THE SUNDAY

SICKNESS AND SIN.

By Rev. William Evans, D. D. (Director Biblical Department of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago; Official Lecturer of the Cook County (Chicago) Sunday School Association on the International S. S. Lessons.)

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power on earth to forgive sins."-Mar 2: 10.

Lesson: Mark 2: 1-12.

"And they came unto Him bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four, And when they could not come nigh unto Him for the press, they uncovered the roof where He was who bore them in His own body on the and when they had broken it up, they tree. Forgiveness then is by faith in let down the bed wherein the sick of the redeeming sacrifice of Christ, We the palsy lay. When Jesus saw their have forgiveness through His shed faith, He said unto the sick of the blood. Here is law and love combined, palsy: Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their Jesus. hearts: Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only. And immediately when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they so reasoned with themselves, He said unto them: Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy: Thy sins be forgiven thee: or to say: Arise, and take up thy bed and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of Man hath power on eareh to forgive sins, (He saith to the sick of the pal- ports. sy) Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all."

Sickness a Type of Sin. between sickness and sin. Leprosy, is typical of sin in its beginnings, growth and sin consumation. Palsy, like sin, paralyzes the faculties of man; natural blindness caused by sin. In spiritual sense people may "have eyes and see not; ears and hear not.'

Sinner.

of the disease of sin. Sinblights the well. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. R. H. hearing; darkens the understanding Jordan & Co. so that it cannot grasp nor understand divine things. Sin parayzes the faculties of the soul. The sinner is as helpless to walk in the way of God's commandments as this palsied man nature, said; "I know that in me dwelleth no good things; for to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not. The good that I would, I do not. What a confession of human inability. Sin and Sickness Closely Connected. .. While it is not true that in every

case sickness is the direct result of a taught His disciples in the case of the man born blind (John 9) that this sore afflicted came not because of any given thee," and afterward: "Rise, take up thy bed and walk," the Master

at least (as well as in John 5) the affliction was the result of some particular sin, "Sin no more lest a worse these emphatically set forth the close relation between sin and disease. Sin Is Just as Real as Disease.

To deny the existence and reality of sin is pure folly and consumate nonsence. Jesus Christ did not come into the world to die for a mere phantom of the mortal mind, nor was He We may change the name, but we can-

not change the nature of sin; we may deny that it exists, but still its ravages are seen in the experience of the human race. We may call sin an imaginary thing, but oh, how real and deadly is the havoc it creates. To Jesus Christ, who understood all these things, much better than we do, sickness and sin were alike stern realities. Sin Must Needs Be Forgiven.

Man must be forgiven or else he will be lost. If there is such a thing as sin in the world, then there is such a thing as punishment and condemnation for sin, If there be no sin, then NEW YORK. we need have no worry with regard to the thought of punishment. Jesus Christ taught very definitely that sin was real, and if unforgiven was the means of bringing down wrath upon the head of the sinner. He said to the unrepentant Jews: "If ye die in your sins, where I am ye cannot come." S is not something to be pitied merely nor is it a thing to be smoothed over

mea. or compromised; it is a co dition which calls for forgiveness. W must deal definitely with God about or we shall never dwell where Chris

How Can Sin Be Forgiven? How can punishment for sin averted? It has been said that ther are three ways. First, inasmuch as suffering and punishment is the result My disease is of sin, let us stop sinning, and then we shall cease suffering. That sounds well. But it is cold, comfortless logic. Who can stop sinning; where is the man in all the earth that doeth good and sinneth not: This is law without love. Secondly, it is acknowledged that there is sin and there is numich cial sale being beld by that there is sin and there is punishment for sin, but then God is kind, nent for sin, but then God is kind, loving, and compassionate that He loving, and compassionate that He loving and the loving an that there is sin and there is punishyou have been pretty bad, but I will look over it; come right into Heaven. That is love without law. If this were! the real status of the case. Heaven would not be a place long secure from the attacks of sin. Unless holiness and righteousness be the center of

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Forgiveness Through Christ. There remains just one other way of forgiveness, and that is the true way. There is sin, and there is punishment and condemnation for sin. But God has laid all our sins on Christ, thus allowing God to be just and the justifier of the sinner who believes in

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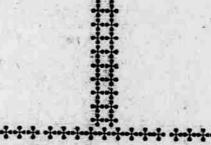
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