

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON

ABSURDITIES OF EVOLUTION.

(Preached at Lakeside, Ohio.)
Text: "The statutes of the Lord are right."—Psalm xix, 8.

Old folks go out of date. When they were written they discussed questions which were being discussed; they struck at wrongs which have long ago ceased, or advocated institutions which excite not our interest.

Not so with one old book. It started in the world's infancy. It grew under theocracy and monarchy; it witnessed the storms of fire. It grew under prophetic mantle and under the fisherman's coat of the apostles; in Rome, and Ephesus, and Jerusalem, and Patmos.

I am fascinated with the conciseness of this book. Every word is packed full of truth. Every sentence is a gem. Every paragraph is like an old bayonet tree with a hundred roots and a hundred branches.

Further, suppose that there was a great pestilence going over the earth, and hundreds of thousands of men were dying of that pestilence, and some one should find a medicine that cured ten thousand people, would not every body acknowledge that that must be a good medicine? Why, some one would say: "Do you deny it? There have been ten thousand people cured by it."

The Bible says that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by fire and brimstone. "Absurd," infidels yell after year said. "It is positively absurd that they could have been destroyed by brimstone."

The Bible says there was a city called Nineveh, and that it was three days' journey around it, and that it should be destroyed by fire and water. "Absurd," cried out hundreds of voices for many years; no city was ever built that it could take three days' journey to go around.

Moses estimated that they had vineyards in Egypt. "Absurd," cried hundreds of voices; "you can't raise grapes in Egypt, or if you can, it is a very great exception that you can raise them."

Again, the Bible is right in style. I know there are a great many people who think it is merely a collection of genealogical tables and dry facts. That is because they do not know how to read the book.

I remark again: The Bible is right in its doctrines. Man, a sinner; Christ, a savior—the two principles. Man must come down—his pride, his self-righteousness, his worldliness. Christ must come up—his love, his sympathy with earth, and a wave of joy dashed clear over the battlements and dripped into the shepherds in the words: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Goethe, the admired of all skeptics, had the wall of his house at Weimar covered with religious maps and pictures. Milton's "Paradise Lost" is part of the Bible in blank verse. Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered" is borrowed from the Bible. Spenser's writings are imitations from the Parables. John Bunyan saw in a dream only what Saint John had seen before in Apocalyptic vision.

Where is there in the world of poetic description anything like Job's champing, neighing, pawing, lightning-footed, thunder-necked war horses? Dryden's, Milton's, Cowley's, and Thomson's writings are under the stream that broke from the throne of God clear as crystal.

I am also amazed at the variety of this book. Mind you, not contradiction or collision, but variety. Just as in the song you have the basso, and alto, and soprano, and tenor, and they are not in competition with each other, but come in to make up the harmony.

God prepared the book for all classes of people. For instance, little children would read the Bible, and God knew that, so he allows Matthew and Luke to write sweet words about Christ with the doctor's pen, and Christ at the well, and Christ at the cross, so that any little child can understand them.

God knew that the pensive and complaining world would want to read it, and so he inspires Jeremiah to write: "Oh, that my head were waters and mine eyes fountains of tears!"

I do not care where you put the Bible, it just suits the place. You put it in the hand of a man seriously concerned about his soul. I see people often giving to the serious soul this and that book. It may very well; but there is one book that will do more for the man than any other.

It is not generally known that naturally the hog is a delicate feeder—that is, naturally he feeds only on clean substances. He is an omnivorous feeder. He eats unclean food only when he is refused better. Throw a hog several sorts of potatoes, inferior and superior in quality, and the best will be eaten first.

In preparing pasture for hogs it is fully as necessary to know what plants to produce as in preparing pasture for other animals. As a single plant red clover is the most valuable, because it is easily and generally grown.

In the twenty-one principal theatres of modern times, from the destruction of the Schouburg Theatre in Amsterdam, in 1772, to the burning of the Ring Theatre in Vienna, in 1881, a total of 6,545 victims are chronicled.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A piece of iron rolled in the new Falcon Mills at Niles the other day is as thin as a sheet of ordinary paper. It would take 150 sheets to constitute one inch in thickness. The mill made this piece just to see how thin they could roll.

One of the curiosities of light and heat is the fact that rays of the sun should pass through a cake of ice without melting it at all, as is the case when the thermometer stands a little above zero.

The glaciers of the Alps have been found by Forel to change in size quite regularly—a period of growth of fifteen to thirty years being followed by a corresponding period of diminution.

It has been found that when paraffine is thoroughly mixed with linseed oil, cast into small blocks and cooled, it may be used to make any fabric water-proof by simply rubbing the block over it and ironing it afterward to equalize the material in the pores.

It has been a matter of extensive belief in France that the drinking of water in considerable quantities has a tendency to reduce obesity, by increasing the activity of oxidations in the system, and favoring the burning away of accumulated fat.

An entirely new vegetable is being introduced by a great French firm, which is exciting some interest. It is called choro-gi and is a native of Northern Africa. It belongs to the mint family (botanical name Stachys affinis).

When a worn car wheel tread is examined under the microscope, it is perceived that the surface of the metal comes off in thin flakes or scales. Examined under high powers the scales are found to resemble portions of a brick wall, the fractures being not in the particles of iron, but in the material which unites the particles in a manner similar to which mortar unites the bricks of a wall.

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Mr. G. E. Beardon, Baltimore, Md., Commissioner of Deeds for all the States, suffered for a long time with rheumatism, which yielded promptly to St. Jacobs Oil.

Abbe Listz, the celebrated musician, died at Bayreuth, Germany recent y.

Diphtheria is frequently the result of a neglected sore throat, which can be cured by a single bottle of Red Star Cough Cure. Price, twenty-five cents a bottle.

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The fund for the erection of a monument to General Grant in Riverside Park only amounts to a little over \$122,000.

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We append a recent letter, which came to us unsolicited, with permission to publish it.

You may add my testimony as to the merits of Piso's Cure for Consumption. I took a severe cold last February, which settled on my lungs. They became ulcerated and were so painful that I had no rest for two days and nights. I got a bottle of Piso's Cure for Consumption, and was relieved by the time I had taken half of it.

The California crop of wheat is estimated at 52,000,000 bushels, leaving a surplus of 42,000,000 bushels for export.

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