

KEEPING THE FAITH.

DR. CPAPMAN'S SUNDAY SERMON

It is Faith in God's Providence That Creates Genuine Manhood and Womanhood.

NEW YORK CITY.—The following sermon, entitled "Live in the Sunshine," has been furnished for publication by the distinguished and eloquent evangelist, the Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman. It was preached from the text "Keep yourselves in the love of God." Jude 21.

Jude's is one of the briefest of all the letters in the New Testament, containing only twenty-five verses. It is, perhaps, the last of the epistles. Though the date is not definitely settled, it was probably written after the destruction of Jerusalem, when most of the apostles had finished their work.

There is a most delightful spirit of humility in the letter. The writer called himself a servant, and the bondsman of Jesus Christ and the brother of James, and that is a beautiful modesty. For, in fact, it is generally believed that he was the Lord's own brother and the son of Joseph and Mary.

To no particular church or people was the letter written, but the accounts make it especially applicable to us. It is very practical. The heart of Jude was stirred because certain men were denying God and the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, because of this, "I exhort you that you should contend earnestly for the faith once delivered 'once and for all' to the saints." That expression in the Greek, however, reads for the faith delivered 'once and for all' to the saints. So the doctrine is the same to-day as in the days of Jude and before then. Reading on to the twentieth and twenty-fifth verses they indicate that we are expected to contend as did the early disciples.

It has always seemed to me that faith produced men, and their living in the world was a contending for the faith. We have the pattern of the life of the apostolic Christian given to us. If you study the Acts of the Apostle, the letters of Paul, Peter, John, and, better still, the wonderful prayer of Christ in the seventeenth chapter of John, you will see that there were three great elements in their character. They were in the world, but not of it; they were constantly looking for the coming of Christ, and they were filled with missionary fire and zeal. These three characteristics must predominate now if the church is to have power. When one is in the world and not of it he realizes he is a pilgrim and a stranger here, and he endures trials and temptations because he knows that they are but for a little while. The second characteristic has just as great an influence. The disciples were constantly expecting the return of our Lord; they remembered the testimony of the men who had heard the angels on the slopes of Olivet, and again and again they opened their eyes, expecting to behold Him face to face.

It was this hope in their hearts which inspired their lives. Transcending the cross and its shame and kept them pure in the midst of all temptation and sin.

The third characteristic is equally important. How much we need to long for the salvation of others! Nothing so touches the hidden springs of the Christian heart as to feel in some measure that he is responsible for those about him. Some one has said, when God would draw out all the fathomless love of a woman's heart, he lays a helpless babe upon her bosom, and it is true that the church will awake to power when she awakes to responsibility. There is something which I have in mind which will give us all the things I have spoken about. It is described in the text. If there could be any subject growing out of the text to describe it, I should say that it would be "Live in the sunshine." I know what the sunshine does for the clouds; it gives them a silver lining. I know what it does for the grass and the trees and the flowers; it warms and nourishes until they blossom into beauty and fruitfulness. Take the plant away from the light and it will droop and die; place it where the sun will kiss it and every leaf rejoices. This is the very poorest illustration as to what the love of God will do for us, so let us keep ourselves in the love of God.

HOW MAY WE KEEP OURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD?

1. That word "keep" is the key word of Jude's epistle. In it we are told that God will keep us, but we are also told to keep ourselves. We are told to persevere. But it is also said we will be preserved. This is God and man working together, and it is singular, to say the least, that the word "preserve" and the word "persevere" are composed of exactly the same letters. The literal rendering of the expression that God will keep us "as in a garrison." How secure, then, we must be!

1. No way so efficient as by prayer. There are different kinds of prayer. Jacob prayed when he met the angel of Jabab, and had his name changed from Jacob to Israel. Moses prayed when he pleaded with God to look with favor again upon His chosen people. Christ prayed in the garden, for it is said: "Being in an agony, He prayed more earnestly." But this is not the kind of prayer I have in mind; it is rather the kind that Christ offered when He was alone on the mountain with God. I imagine the Father talked with Him more than He with the Father. It is the kind that David describes when he says: "My meditation of Him shall be sweet." Faith is the eye with which we can see God, and meditation the wing with which we fly to Him. It is the kind of prayer offered when the suppliant feels that he is the only one in all the universe; it is the kind of prayer which if our mother could hear, or the dearest friend we had on earth, we should feel that it had been diverted and had not reached God. It is the kind of prayer we offer when we let God talk to us as well as talk to Him. This will keep us in the love of God.

