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Text. - "And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life."

Of all the heathen kings that are mentioned in the Bible, not one of them is more interesting than Nebuchadnezzar. He was unquestionably the greatest and the most powerful of the Babylonian monarchs. Under his vigorous rule, the empire which had been established by his father rapidly increased; and, Babylon, its capital, assumed an aspect of unparalleled magnificence and splendor. Besides the countries in the Mesopotamian plain and the highland regions beyond, there several other important provinces added to his dominion. These included Arabia, Syria, and Palestine.

Babylon is commonly believed to have occupied the site of the ancient Babel. It was situated in a flat and fertile plain on the banks of the river Euphrates. Some ancient writers give a very singular account of this renowned city. Its walls were drawn about it in the form of a square, each side of which was fifteen miles long. Twenty-five streets ran in one direction, and twenty-five across them at right angles, terminating in a hundred gates, and dividing the city into six hundred and twenty-five squares. The middle of each square was laid out in gardens. Nebuchadnezzar made immense pains on the embellishment of Babylon, and, among other great works, including the splendid palaces and temples, he constructed its famous Hanging Gardens, which consisted of several large terraces, piled one above the other, till the height equalled that of the walls of the city. They are said to have been made to please Amyitis, his Median queen, who missed in the low plains of Babylonia, the bold mountain scenery of her highland home.

To this city of marvelous beauty, Jehoiachin, king of Judah, was brought a prisoner. Here he remained in captivity about thirty-seven years. This was, indeed, a severe punishment, but it came to him as a result of his disobedience to God. It is stated that he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done. And how true that is today! So often the son walks in the wicked footsteps of an ungodly father. If the father stays away from the house of God, scoffs at religion, ridicules ministers and those who are trying to do that which is right, and indulges in all forms of impiety, the probabilities are that the son will do like-
wise. The parent exerts a tremendous influence over the child. That being the case, it is vitally important that he should live a life that is free from reproach. The sins of the fathers are sometimes visited upon their children unto the third and fourth generations. Jehoiachin walked in the wicked ways of his father and had to pay the penalty. He was in prison for thirty-seven years.

But it is a long lane that has no turning.
A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE.


After the last supper was finished and Judas had left the upper chamber, Jesus drew His little band of faithful followers about Him and poured into their receptive hearts some of the most precious words He ever uttered. The scene was very impressive. Of all the discourses of the Master, it seems to me that the message He delivered on this occasion was the greatest. He knew that in a few hours He would be betrayed into the hands of His enemies and would suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes and later be crucified. And so He comforted His disciples with the hope of Heaven, professed Himself the way, the truth and the life. Assured their prayers in His name would be effectual; requested love and obedience; promised to send them the Comforter and added this blessing, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." And just when their interest was aroused to its highest pitch and they were receiving new visions of the kingdom of God on earth, He said unto them, "Arise, let us go hence." This ended the final interview of the Savior with the apostles.

I. So end all life's brightest chapters. Our sojourn in this world is likened unto a dream, an eagle hastening to its prey, a swift ship, a cloud, a shadow and a tale that is told. The brief period of time that we call life is but the beginning of it. In a larger and grander sense, there is no such thing as death. What we call death is but the beginning of our spiritual existence in another realm. The voice that says good night shall in some brighter clime give me good morning. The Son of man is simply bidding us to arise and go hence.

II. So end all of life's associations. In this congregation today, I see a number of homes represented. No doubt peace and happiness dwells about your fireside. But sooner or later all your homes will be broken up. All dearest friendships and fellowships are interrupted. There is a crake on the door. What has happened?
One of your number has gone out into the great beyond and you see
that individual no more. (This church.)

III. So ends the quest for knowledge. At the public school
we master our A B C’s, push on through the successive grades until we
reach the university and then go forth into the world with our diploma
and the degree of Bachelor of Science. Science is from sire, meaning-
to know. But how little the ”Bachelor of Science” knows!

