

THE WOMAN OF CANAAN

AN ENDURING MODEL OF FAITH

Rev. H. K. Boyer, in his far-reaching sermon before the closing of the Conference Year, preaches from the incident related by Matthew, where a "woman" begged for the power of her humbleness and the reality of her humility, won from Christ the healing which she desired.

"Here was the greatest victory that ever came to a human soul. It was the victory of faith over the obstacles over which the woman of Canaan climbed, with purpose as splendidly unswerving, with faith as magnificently great as was her spirit deep-grounded in true humility, to the wrestling from Christ Jesus of the granting of her heart's desire, Rev. H. K. Boyer yesterday morning thus fervently recognized her triumph. It was at Tryon Street Methodist church, his last morning sermon, before the assembling of the Western North Carolina Conference which meets at Asheville Tuesday for a re-distribution of pastors throughout this territory. Peculiar interest always attaches to such occasions from the fact that in every case it is possible that the last sermon of the year may be the last sermon of one's pastoral charge. While a change is not likely one never knows exactly what a Conference will do. The pastor stated that in the year closing had been a fine one in all departments of Tryon Street church.

Mr. Boyer's sermon yesterday was a plea for humility of spirit in prayer and an unending perseverance. This he declared had never failed and never would fail to bring to the highest benefit. In Holy Writ where Jesus Christ ever turned away a man who approached him with faith and unfeigned earnestness. Matthew 15:25: "Lord help me, for I am a Jew and the ringing earnestness of his appeal permeated the minister's gospel sermon.

It is to be considered in the beginning, in order to obtain a clear understanding of the attitude of Jesus toward the woman who asked for the healing of her daughter, said the speaker, that Jesus was born under the ancient government and had been formally admitted to the church according to established rites. He was a Jew and preaching to Jews. Now He had departed from Galilee and gone out beyond the boundaries of Palestine into what might be termed the enemy's country, heathen soil for retirement to escape for a time the opposition which He met in preaching the truth to his own people and his own kinsmen. Into this retirement broke the woman with the daughter of mind diseased, or, in the phraseology of that day and according to the mother's belief, possessed of a devil. She sought Him out. Probably she recognized that under the existing order of things as she understood it, her prayer by birth or social position had she the right to expect a favor from the hands of the Master. But she crossed over, notwithstanding broke down the wall of conventionalism and went to Him beseeching mercy on her and on her daughter.

The most pathetic incident perhaps connected with all the miracles wrought by Christ is brought out here in the conduct of this woman and her appeal. Confronted with the usual views of the laws of the kingdom, but it does not seem absolutely impossible for her to have heard of the law of the kingdom and heard of the fact that was coming to earth through Jesus Christ whose fame had gone abroad through all that country.

TROUBLE COMMON TO THE RACE

It should be noted first that the thing that brought this woman out of the enemy's country to invade the presence of Jesus Christ was doubtless trouble that had fastened itself on her heart, deeply and completely. "It may be there are a few here this morning," said Dr. Boyer, who have lived to this good day and hour without having experienced the awful grasp of a terrible trouble—without having the fangs of pain lay deeply hold of your heart. Let me say to you with all the tenderness of my soul I fear the time is not far distant when it will come. Among my own acquaintances, I know scarcely one who has lived even to the years of young manhood without some dark experience."

Daring all the penalties for violating the conventional customs, this woman came. Without hesitation she laid her case before the Christ and made her wishes known. He answered her not a word. That was a terrific test.

OTHERS FOLLOWED.

"I am persuaded," said the minister, "that in this day and time, on account of our prosperity and the rapid advancement which we are making in all directions we are not willing to come down to the grade where this woman stood and say, 'Lord, give me a crumb.' Are we not inclined to say, 'I was born of such and such a family, in such and such a county and was educated at such and such an institution, and therefore I have a right to walk up to the Lord and demand what I want? Even if the thought is not so prominent, even if we do not give it expression even to ourselves, do we not unconsciously appeal to our Lord on this dignified platform? The Lord, being King, cannot meet you on any platform save that of absolute humility."

No man has ever passed from his natural fleshly state into the state which is the salvation of the human soul save the man who has come into possession of a power that says, "I will humble myself to any position which may be necessary in order that I may receive a crumb from my Master's table." Is it true that we are presuming to think that because we are gaining control of the world's finances and business we can by the same methods, with more or less ease, bring about the supremacy of religion in the world? Never, never, never can it be done except down the bottom, where this woman stood, willing to sacrifice everything, as she was.

A SPLENDID VICTORY.

