prayed to the Lord that he might find the right woman to be the wife of Isaac. While he was yet speaking, a very attractive young lady, with a pitcher on her shoulder, came to draw water. After talking with her for a few moments, he was so favorably impressed with her that he decided that she was the one that he should take back with him. And, to make a long story short, he obtained the consent of the father and mother and brother and the fair damsel herself and started to return home. After riding on the camels for several days, they began to approach the country in which Abraham dwelt. And, we are told, that Isaac went out to meditate in the field at eventide. Now, as to what he was thinking about, we are not informed, but one would naturally presume that it was his coming marriage. And if there is ever a time in a man's life that he should think, it is at this critical period. It is a matter of such vital importance that it should not be entered into unadvisedly and hastily, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God. Your marriage may determine your happiness for time and eternity. Well, while meditating on his future companion, Isaac lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming, and on them his chosen bride, Rebekah. When he met her he fell in love with her and took her to be his wife and ever after they were true and faithful to each other. It so happened in the Providence of God that their union was Divinely arranged. And I take it for granted that you have selected the right companion. How then can you make her happy?

First, I would suggest that you realize your solemn responsibility to her. You should ever keep in mind the fact that from the first time that you met her until you were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, you were the aggressor. After you had been introduced to her, you did most of the courting; you made the dates with her; you bought her boxes of candy; you arranged for her to attend the various social functions; you did everything that you could to win her heart. And then, when the psychological moment arrived, with your voice choked and trembling with emotion, you told her how much you loved her and begged her to leave the custody and care of the homestead in which she was sheltered, and be your wife. You promised to be more to her than her father or mother, more than all the friends she ever had or could have. You informed her that altho' her home was bright and beauti-

ful, it would be better for her to forsake it and her precious parents who had become wrinkle-faced, stoop-shouldered, and dim-sighted in taking care of her, and come and go with you. After much hesitancy, she consented and later became your wife. By so doing, she practically said, "I have but one life to live, and I entrust it all to you. My arm is weak, but I will depend on the strength of yours. I don't know much of the world, but I rely on your wisdom. I put my body, my mind, my soul, my time, my eternity, in your keeping. I make no reserve. Even my name I resign and take yours, though mine is a name that suggests all that was honorable in my father, and all that was good in my mother, and all that was pleasant in my brothers and sisters. I start on a journey which shall not part except at the edge of your grave or mine. Like Ruth, the Moabitess, I say, 'Whither thou goest, I will go, and where thou lodgest, I will lodge. Thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God. Where thou diest, I will die and there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me and more also, if aught but death part me and thee.'" Since she has made such a complete and unconditional surrender to you, you are under a great obligation to her. Under no circumstances should you mistreat or abuse her.

My second suggestion to you is that you make yourself an agreeable person with whom to live. While you are not responsible for your existence nor for some of the idiosyncrasies and peculiarities that you possess, yet there are certain traits of character that you can cultivate. You can make yourself pleasant, congenial, and affable, or you can drift into the habit of being sour, cross, morose, and so cranky that no one will care to be about you or to associate with you. Solomons says, "He that would have friends must show himself friendly." This rule of conduct is especially applicable to married life. If you expect your wife to love, honor, and respect you, you must show yourself worthy of her affection.

If you seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, all of these desirable traits of character shall be added unto you.

THE IDEAL CHURCH MEMBER

Thank you, Mr. *Clements*. For our Scripture lesson, I shall read the first Psalm: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the name of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the ~~in~~^{wind} driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

Let us pray: "Our Father, we thank Thee for Thy watchful care over us during the night and for the light of this new day. Grant that the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts may be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength, and our redeemer. We ask it in the name Jesus and for His sake. Amen."

In the time that is allotted to me in this devotional service, I shall discuss *THE IDEAL CHURCH MEMBER*.

There are various kinds of individuals who have their names on the church rolls. Some are bad, some are good, and some are indifferent. There are the wise, the unwise, and the otherwise. In many churches, there are the shirkers, the jerkers, and the workers. The shirkers do nothing, ~~but~~^{they} let others shoulder the responsibilities and carry the burdens. The jerkers are spasmodic in their ecclesiastical activities. During a rally, or a drive, or a campaign, or a revival, they are abundant in labors for a time but soon the batteries burn out and they drift into innocuous desuetude. The workers are the faithful few who are "instant in season, and out of season," and who are "always abounding in the work of the Lord." Then, in some sections of the country, there are the doubters, the pouters, and the shouters. The doubters never believe that it can be done and they throw cold water on every project. The pouters are a little more advanced, they render some help, but they keep a chip on their shoulders, and you have to handle them with care. If you don't, they will fall out with the church and the pastor and won't come to hear him preach any more. The shouters are those who live the victorious life and who ^{are} just a ^s religious in Dog Days as they are during the Easter season. May I ask all who are listening in t his morning, "What kind of a Christian are

WMNOPQ R. W. F. M. Homer Cummings
WMNOP

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their
spyqfj party aid

11 Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of
their party ddddaidididid

are you? Are you loyal, faithful, earnest and true? A shirker, a jerker, or a worker? A doubter, a pouter, or a shouter? What kind of a Christian are you?