2. Few things will so help as this old book, the Bible. Two gentlemen were riding together, and when they were about to separate one asked the other, "Do you ever read your Bible?" "Yes," said his friend; "I do, but I receive no benefit because I feel that I do not love God." "Neither did I," replied the other, "but God loved me," and that answer fairly lifted the man into the skies, for it gave him a new thought. The question is not at all as to how much I love God, but rather as to how much God loves me. Read the Bible in that way and it will help you to live in the text.

Love dictated every word, love selected every sentence, love presented every providence, love sent Christ to die upon the cross, and you can not read it in this way without keeping yourself in the love of God.

could there be of entering into His love? II. There must be emphasis upon the preposition "in." The Greek signifies the closest connection, the most intimate association and the most perfect communion. All these things are possible. The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and there may be just as close a fellowship between Christ and His followers. Now and then in this world we find persons whose lives are so blended that they almost look alike. This is oftentimes true of the husband and wife. Tennyson had it in his mind when he said: "In the long years liker must they grow." This communion of the believer with Christ is suggested by the stones in a building, which take hold upon the foundation; by the branches which take hold upon the vine; by the different members of the body knit togetherness; by the union of the husband and wife; by the union of the Father and the Son; by that in this union there is a stability, fidelity, consciousness, affection and perfect harmony. If one is in Christ, he will live above the world, and the storm's effect. The earth may be covered with storms, but a little way on the atmosphere is clear and the sun is shining. If we wait upon the Lord we shall renew our strength; we shall mount with wings as eagles.

THE LOVE OF GOD.

III. Would that we might understand the meaning of the expression "the love of God." It is hinted at in this world. Passing along the streets one hears the words of a song or catches the strains of a piece of music being played, and he says, "that is from Beethoven or Mozart. I recognize the movement." So in this life we catch strains of the love of God. We behold it in the mother's disinterested, self-denying love; we see it in the lover's glow, and in the little child's innocent affection, but these things are only hints. The Bible gives us the best revelation. Beginning with Genesis the scroll is constantly unfolding. Patriarchs and prophets, judges and kings each tell their story. So little by little we get flashes out of His great heart until they all come together as the rays of the sun are converged in the sun-glass; then we begin to understand. It was not, however, until the Son of Righteousness arose at the advent that there came the morning light which gives us the thought, not of the administration of God, but of His heart. What is infinite love? The purest, sweetest, tenderest thing known on earth is the overhanging heart of a mother over the cradle that contains her babe that can give nothing back; receiving everything and returning nothing—yet the love of the mother is but a drop in the ocean when compared with the love of God. It is infinite, infinite!

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

Over in England an archdeacon, having reached almost the end of his life, had his home so constructed that he could spend his closing days in sunshine. In the morning they placed his chair so that he could turn his face toward the east and see the rising sun; at noon they wheeled his chair into the south window, where he could behold the sun in his meridian, but in the evening hours they would place him in the west window, where he could behold the king of day sinking behind the distant hills. So let me ask you in the morning of your life to keep your faces toward the east window, and at noon to live in the south window, but when evening comes turn your face toward the west window, so that all your journey through you may live in the sunshine, and thus keep yourselves in the love of God.

The Right View of Life.