Was it not a glorious victory that she won, being held as it were at arms length by the Master? It was not merely to draw out and test her faith. He saw from the beginning. It was to give to his disciples an example and illustration that should endure through the ages as an inspiration. But that was not all. Amid all the rebuffs and silence and the scorn of the woman persisted. What a lesson in perseverance is that. Perseverance is prayer. You say, "Faith is the condition for the answering of prayer." True, faith is the condition, but the condition is the earnestness, Jesus is supreme ruler of the world and holds in His hand the universe as the hearts of men. And every man must come to Him through absolute surrender. The surrender of our own individuality in surrender to His absolute rebellion. And when we come as in the millennium of May and with the peaceable and sweetness of the dove, and in reference to the occurrence of other days, an institution of Methodism, while dis-

AWARDED MIRACLE IN VAIN.

Colored Prisoners Think They Are Not Getting a Square Deal Because Prison Doors Are Stubborn. The charge of retelling whiskey without license of the law was lodged against John Motter yesterday. Alice Allen, colored, more mathematically known as "Ninety-seven," spent yesterday as a cheerful prisoner on the same charge. Thomas Davidson, colored, was arrested also, and will tell the court to-day whether or not he did use a quantity of intoxicating liquors for gain and, if so, "how come."

Ada Gaines, colored, was taken off No. 23 yesterday morning about 8:15. The reason for her arrest at this uncanny hour was disorderly conduct on her part which shocked the officers of the law. She spent a good portion of the day in prison. Then a friend came to the rescue with fifteen big, round dollars and she was released, never, probably, to return.

CHALMERS MEMORIAL FORMED.

Church Which Seems to Have a Future of Usefulness Before It Formed in Dilworth—Building to Cost \$15,000 Will Be Under Way a Year Hence. "Twelve months from now we expect to begin laying the cornerstone of a \$15,000 church, to be the finest Associated Reformed Presbyterian church in Charlotte," said the ringing utterance to an Observer man last night by one connected with the new Dilworth A. R. P. church, the Chalmers Memorial by name, which was officially born yesterday afternoon at a meeting of those directly interested.

The organization of this church was in accordance with authorization given by the board of trustees of the church. The service was held in Simms' Hall, being conducted by Rev. Dr. R. G. Miller, Presbyterian instructed Dr. Miller, Rev. Dr. G. R. White, Elders B. Bryson, of the First A. R. P. church and R. M. Ranson, of East Avenue Tabernacle, to perfect the organization of a church in Dilworth, for which the preliminary steps had been taken some weeks ago. Dr. Miller was assisted yesterday by Rev. Dr. T. G. Boyce, formerly of Mecklenburg, now of Memphis, Tenn., and a visitor in the community. He was also assisted by Rev. J. A. Smith, pastor of East Avenue Tabernacle. Music was rendered by the East Avenue Tabernacle choir, in charge of Mr. L. M. McAllister.

The church was organized with 14 members. Messrs. A. R. Bates and F. L. Sloan were chosen trustees and Messrs. J. H. Ross, J. A. Russell and T. L. Kirkpatrick elders. The name of Chalmers Memorial was decided on, in honor of the memory of the late Rev. Dr. John T. Chalmers, for a half dozen years the beloved pastor of the First A. R. P. church and one of the most respected men in the councils of the larger bodies. It was under his guidance and in the realization of his idea that East Avenue Tabernacle was organized. This church now has about 600 members, and there are now five A. R. P. churches in Charlotte with an approximate membership of 1,400.

The Chalmers Memorial church owns a lot opposite Mr. T. C. Guthrie's place, for which \$2,300 was paid. There is no debt on this. It is 75 by 100 feet. Property is also made for a pastoral salary of \$900 a year and it is hoped to secure the services of Rev. R. E. Hough. Meetings for the next twelve months or more will be held in Simms' Hall, which is rented for the purpose of \$100 a month. About the expiration of this period the erection of a church building will be under way, to cost \$15,000. It is believed that the church will number among its members one hundred and fifty persons a year hence.

The organization of this church is a distinctive stride forward for the denomination in Charlotte and will without doubt realize a career of signal usefulness.

OFF FOR CONFERENCE.

Methodist Preachers in Charlotte, as Well as Over Western Carolina, On to Asheville. Yesterday closed the Conference year in the Methodist churches of Charlotte, as well as in Charlotte district and western North Carolina. Nearly all the Charlotte Methodists will leave to-day or tomorrow for Asheville, where the meeting will convene under the presidency of Bishop James Atkins, of Waynesville. The local ministers are: Rev. Frank Siler, Rev. H. K. Boyer, Rev. J. W. Wheeler, Rev. E. L. Bain, Rev. Harold Turner, Rev. J. F. Totten, Rev. W. S. Hales, Rev. A. R. Surratt, Rev. O. Rudolph, Rev. Dr. W. W. Bays and Rev. J. A. Baldwin.