Yes, it is, indeed, a source of regret to religious leaders that many unconverted men and women are affiliated with different denominations and often seek to dictate the policies of the organization to which they belong. But this can not always be prevented. It has been thus since the day that the "sons of God met to present themselves before the Lord," when Satan also came among them. Jesus chose twelve men to be with Him, to witness the miracles that He performed, to preach the gospel of the kingdom, and to heal all manner of diseases. Yet in that number was Judas Iscariot, a person so devoid of principle and honor and loyalty, that he sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver. After the day of Pentecost, when the early Christian church was evidently in its purest state, we read of Annias and Sapphira and the awful fate that befell them.

But we wish to speak of the IDEAL MEMBER. How glorious it would be if every member were just what he ought to be! Let us try to paint the ideal church member and see how he looks.

I. *He has a bright and a pleasant face.* Things may not always go to suit him. He may not carry his motion, nor be put in such positions as he would prefer, but he does not grumble and become soured on the world. He bows gracefully to the will of the church and seeks to be as happy as the birds in the trees. He has a smile for the pastor, a greeting for the brethren, and a kind word for the children. The sunshine never fades from his cheek. His presence is a joy for he always brings happiness with him.

II. *The ideal church member is ever ready for service.* While he does not care for notoriety and has no special desire for office and naturally shrinks from publicity and would gladly take a back seat, he is quick to accept any duty put upon him. He will work anywhere, in a revival, in the Sunday School, in the prayer-meeting or on the finance committee. When the pastor calls on him, he never fails to respond. His answer is: "Here am I; send me." He is "ready to go, ready to stay; ready his place to fill.. Ready for service, lowly or great, ready to do God's will." He fervently prays: "Lord, let me live from day to day, in such a self-forgetful way, that even as I kneel to pray, my prayer shall be for others."

III. *The ideal member always come church, unless he is Providentially hindered.* You can count on him for he will be there. Whether at Sunday School or the morning preaching service or on Sunday night or at prayer-

meeting, you can ^{depend} ~~count~~ on him. He does not permit company, the automobile, the movie, or even the radio to keep him away from the house of God. He remembers that Luke tells us that Jesus went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as was His custom. He wants to be like the Master and to follow the footsteps of the Nazarene, therefore he attends religious services. And he comes on time, too. He does not wait until the sermon begins but is there in time to assist in the singing of the gospel hymns and to place his offering in the collection plate. He does not forsake the ~~assembly of himself with others~~ ^{peace of meeting}, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as he sees the day approaching.

IV. *The ideal Church member recognizes his stewardship.* He gladly contributes of his earthly substance as God has prospered him to the support of the church. When he makes a donation to a worthy cause, he does not sing, "When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again," but from the depths of his soul, he says, "All things come of Thee, O God, and of Thine own, have I given Thee." He recalls the words of the Lord Jesus, "Freely ye have received, freely give." And again, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." He also bears in mind the language of Paul, "Every man as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

V. *The ideal church member is a true worshipper.* He has been born again and is a "new creature in Christ Jesus; old things have passed away and behold all things have become new." It is his delight to go to the place of worship. He carries a praying heart with him and enters the sanctuary of the Most High with thanksgiving and praise. It is his earnest desire to worship Jehovah in the beauty of holiness. Like David, he says, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord,"

And now, let us ^{all} ask ourselves the question, "If every member were just like me, what kind of a church, would my church be?"

Pass me not

Use Russell
Cornwall's illus-
tration

THE REJECTERS AND RECEIVERS OF JESUS CONTRASTED

For our meditation today, I desire to discuss three passages of Scripture that are found in the first chapter of the Gospel of Saint John: "He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

This is one of the saddest declarations in all the Word of God. Christ had left His home in glory and had come down to this earth with its darkness and sin. He had taken on Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. He was going about doing good. His supreme mission in life was to redeem fallen humanity. The inhabitants of this globe had never beheld such a personage as the Lord Jesus. Altho' He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, it knew Him not. It could not comprehend Him, it was unable to fathom the depth of His marvelous character. Therefore it gave Him no homage or respect; it yielded Him no deference; it hailed Him with no song of joy. And worst of all, we read that "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not."