Are you a geologist? What does that mean? You have analyzed
a grain of sand and discovered its component parts and government by
certain forces acting according to fixed laws. What more? You call
your fellow scientists together, and on comparing notes, you find they
have reached the same meager result. Thus far and no further. This
is the science of geology! And the curtain falls.

Or perhaps you are a biologist. This means that you have
dissected a blade of grass, found out its color scheme and the pattern
of its fabric; and that you have been vainly chasing an elusive mys-
tery which you call life. But what is life? Assemble a convention of
biologists and ask them. There is no voice nor answer nor any that re-
gardeth. At this point one rises to say, ”I move that we adjourn.”
And the biologists pass out.

Or it may be that you are an astronomer; that is, you have
been watching the stars. There ten thousand times ten thousand and
thousands of thousands; and as you gaze, more come wheeling into
space, like ships to join an infinite armada. You enlarge the object
glass of your telescope and still they come. You make a spectral anal-
ysis; you consult your table of logarithms and measure their relative
distance. Then your eyes wander to the interstellar spaces, and you
ask, ”What lies beyond?” There is no response. And this is the science
of the stars!

Or possibly you are a theologian. Theology is derived from
two Greek words, theos (God) and logos (word) and is a study of God.
But can any one by searching find out Jehovah? The finite can not
comprehend the infinite. In vain do theologians confer; in vain do
councils assemble; in vain do they formulate creeds. Science is baffled. Faith alone can lift her eyes. "Where is the wisdom of this world?" "Arise, let us go hence."

IV. Our life-work ends in the same way: "Arise, let us go hence." We set out to accomplish great things for God. We see visions and dream dreams and they dissolve about us like castles in the air. We are cut off in the midst of our days. We hoped for success but learned that there is no such thing as success in this world. One man only has ever been able to work which the others were not.

"What next?"

Let us go hence.

Focus our duties.
National Type Founders
37 N. High St.,
Akron, O.

Suggestions for a song
Em Still on the Way.

1. Since I started for that city long ago,
I have met with many trials, grief and woe,
And sometimes it seems my progress
Has been very slow.
But thank God, I am still on the way.

2. Disconsolate — despair
Answers forever

3. Oftentimes on the mountain
valley, etc.
Text. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." -Rev. 22:13.

The Apostle John was the only one of the twelve men who were intimately associated with Jesus in His earthly ministry who did not suffer a violent death. He did not, however, escape the opposition and persecution of the world. In his old age, he became an exile and was banished to the lonely island of Patmos because of his faithful adherence to his Lord and Master. In that desolate country were revealed to him the sublime and splendid visions of this wondrous book. God made Patmos the ante-room of glory, the vestibule of heaven. Christ manifested Himself to John in His divine majesty and majesty and grandeur. This disciple of love was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and he heard behind him a great voice, as of a trumpet, saying, "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last." Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet, therefore they denote the beginning and the end and they signify both the priority and the supremacy of the Redeemer. If Christ claimed this appellation, and had a just right to do so, then His divinity is at once a settled fact. He affirmed that He is the One which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

1. The Universe. Entire creation, animals, men, angels. All things made by Him. Paul.

2. Redemption. Man was created in the image and likeness of Jehovah - The Fall - Redemption only through Christ.

3. Bible.

4. The Church. The organization - Pentecost. When He is come, He shall testify of me. Like Jesus.

5. The Christian. The story told by Josephus Daniels about the oldest lover. The faithful related men.

6. Heaven. Loved ones, etc. Bud Robinson's vision of Heaven.
No. 240. **Keep It Out.**

The Eighteenth Amendment is a part of our Constitution. It was adopted by the American people to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. This amendment, it may be said, is a phase of the war on disease, and has been wisely adopted.

It was adopted by the American people to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. This amendment, it may be said, is a phase of the war on disease, and has been wisely adopted.

1. The wine has been outlawed. Keep it out! Keep it out! Oh, the breath that it has wrecked.
2. There's a clime for re-peak. Let us make our home a clean home. Keep it out! Keep it out! Keep it out!
3. There must be no compromise. Use it well, and the home that is made will not be lost.
4. For the sake of girls and boys, Keep it out! Keep it out! Keep it out! Keep it out! Keep it out!