If we could restrain our often too-ready tongues and fiery tempers until the storms of human, every-hour and every-day trials pass over, what shadows we would arise through!—aye, smiling, as we saw them vanishing into the distant nothingness of oblivion. If we could but reason calmly and patiently and resolutely with ourselves, as we betimes must bear the foot-bruises along life's rugged pathway, and bathe them in His heavenly dew of hope until even the scars leave not a vestige of their existence as we gaze upon them again with the solacing eyes of eternal faith; if we could only train our human ears to listen to the toils of sorrow that rebound upon them as we perform most often seen the heavy clouds falling upon some beloved breast; if we could only train our hearts to thrill with the ecstasy of a higher trust and a suppler love instead of morbid human despair when some mortal eye, some hand, some voice in which we vainly trusted, oh! so fondly, desecrates the pedestal of loyal friendship and honor upon which our love elected their endurance, had turned to mock us, or thrown us helplessly aside, or lured us by calumny or distrustful suspicions. Ah, yes! if we only could do these things how different would our lives seem in their passing. But we must only try, remembering our Saviour's heavy heart and cross-wearied shoulders, and His bleeding feet on the lonely road to Calvary. He also had to reach the immortal goal of peace through life's bitterest shadows. He smiled 'an angelically at His enemies, and to-day He turns—oh! we know not how often—to blot out the sins of His wandering human fold as they cry out to Him for mercy below.—Christian Work.

The Father's Hand.

Nor is the sense of safety all that is awakened in the memory of a father's hand. It tells also of guidance and companionship. Not only in stormy evenings was the large hand reached down to clasp the little one. But memory is filled with pleasant outlines and beauties of the country, always guided by the father's hand. The hand of father came to mean so much, both of pleasure and comfort, that the phrase is never seen or used but a sacred tenderness steals into the heart. All this and much more the Heavenly Father is to His children. We reserve our thoughts of the Father too frequently to the days of stress and grief, and forget it is the Father who gives the joys and pleasures, too. We think so much of the pitying Father, and imagine falsely that His care is confined to circumstances that call for pity. His hand is a beautiful hand, filled with pleasures. "The way is dark; my Father takes my hand," is often upon our lips, but just as true and far more frequently the path has many flowers, all planted by one hand, life has many gifts all planted by one hand, the days are crowded with joys all showered from one hand. And this hand is "my Father's hand."—Episcopal Recorder.

When Prayer is Needed.

It is well to let our spirit of prayer find expression according to God's grace and our needs. It is said that "when a Breton sailor puts to sea his prayer is, 'Keep me, my God; my boat is so small, and the ocean is so wide.'" We need God's loving care at all times, and no place or degree of danger is beyond the limit of His ability or readiness to give protection.—Sunday-School Times.

Mexican Mustang Liniment

will readily overcome Loss of Hair, Diseased Hoofs and Scratches in horses, mules and cattle. Farmers try it.



A toad under a harrow

suffers no more than the faithful horse that is tortured with Spavins, Swinney, Harness Sores, Sprains, etc. Most horse owners know this and apply the kind of sympathy that heals, known far and wide as

Mexican Mustang Liniment.

Never fails—not even in the most aggravated cases. Cures caked udder in cows quicker than any known remedy. Hardly a disease peculiar to muscle, skin or joints that cannot be cured by it.

Mexican Mustang Liniment

is the best remedy on the market for Wind Galls, Sprains and Skin Lumps. It keeps horses and mules in condition.

I have used Ripans Tablets with so much satisfaction that I can cheerfully recommend them. I have been troubled for about three years with what I called bilious attacks coming on regularly once a week. Was told by different physicians that it was caused by bad teeth, of which I had several. I had the teeth extracted, but the attacks continued. I had seen advertisements of Ripans Tablets in all the papers but had no faith in them, but about six weeks since a friend induced me to try them. Have taken but two of the small 5-cent boxes of the Tablets and have had no recurrence of the attacks. Have never given a testimonial for anything before, but the great amount of good which I believe has been done me by Ripans Tablets induces me to add mine to the many testimonials you doubtless have in your possession now.

I have been a great sufferer from constipation for over five years. Nothing gave me any relief. My feet and legs and abdomen were bloated so I could not wear shoes on my feet and only a loose dress. I saw Ripans Tablets advertised in our daily paper, bought some and took them as directed. Have taken them about three weeks and there is such a change! I am not constipated any more and I owe it all to Ripans Tablets. I am thirty seven years old, have no occupation, only my household duties and nursing my sick husband. He has had the dropsy and I am trying Ripans Tablets for him. He feels some better but it will take some time, he has been sick so long. You may use my letter and name as you like.

I want to inform you, in words of highest praise, of the benefit I have derived from Ripans Tablets. I am a professional nurse and in this profession a clear head is always needed. Ripans Tablets does it. After one of my cases I found myself completely run down. Acting on the advice of Mr. Geo. Bowler, Ph. G., 638 Newark Ave., Jersey City, I took Ripans Tablets with grand results.