I. "He came unto His own;" that is, to His own people, His own nation, and His own land. It had been prophesied in the Scriptures that the Messiah was to ^{be} of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Judah, and the royal line of David. He was to be born in the city of Bethlehem. And notwithstanding the fact that ~~the Jews~~ ^{His people} had been ardently expecting Him and the pious and devout had been looking for Him, when He did come, the vast majority rejected Him. He was criticised and maliciously maligned. His motives were questioned and His sayings were misinterpreted. His enemies ever sought to entrap Him in His utterances. Finally He was delivered into the hands of the Roman soldiers and was mocked and scourged and crucified. How surprising this conduct? Why did they not receive Him? Various reasons may be assigned for this.

1. They were looking for a temporal kingdom. They wished to be freed from the yoke of the Romans. They wanted a Messiah who would have soldiers and fight and conquer the other nations. They desired a position of prominence in His government. They were not prepared for a system of spiritual religion. They had preconceived ideas of the type of Being that He would be and they were so wedded to their forms and ceremonies that they could ^{not} appreciate Him.

2. They were so near to him that they did not give Him the proper e-

valuation. There once lived near the River Indus, an ancient Persian by the name of Ali Hafed. He owned a very large farm and possessed orchards, fields of grain, and gardens. He had money and was wealthy and contented. One day a Buddhist priest visited him and told him about diamonds and stated that a diamond the size of the thumb would be valuable enough to purchase the county and if he had a mine of these diamonds, he could place his children upon thrones through the influence of his vast fortune. Ali Hafed became dissatisfied and sold his farm, left his family in charge of a neighbor, and away he went in search of this precious stone. He journeyed throughout eastern Asia and then wandered into Europe and finally died, a broken and disappointed old man. In the meantime the man who bought Ali Hafed's farm, led his camel out one day into the garden to drink, and as his camel put his nose into the shallow water of that garden brook, Ali Hafed's successor noticed a curious flash of light from the white sands of the stream. He stooped down and pulled out a black stone which reflected all the colors of the rainbow. Soon he discovered that the farm was full of these glittering stones. Had Ali Hafed remained at home and dug in his own ground, he would have found acres of diamonds. This incident teaches us an important truth. A prophet is without honor in his ^{own} country. Jesus lived

and walked and talked with men, yet they did not appreciate Him. The same is true today. Nearly every blessing of civilization that we enjoy today came to us as a result of Christianity, yet men scorn and ridicule the church. We are so near to them that we can not see them. It would no doubt be different if we were suddenly transferred to a heathen country.

II. But the picture was not all dark. There were some who did accept the Lord Jesus, although the majority rejected Him. There were those who heard, and understood, and were brought to acknowledge Him as the Christ- the Son of God. They believed His word and trusted His promises. The sick received Him as the great Physician; the poor- as the treasure of heaven; the enslaved- as the great deliverer; the lost- as the good Shepherd, and the guilty- as the Lamb of God. And in receiving Him, they received the power to become the sons of God. *They Spirit himself bore witness*

with their spirits that they were the children of God and they could say with the Apostle John, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, for whom we shall see Him, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

If you

Close To Thee

TURNING DEFEAT INTO VICTORY

In the 16th chapter and the 7th verse of the Acts of the Apostles, we have these words: *And after they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go to Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.*"

Paul and Silas had started on a missionary journey through the cities of Asia Minor and apparently had no idea of crossing over into the continent of Europe. But their plans were thwarted. Through the mysterious dispensations of Providence, they were not permitted to do what they wanted to do. It is stated that the "Spirit suffered them not." Why this was the case, we are not informed. Altho' they were no doubt disappointed, they did not behave like spoiled children. They yielded to the inevitable. Paul had learned in whatever state he was to be content and that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." That night he saw in a vision, a man saying unto him, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." He immediately accepted it as the guidance of the Lord and set sail the next day. When the Apostle carried Christianity into Europe, it was one of the great events in the history of civilization. Paul had planned a certain course of action but God had something better for him. *He became a pioneer and did not have to build upon another man's foundation.*

1. *Choosing a career. Children, Homer, Jr. never able to accomplish what we desire*
2. *We plan a brilliant career. The future is before us. We expect success, etc.*
3. *Failure may be our friend. Philip Brooks.*
4. *God often turns our defeats into victories.*

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Pat Warden

Thank you, Mr. Hudock. Good morning, everybody! I am truly glad to be accorded another privilege ^{to be} the ^{prime} guest speaker over WLW, the nation's station. It is my purpose this week to give a series of talks on domestic subjects. Let us pray that God's blessings may rest upon the messages that are to be delivered. My topic today is "THE HUSBAND." The text is found in Genesis the 24th chapter and the ~~63rd~~ verse, "And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at eventide; and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold the camels were coming."

