

LESSON FOR SUNDAY.

LESSON XIII, JUNE 22, 1908. Eph. V. 11-21.

"Quo Vadis" gives us a faithful picture of the state of Roman society at the dawn of Christianity. It is vivid and photographic. The conditions maintained in the metropolis were reproduced in the provinces...

On this rotting dunghill of current civilization, Christianity bloomed like a white and fragrant lily. It held a standard not dreamed of before, which taught that one must not merely not do evil, but must not appear to be or to promise to do evil.

In a general way the contrast between Christian and heathen principles and practices. The character and characteristics of the disciples of the Nazarene are opposed to those of the divinities. The contrast is that of the Nazarene are opposed to those of the votaries of Bacchus and of the rest of the divinities.

This paragraph in particular might be explained and paraphrased about as follows: Have no fellowship. This is the very word the Greeks used to signify participation in the mysteries. The apostle does not enjoin the extreme of refusing to speak or have business, or social dealings with, but to abstain from a dealing intercourse, especially sharing in the mysteries.

The Epistle to the Ephesians is not the Epistle to the Ephesians as the oldest manuscripts of the New Testament, such as the one in the pope's library, called "Vaticanus," and the one discovered by Tischendorf in the monastery on Mt. Sinai, and called "Sinaiticus," the words "at Ephesus" (I. 1) do not appear in the text, but in the margin, and by a later hand.

The question of immediate destination of the Epistle is, however, largely a question of curiosity, not affecting in any way the authenticity, genuineness, or value of the writing. Its style is described as exceedingly elevated. It is written in a rapture. It expresses grand matters in words more sublime than are to be found elsewhere. Scientific exposition and dialectic development are not attempted. It is, rather, the expression of thoughts roused in a praying soul, and uttered with continuing emotion.

The motif of the Epistle appears to be the identification of the long-sought ethical cosmos with the Christian Church. The ideal of the republic of God, so ardently aspired for by the best souls in all ages, is realized in the Commonwealth of Christian disciples.

THE TWO CONVENTIONS.

Mr. Dooley's Opinion of the Way the Best of Parties Act. "Mr. Dooley," in The American Magazine.

"Well, str," said Mr. Dooley, "I'd like to go out to Denver. No, I didn't go to the recent Roosevelt graduation meeting in our beautiful city. I never wanted to see a Republican convention anyhow."

"There's a sign on th' dure readin' 'This way to th' candydate,' a Republican clergymen prays to a Republican Providence to keep us Dimmycrats out iv offices intinded fr th' use iv Republicans th' platform is taken out iv th' can an' passed around among th' dilligates, th' convention nominates a man that ivr body outside iv New York knew was goin' to be noomin' nated a year ago last Christmas, ivr body sings Th' Star-Spangled Banner an' other Republican ballads, an' th' in goes to their peaceful an' highly onlin-therest'n homes an' begins to pile up thim returns fr'n Northern New York an' Western Pennsylvania that will cause th' Dimmycratic hosts in th' streets next illection night to assault th' United State mail wagons. Ye say there were ructions at th' convention there were they were conducted according to Roberts rules iv order."

"But 'tis dif'rent with us Dimmycrats. Nobody ever knows what we are goin' to do, an' we don't. We may fight on th' sidewalk an' embrace on th' platform, an' fight again on th' way home, but they can say what they want, an' they are tellin' how aisy they gather together fr th' good iv th' country in a hail."

"Yes, air, I want to go out to Denver an' I wud go, too, if th' railroad firemen wud adopt this let-alone policy, an' not chock lumps iv coal at a gentleman on th' blind bags."

"Faith, I can see th' Dimmycrats now gatherin' fr'm far an' near. Bands are crashin' down th' street, good Dimmycratic bands, playin' out iv chune an' so that nobody can keep step with their music, if anybody wants iv which nobody does. Ye have to put yer name down days in advance to get a drink at th' bar. Th' lobbies iv th' hotels are full iv Tammany men, splendid fellows with stovepipe hats an' with acetylene lamps in their shirt fronts an' they are tellin' how aisy ivrthing is if ye know how."

Malaria and Degeneration. Youth's Companion. A bold and interesting generalization concerning the vast effects which malaria may have produced on the history of great and famous nations and peoples has recently appeared in the form of a book by W. H. S. Jones, supplemented with an introduction by Maj. Ronald Ross. It is suggested that the mosquito has been largely responsible for the decline of certain nations, as, for instance, Greece, in the character of whose people historians have recorded a great change during the fourth century before the Christian era. Major Ross' investigations suggest that malaria may have been introduced into Greece at that time. The conclusion is also drawn that malaria did not exist in Italy much before the B. C. and the suggestion is made that Hannibal's army introduced it. "Malaria," says Mr. Jones, "made the Greek weak and inefficient; it turned the sterner Roman into a brute—atra billis made its victims mad."

The Three Weeks Gria. New York Press. "How long do you expect to be gone?" asked the manager of the family hotel in the man who was going away for a vacation. "A little more than two weeks," the guest replied.

"We have planned to stay three weeks," Jim explained to the hotel wife. "Why didn't you tell him so?" "Just because it is three weeks," said the man. "I didn't want all those folk hanging around the desk grinning at me like Cheesbro cats. That is what happens the minute anybody says anything ringing in the title of that confounded book."

THE WEATHER. Washington, June 25.—Forecast: Virginia and Saturday; light north to northeast winds. South Carolina, fair, warmer in the interior, showers on north coast Friday; Saturday fair; light to fresh north to northeast winds. Georgia, fair in northwest; local showers and warmer in east and south portions Friday; Saturday generally fair, light to fresh north to northeast winds. West Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and east Texas, generally fair Friday and Saturday, except showers Friday near the coast; variable winds. East Florida, occasional showers Friday and Saturday; variable winds. West Texas; generally fair Friday and Saturday, except possibly showers Friday in the Pan-handle. West Virginia, fair Friday; Saturday fair, warmer, light northeast to southeast winds.

LOCAL OFFICE U. S. WEATHER BUREAU. Charlotte, N. C., June 25, 1908. Sunrise 5:30 a. m.; sunset 7:41 p. m. TEMPERATURE (in degrees). Highest temperature... 87. Lowest temperature... 71. Mean temperature... 79. Excess for the day... 2. Accumulated deficiency for the month... 20. PRECIPITATION (in inches). Total for 24 hours ending 8 p. m... 0.05. Total for the month... 1.65. Accumulated deficiency for the month... 0.98. Total for the year... 29.31. On this date... 4.02. Prevailing wind direction... S. W. M. C. FAULK. Temporarily in Charge.

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