RIPANS

—
The modern standard Family Medicine: Cures the common every-day ill of humanity.

I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a car or go into a crowded place without getting a headache and sick at my stomach. I heard about Ripans Tablets from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found such relief from their use she advised me to take them too, and I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial.

Mother was troubled with heartburn and sleeplessness, caused by indigestion, for a good many years. One day she saw a testimonial in the paper endorsing Ripans Tablets. She determined to give them a trial, was greatly relieved by the first box, and now takes the Tablets regularly. She keeps a few cartons Ripans Tablets in the house and says she will not be without them. The heartburn and sleeplessness have disappeared with the indigestion which was formerly so great a burden for her. Her whole family take the Tablets regularly, especially after a hearty meal. My mother is fifty years of age and is enjoying the best of health and spirits; also eats hearty meals, an impossibility before she took Ripans Tablets.

Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, bowels are in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions.

My seven-year-old boy suffered with pains in his head, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he did eat did not agree with him. He was this and of a sad color. After reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, bowels are in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions.

A new style packet containing TEN RIPANS TABLETS packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores—FOR FIVE CENTS. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (120 tablets) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the RIPANS CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (one tablet) will be sent for five cents. RIPANS TABLETS may also be had of some grocers, general stores, news agents and at some liquor stores and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.

THE CELEBRATED CORNISH AMERICAN PIANOS AND ORGANS.

ONE YEAR'S FREE TRIAL

WE WILL SHIP A CORNISH PIANO OR CORNISH ORGAN ANYWHERE UPON THE DISTINCT UNDERSTANDING THAT IF IT IS NOT SATISFACTORY TO PURCHASER AFTER 12 MONTHS' USE, WE WILL TAKE IT BACK.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS OF THE WORLD FAMOUS CORNISH PLAN

FREE

REFERENCES: Our bank, your bank, any bank, or any of the multitude of patrons who have purchased millions of dollars worth of instruments from us during the past fifty years.

SEND FOR PARTICULARS OF THE CORNISH CO-OPERATIVE PLAN, showing how you can secure a Cornish Piano or Organ FREE!

MAKERS OF HIGH GRADE AMERICAN PIANOS AND ORGANS.

A. P. MOONEY

Tonnocht Artist, next door to P. M. Office. Razor honing to perfection. I also repair shoes and can guarantee my work. Just try me.

TRAYON, N. C.

TRY THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE

WRITE FOR CIRCULARS showing the different styles of Sewing Machines we manufacture and their prices before you purchase any other.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO. CHICAGO, ILL.

84 Union Square, N. Y. Chicago, Ill. St. Louis, Mo.
Dallas, Tex. San Francisco, Cal. Atlanta, Ga.

FOR SALE BY

WINTER TOURIST TICKETS

NOW ON SALE VIA

Southern Railway

To all the principal Winter Resorts, at

VERY LOW RATES

The Resorts of the South, Southeast and Southwest also Cuba, California and Mexico. Offer many inducements to the Tourist.

Some Prominent Resorts

Are St. Augustine, Palm Beach, Miami, Jacksonville, Tampa, Port Tampa, Bradenton, Sarasota, Thomasville, Charleston, Columbia, Aiken, Augusta, Pinehurst, Camden, Summerville, Asheville, Hot Springs.

"THE LAND OF THE SKY" And "Sapphire Country."

Tickets on Sale Up to and including April 30, 1903, limited to return until May 31, 1903.

Stop-Overs Allowed at important points.

THROUGH SLEEPING CARS

Of the highest standard between principal cities and resorts.

Dining Car Service Unexcelled.

Ask nearest Ticket Agent for copy of "Winter Homes in a Summer Land."

W. A. Turk, S. H. Hardwick,
Pass. Traffic Mgr. Gen'l Pass. Agent,
Washington, D. C. Washington, D. C.

50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, COPYRIGHTS, &c.

Anyone sending a sketch and description will quickly ascertain our opinion free whether invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated work. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms \$3 a year: four months \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.

MUNN & CO. 361 Broadway, New York