**Warnings Against Drunkenness.**

Let whosoever dies, as is the day, so is the ending drunkenness.—Heb. 11:15.

It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink when any whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.—Rom. 14:21.

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess. But be filled with the Spirit.—Eph. 5:18.

The above is a reduced facsimile of No. 240 in "Sacred Selections," our new song book. **SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER:** $10.75 per 100; $6.00 per 50. On orders for 50 or more, the name of your church and its pastor will be printed on the front cover of the books that you purchase, if you desire.

SEND 15 CENTS AT ONCE FOR A SAMPLE

M. HOMER CUMMINGS, Fayetteville, West Va.
Text. - "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 2 Timothy 2:15.

The letters of Saint Paul to Timothy and Titus are often called the "Pastoral Epistles." They are so styled because they were addressed to men who had charge of churches and were laboring for the salvation of souls. They give instructions to the minister for both his private and public conduct. He is exhorted to be an "example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity; to speak the things which become sound doctrine; to preach the gospel and to be instant in season and out of season and to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. He is also warned to flee from all evil and to "follow after righteousness, godliness, love, patience and meekness, to fight the good fight of faith, to lay hold on eternal life and to keep that which had been committed to his trust."

And in our text, he is commanded to "study to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 1 Timothy 6:11.

From the information that we glean from the sacred narrative, Timothy was a young man at the time of this writing and had been assigned to his first charge. He possessed the necessary educational and spiritual qualifications for his work for he had known the Holy Scriptures since he had been a child. But there was one thing that he lacked and that was experience. Paul tells him to let no one despise his youth.

To understand our text, we must peruse the entire verse. By reading only a part of it, we fail to grasp its true meaning.

The first word in it is "study." This, we readily agree, is commendable. Our craniums were made for a better purpose than a hat rack. It is not a crime to occasionally think. All of the conveniences that we enjoy today are the product of thought. But worldly knowledge is not the "one thing needful." If not properly used, it will be a bane instead of a blessing. During the age of Pericles, when the learning of the Athenians reached its loftiest altitude, vice and immorality knew no limit. Socrates, the idol of the young men of Greece, was a libertine. Plato taught that
Text. - "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed; rightly dividing the word of truth." - 2 Timothy 2:15.

The letters of Saint Paul to Timothy

1. This message not only applies to the clergy, but to the laity as well. The ambition of every body should be to please the Creator and to make us up to the highest possible standard of character, and Christian living. Solomon, whose name is synonymous for wisdom, said, "And further let this Mary can be administered of the making of holiness, there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. Fear God, and keep His commandments; for this is the whole duty of man." The passage of Scripture quoted for today should be of special interest to this graduating class. The person to whom it was written was young. He was just beginning his life's work and lacked experience. He was told to let no man despise his youth.

There is no excuse for any one today being ignorant. A call to any vocation means a call to prepare. - Sam Jones, A Bishop, a young man.
under certain circumstances it was perfectly ethical to prevaricate. Education without Christianity is dangerous— it makes the
criminal more efficient. Some of the most notorious law-breakers
were college graduates.

"Study to show—" In some instances, this may be legitimate.
Advertising and display when discreetly done will pay. Many men in
professional and commercial life have failed because they kept their
talents concealed, they were not able to sell themselves to the public.

"Study to show thyself—" There are a few ladies in Paris, London,
Quebec and South America who spend hours of assiduous labor, unceasing-
ly diligent toil, and indefatigable effort in studying to show them-
selves. Often large amounts of cosmetics are used in the endeavor. To
a certain extent, this is fittingly proper. Our bodies are the temples
the Holy Spirit should be appropriately attired. God has put robes
of beauty and glory upon all His works. Every flower is dressed in
richness and every star is veiled in brightness. But hidden virtues
are more desirable than outward appearance. The eye of Jehovah sees
our hearts.