After the death of Sarah, his mother, Isaac was very lonely and distressed; and since he was old enough to marry, Abraham sought a wife for him, for in those countries the parents have always chosen the wives for their sons, and the husbands for their daughters. Inasmuch as the women in the land where this venerable patriarch sojourned were all worshippers of idols, it was necessary for him to select a companion for his only child from his own people. Not being able to go into Mesopotamia in person, Abraham sent his most faithful and trusted servant, Eliezer. The account of this journey is exceedingly interesting and romantic. With ~~ten~~ camels and many presents from his master, he traveled over rough roads until he reached the city of Nahor. Just at the close of day, outside the gates, he paused at the well and made his camels kneel down. Then he prayed to the Lord that he might find the right woman to be the wife of Isaac. While he was yet speaking, a very attractive young lady, with a pitcher on her shoulder, came to draw water. After talking with her for a few moments, he was so favorably impressed with her that he decided that she was the one that he should take back with him. And, to make a long story short, he obtained the consent of the father and mother and brother and the fair damsel herself and started to return home. After riding on the camels for several days, they began to approach the country in which Abraham dwelt. And, we are told, that Isaac went out to meditate in the field at eventide. Now, as to what he was thinking about, we are not informed, but one would naturally presume that it was his coming marriage. And if there is ever a time in a man's life that he should think, it is at this critical period. It is a matter of such vital importance that it should not be entered into unadvisedly and hastily, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God. Your marriage may determine your happiness for time and eternity. Well, while meditating on his future companion, Isaac lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming, and on them his chosen bride, Rebekah. When he met her he fell in love with her and took her to be his wife and ever after they were true and faithful to each other. It so happened in the providence of God that their union was Divinely arranged. And I take it for granted that you have selected the right companion. How then can you make her happy,

First, I would suggest that you realize your solemn responsibility to her. You should ever keep in mind the fact that from the first time that you met her until you were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, you were the aggressor. After you had been introduced to her, you did most of the courting; you made the dates with her; you bought her boxes of candy; you arranged for her to attend the various social functions; you did everything that you could to win her heart. And then, when the psychological moment arrived, with your voice choked and trembling with emotion, you told her how much you loved her and begged her to leave the custody and care of the homestead in which she was sheltered, and be your wife.

You promised to be more to her than her father and mother, more than all the friends she ever had or could have. You informed her that altho' her home was bright and beautiful, it would be better for her to forsake it and her precious parents who had become wrinkled-faced, stoop-shouldered, and dim-sighted in taking care of her, and come and go with you. After much hesitancy, she consented and later became your wife. By so doing, she practically said, "I have but one life to live, and I entrust it all to you. My arm is weak, but I will depend on the strength of yours. I don't know much of the world, but I rely on your wisdom. I put my body, my mind, my soul, my time, my eternity, in your keeping. I make no reserve. Even my name I resign and take yours, though mine is a name that suggests all that was pleasant in my brothers and sisters. I start on a journey which shall not part except at the edge of your grave or mine. Like Ruth, the Moabitess, I say, "Whither thou goest, I will go, and where thou lodgest, I will lodge. Thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God. Where thou diest, I will die and there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me and more also, if aught but death part me and thee." Since she has made such a complete and unconditional surrender to you, you are under a great obligation to her. Under no circumstances should you mistreat or abuse her.

My second suggestion to you is that you make yourself an agreeable person with whom to live. While you are not responsible for your existence nor for some of the idiosyncrasies and peculiarities that you possess, yet there are certain traits of character that you can cultivate. You can make yourself pleasant, congenial, and affable, or you can drift into the habit of being sour, cross, morose, and so cranky that no one will care to be about you or to associate with you. Solomon says, "He that would have friends must show himself friendly." And one of the prophets declared, that "Two cannot walk together except they be agreed." This rule of conduct is especially applicable to married life. If you expect your wife to love, honor, and respect you, you must show yourself worthy of her affections.

If you seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, all of these desirable traits of character shall be added unto you.