As stated previously, Rev. A. L. Coburn may be unable to go on account of the illness of his wife, and Rev. J. S. Nelson will attend. The following laymen have been elected to represent Charlotte District: Messrs. J. W. Gullidge, of Wadeboro; W. H. Pinifer, of Monroe; C. W. Pitt and L. E. Anderson, of Charlotte. Rev. G. C. Brinkman will attend as an applicant for admission. An attendance of at least five hundred is expected at Asheville. Resolutions have been made there for the entertainment of the guests.

CITY'S INCOME GROWING.

Revenue From All Sources For Current Year \$218,717—An Increase of Approximately \$25,000 Over Last Year. According to the latest and most reliable sources, the city's income for both general and school purposes for the current year is something in the neighborhood of \$214,000, or to be exact, \$213,717.01. This is an increase of something like \$25,000 over that of last year, a very healthy advance. The figures in detail follow: From general taxes (white) \$125,702.29 From general taxes (colored) 6,626.66 Licenses collected first 6 months 81,788.06 Total \$213,117.01

Income from taxes (white) \$125,702.29 Income from taxes (colored) 6,626.66 Total \$132,328.95 Total income for city for 1903 for both general and school purposes \$213,717.01

Little Virginia Withers Hurt.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Withers, of Spartanburg, S. C., will learn with regret of an unfortunate accident by which their beautiful 2-year-old daughter, Virginia, was badly scalded a few days ago at their home in Spartanburg. The child knocked over a teapot full of boiling water, receiving painful injuries over the greater part of her body. No serious results are anticipated. The child is unusually bright, winsome and attractive and the friends of her parents will wish for a speedy and complete recovery.

An Expression of Thanks.

To the Editor of The Observer: The board of managers of St. Peter's Hospital desires to express its appreciation and thanks to all those who helped or aided at the recent annual fair.

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In case of death of the head of the family, we cancel the club contract, and make the member a present of the unpaid balance. Write us at once for an application blank and complete description of different styles of pianos. In this way you can make a selection that will delight you. You can leave the question of how to pay to us. We will see that you get a perfect instrument. A well made, sturdy grand and a beautiful upright with each piano. Write for full particulars of the club plan in new form.

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Mecklenburg should have a Tax Commission. "Mecklenburg county needs a tax commission," remarked a Charlotte citizen to an Observer man a few days ago, "for the purpose of equalizing the tax rate of the several townships. Some adjustment is now attempted but with little success. It is a well-known fact that lands in one community are rated far cheaper than equally productive and equally valuable lands in another section. For instance, I know of certain lands in Sharon township which are listed at \$8 an acre and those just across the big road in Charlotte township at \$35. The farmer residing on one side of the road is made to pay three times as much as the farmer residing on the other side of the road, a manifest injustice. A tax commission, created for the purpose of equalizing rates, would be a great benefit."

Mr. Lee and Dr. Wylie at Great Falls, S. C. Mr. W. S. Lee, Jr., vice president and chief engineer of the Southern Power Company, spent yesterday at Great Falls and Rocky Creek, S. C., in company with Dr. W. Gill Wylie, of New York, president of the company, inspecting the great hydro-electric developments in operation and under construction there. They returned to the city last night.

WATCHED FIFTEEN YEARS. "For fifteen years I have watched the working of Bucklen's Arnica Salve; and it has never failed to cure any sore, boil, ulcer or burn to which it was applied. It has saved my life," says A. W. Hardy, of East Wilton, Maine. Sold at W. L. Hand & Co.'s drug store.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS No. 1. Steiff Up, beautiful figured mahogany... \$375 No. 2. Steiff Up, dark mahogany... 350 No. 3. Shaw Up, beautiful figured mahogany... 325 No. 4. Shaw Up, dark mahogany... 300 No. 5. Kohler Up, beautiful figured mahogany... 275 No. 6. Kohler Up, beautiful figured mahogany... 250 No. 7. Foster, art finish mahogany... 250 No. 8. Lester, mahogany... 250 No. 9. Steiff Up, dark mahogany... 225 No. 10. Shaw Up, dark mahogany... 215 No. 11. Ivers & Pond, figured mahogany... 215 No. 12. Kohler Up, figured mahogany... 215 No. 13. Kohler Up, dark mahogany... 200 No. 14. Kohler Up, dark mahogany... 175

SECOND HAND PIANOS No. 15. Steiff, in elegant condition, fine tone... 275 No. 16. Marshall, Wendenhall, figured mahogany... 200 No. 17. Everett, forest green... 175 No. 18. Everett, oak... 150

SQUARES No. 19. Mathushak, most excellent piano... 125 No. 20. Gravenstein & Fuller, excellent condition... 25 No. 21. Gravenstein & Fuller... 15 No. 22. Bacon & Raven... 25

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