"There is many a coat that is tattered and torn
But beneath lies a true, honest heart;
But because he's not dressed like his neighbor in silk,
Why society keeps them apart,
On the one fortune smiles,—the other one fails,
No matter what venture he tries;
Till death in the end brings them down to the grave
And six feet of earth makes them both of one size.

"Now if ever you meet a poor fellow who tries
To battle the world and its frown;
Just lend him a hand—perchance he'll succeed,
Do not crush him and still keep him down.
For a cup of cold water in charity giv'n
Is remembered with joy in the skies;
We all are but human, we all have to die,
And six feet of earth make us all of one size."

"Study to show thyself approved—" Self-vindication is one
of the first laws of nature. Those who assert that they do not care
what people think of them, do not tell the truth. We all want to
3. Emerson, in one of his hilarious moments, exclaimed, “If a man can preach a better sermon, etc.

But far better than the outward adornment of the wearing of beauty or costly apparel is that of the soul, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of Jehovah of great price. “Man

OOKETH ON THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, etc.” The peac

— unconscious beauty
stand approved before men. But herein is a grave danger. If we are not careful, too great an estimate will be placed upon public opinion. Because anything is popular does not imply that it is right. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go therein: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life; and few there be that find it." John tells us that when Jesus was here on earth that many of the chief rulers believed on him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God." This puts an entirely different construction on this verse. We desire not only the favor of the most High but we want to be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. We should have not only passive goodness but positive righteousness. Confucius stated the Golden Rule negatively: "Whatsoever ye would not that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." But the opposition of men, not their fickle flattery, nor their shameral applause, but the favor of the Most High. Of Solomon it was said that the work of the Father hath not left me alone: for I do always those things that please Him. I have my heart set on nothing but the favor of the Most High. Solomon: do we satisfy with men?

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God." We should have it. To him that knoweth to do good, to him service. I cannot see that men and women. Dr. Pickens, Dr. Pickens.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God." That needeth not to be ashamed. A conscientious, diligent, efficient workman, faithfulness and colored man that Sam Jones mentions who died.

- Bobson V. The President of Brazil.
5. Many men have had to endure the taunts and jeers of the multitudes in order to remain loyal to their convictions. At the critical moment in our country's history when he was doing his utmost to save our nation, Abraham Lincoln was the object of ridicule at home and abroad. Columbus was considered a crazy because he believed the earth to be round. The world often sacrifices its heroes. One generation condemns as men while the next generation admires. "Seven times shall Homer drink this which the living have begg'd his bread."
DISLIKE OF THE COMMONPLACE.

Text.—"But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper."—2 Kings 5:10.

Many years ago, there lived in the land of Syria an individual by the name of Naaman. He was a mighty man of valor, the captain of the royal host, the commander-in-chief of the army, and was nearest to the person of the king, whom he accompanied officially, and supported, when he went to worship in the temple of Rimmon. Moreover, by reason of him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria. Because of this military exploit, he received a great position at the court of Benhadad. There was none like him in all the kingdom. He was the popular favorite of his country.—"But he was a leper." That spoiled it all. He had that terrible, incurable disease which made an ordinary man an outcast from society and an exile from home. How often we hear of some one, "He is such a fine fellow, big hearted, and bright as a tack, but he just can’t let boose alone."
"She is a fine woman in many respects. You wouldn’t want a better neighbor. She is so good in sickness, but she can’t control her tongue. It is loose at both ends. She is a gossip, a talebearer, and a mischief-maker." "He is one of the friends men you ever saw, but you can’t believe him on oath. He is the biggest liar in town. "You can’t help but like him, but you can not depend on a single word he tells you." "Yes, he is very industrious and energetic, but he is so stingy. He holds on to the eagle until it screams. He would skin a flea to get its hide." And so we could go on indefinitely with a list of things which ruin an otherwise good life.

But Naaman made an effort to rid himself of this awful malady. After consulting the various physicians in his own nation, he was about ready to despair, when a little Israelitish maid who waited on his wife, said to her mistress, "Would to God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would
recover him of his leprosy." Upon hearing this, he took ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment, and departed. He went first to the king of Israel and from thence to Elisha. When he came to the house of this man of God, Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, "Go, wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean." But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage." When his anger began to subside somewhat and he became rational again, his servants reasoned with him, "If the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean." Then he went down to the Jordan and dipped himself seven times in the stream, and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

How glad he must have been that he listened to the advice of his servants! Had he not heeded their counsel, he would have returned home and died a leper. He had his preconceived notion of how he should have been cured, but when he was commanded to do such an ordinary thing as to wash in the Jordan seven times, he was greatly irritated. He wanted something spectacular, and so it is today. We are always looking for that which is sensational. We will pick up the daily newspaper with a feeling of expectancy and we usually lay it down with a degree of disappointment. We say, "There is nothing in it today. I don't know what is the matter with it." And so we throw it aside. What we really mean is that there is nothing in it to startle, thrill, and hold us by its tragedy. For that reason many papers become nothing more or less than a record of crime, bloodshed, and robbery. We go to a baseball game and unless some Babe Ruth knocks a home run or Ty Cobb makes a hair-raising catch, we leave the place in disgust and say that it is a tame affair. We enter the Amusement Hall and unless they have a Wild West story or some love
affair in which the villain is shot and the hero comes just in time to save her life, we go away and say, "The pictures were no good tonight." And there are many who attend church and unless the minister can hold them spell-bound by some graveyard story or touching incident, they return home disappointed and they will never go out to hear him again that he needs "pep" and "set up" in him. Why do you go to preaching? It should be for no other reason but to worship. This dislike of the commonplace is the cause of much of the trouble in the world today.

Dreams.

Childhood place is the cause of much of the trouble in the world today. Young girls will read these dime novels of some fictitious character and then a young man comes along and they imagine that he is their ideal and so they will marry him and think that they will live forever in perennial bliss. But soon that halo wears off, and they find that housekeeping becomes irksome, their husbands are not quite as attractive as they thought, etc. and so they are ready for a divorce. (Young men same way. Various occupations, etc. Everything seems a disappointment. Jesus and the Jews.)

But Christ emphasizes the importance of the commonplace. The more we study His life, the more we are impressed with the value He set upon the ordinary. He took the little insignificant lily, and said, "Consider the lily, etc." He took a child, not over-clean perhaps but such eyes, and "Except a The mustard-seed. A village. A sparrow."

Naaman's thankfulness.
"For when the one Great Scorer comes to write against your name,
He writes--not that you won or lost, but how you played the game."
As you are doubtless aware, the second Sunday of May in each year is to be observed as "Mother's Day." On this occasion, we are afforded the opportunity as a nation of paying tribute to the women who have rendered and are rendering such noble and valiant service to our country by their sufferings, privations, and heroism. These "heroes of heroes" have not only sacrificed their own lives for causes they believed to be right, but in many instances, they have loyally given to the country lives more precious than their own—the lives of their husbands, their sons, their fathers and brothers. Every race and class of our brave patriots are raised and their graves are decorated on Memorial Day, but none are more worthy of being honored than the mothers of our land. They have been of inestimable value in shaping the destiny of our nation, and to them we are deeply indebted.

In developing this subject, I wish to speak of 1. The lofty position of a mother. The prevalent idea of today that is only the woman who has made a success in the literary world or political field, is the woman who counts, needs to be rebuked. It is a mistake to believe that the only woman worth while is the one who keeps herself before the gaze of the public. I admire the spirit of Mrs. Bryan who, when asked to define her position on the tariff, coolly replied, "My husband represents me in politics."

Whatever may or may not be said of the woman who accomplishes extraordinary things, it is certain that her position is nothing to be compared with that of a mother. It is said that there is no name on earth more sacred than that of a mother. At its very mention, the heart is moved, the soul is stirred, and the sympathy is awakened. The thought of her is a shield to virtue and a warning to the wayward. Whenever we think of her significance as related to society and humanity, we are lost in wonder and amazement. She is a queen that sits upon the throne of home where she is crowned and sceptered as none other can ever be. Her enthronement is complete, her reign unrivalled, and the moral issues of her empire are eternal. She rules with marvelous patience, winning tenderness and undying love. Her memory is revered while she lives, and becomes a perpetual inspiration, even when the bright flowers bloom above her sleeping dust. She is an incarnation of goodness to the child and the embodiment of power to her offspring.

Just for a moment think of the trust that is committed to a mother. Under no circumstances could we say that her
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Boomer, W. Va.
mission in life is of little importance. She has a position that even the angels in Heaven might covet. She gives birth to immortality; nurses and trains a being created in the image of God, develops a never-dying soul and prepares it for eternity. She does more toward determining the future of her child than any influence that is brought to bear upon him. As I stated once before, Abraham Lincoln once said, "All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my mother." John Quincy Adams made practically the same statement when he said, "All that I am my mother made me." Thomas A. Edison, the wizard of electricity, pays a splendid tribute to his mother when he says, "I did not have my mother long, but she cast over me an influence which lasted all my life." Michael Angelo, in speaking on this subject, said, "Whatever a man is, he generally owes to his mother." The late Theodore Cuyler struck the keynote when he said, "Show me the mother and I will show you the man!"

And friends, I verily believe that next to the sovereign grace of God, the influence of a mother's teaching and example is the most effective in the moulding of character and making destiny. She is the one who writes the book of fate. It makes but little difference as to who presides at Washington when we consider the government which rules the millions of American homes. There is no administration that can seriously harm us as long as we have godly mothers. But on the other hand, if once our homes become the abodes of wickedness and vice, there remains no redemption for us. There is no legislation or statesmanship that can save us from destruction. Our beloved nation will fall like Babylonia, Greece, and Rome, and in a short time there will be nothing left of us but the tottering ruins of our former glory. No country is greater than it homes. The declaration of Napoleon that the need of France is good mothers is worthy of a universal application. What we need today is not necessarily woman suffrage, it is not to encourage the temperance agitators, the ladies of our land to enter the platform and lecture in behalf of humanity, but what we need above everything else is a revival of religion in the home.

And just here mothers allow me to exhort you to arouse to a sense of your responsibilities. Oh! that I could make you see the debt that you owe to your children and awful penalty that you will receive if you do not train them up in the way that they should go. But you say, "I would like to do something for the cause of Christ. I want to do something great. But here it is, I am forever to be bothered with household duties." But did you not know that the work to which you are assigned is the greatest work it is possible for you to do. In many respects it is superior to that of the minister. There
BOOMER COAL & COKE COMPANY
MINES LOCATED AT BOOMER, W. VA.
GENERAL OFFICES PERRY-PAYNE BUILDING,
CLEVELAND, OHIO

BOOMER, W. VA.
is an old Scotch adage that contains much truth, "An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy."

"Gold has its power, sages will say;
Riches in life hold a wonderful sway;
But there is a power that hails from above,—
Richer and grander—'tis a mother's love."

II. A mother's love.
It has often been said that there is nothing on earth that can be compared to the love of a mother. From the time the child enters the world until it reaches the age of maturity she manifests an abiding interest in its welfare. There is no sacrifice too great for her to make for its sake. She delights in denying herself if in so doing she can be of service to it. She never murmurs or complains that the infant in her arms is in her way, but to her the sun shines brighter because of its existence and the whole earth is blessed by its presence. And should there come a time when the little feet are weary; when the night brings no rest; when the cheek is scarlet, the eye changed, and the smile no longer knows how to shine, that faithful mother patiently guards its bedside and should she fall asleep, it is but a veiled waking. How her heart rejoices when there is the least indication of its recovery. But all is darkness, gloom, and despair, when she is told that it can no longer live. She would give a thousand worlds to drive the king of terrors from her home. But alas! she is helpless. She must stand by and see death snatch her precious child from her bosom. And then when the sharpness of her sorrow is over and the dullness of an overspent brain is past, altho' she takes up the shuttle again and weaves the web of daily life, she does so with a heavy heart. Like Rachel, she continues to weep for her children and refuses to be comforted because they are not. O the love of a mother!

III. The duty of the child to the mother.
In this busy world of crowding cares and multiplied labor there is danger amid the general din of us forgetting our precious mothers to whom the evening of life is fast approaching. They have borne the noon tide's toil and heat and now, at eventide, with tired and folded hands, they are waiting for the summons which shall open unto them a morning of eternal day. To my mind there are but few things more pathetic than to see the young mistreat the old. If we could just realize it, but a little time and we will see the face of our faithful mothers no more forever. Even her form is bent, her sight is dim, and her shadows fall toward the grave. Let us so live that her last days may be the happiest. (A Yale graduate,)
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1. **FIRST EDITION WRITTEN ON NATURE:** "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handy-work." - Psalms 19:1.

2. **SECOND EDITION WRITTEN ON CONSCIENCE.** "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another." - Romans 2:14, 15.

3. **THIRD EDITION WRITTEN ON TABLES OF STONE.** "And the Lord said unto Moses, Come up hither into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them." - Exodus 24:12.

4. **FOURTH EDITION THE ENTIRE SCRIPTURES.** "For whatsoever were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." - Romans 15:4.

5. **FIFTH EDITION CHRIST THE ILLUSTRATED EDITION.** "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." - John 1:14.

6. **SIXTH EDITION WRITTEN ON THE HEART.** "I will put laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people." - Hebrews 8:10.

7. Seventh Edition **THE OUTWARD CHRISTIAN LIFE LIVING EPISTLES.** "Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshly tables of the heart." - 2 Cor. 3:2, 3.
Text.- "Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things." "The aged woman likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; that they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." "A prudent wife is from the Lord." "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her. She will do him good and not evil all the days of his life. She seeketh wool and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She riseth while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidsens. She stretches out her hands to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."

1. Be considerate.
2. Keep yourself attractive.
3. Don't nag.
4. Be contented.
5. Avoid unfaithfulness.
6. Remember your spoken in life.
The Ideal Wife.

Text.-"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him."- Genesis 2:18.

Of all the accounts of Creation that are afforded us by the various religions of the world, the author of Genesis gives us the most interesting and authentic. In it, he tells us of the formation of the heaven and the earth; the separation of light from darkness, and land from water; the origin of the sun, moon, and stars, and the creation of the fish of the sea, the fowl of the air, the beasts of the field and the reptiles of the streams. On the sixth and last day or period of Creation, man was made in the image and likeness of Jehovah and was given dominion over the other creatures of the earth. But inasmuch as he was the only human being in existence, he must have been very lonely indeed. He had no companion. There was no one with whom he could associate. And so the Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone; I will make a help meet for him." The expression "help meet" is quite significant. It is not one word but two, the former being the noun and the latter the qualifying adjective on which the main emphasis lies. Man might have many helps; the vegetable and animal kingdom might minister to his welfare and comfort. But though these are "helps," they are not "meet," that is, suitable. Only a creature like himself can be an adequate companion; and so woman is formed. The similarity of the English words, man and woman (wife-man) is also found in the Hebrew, Ish and Ishah.

In developing the subject of the ideal wife, I wish to state

I. She is considerate; She always
Text.—"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him."—Gen. 2: 16.

Of the various accounts of Creation that are afforded us by the different religions of the world, the one that is furnished us by the author of Genesis is the most interesting and instructive. In it, he tells us that after the heaven and the earth had been formed and the light and darkness and the land and water separated and the sun, moon, and stars and the animals created, that man was made in the image and likeness of Jehovah and that God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and he became a living soul. He was then given dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowl of the air, the beasts of the field and the reptiles of the streams. But inasmuch as he was the only human being in existence, he must have been very lonely indeed. In all of the universe, there was found no one with whom he could associate. And so we are informed that the Lord God, seeing his predicament, said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him." Had you ever thought of the expression "help meet?" It is quite significant. It is not one word, but two, the former being the noun and the latter the qualifying adjective on which the main emphasis lies. Man might have many helps; the vegetable and animal kingdom might minister to his welfare and comfort. But thes' these are "helps," they are not "meet," that is, suitable. Only a creature like himself can be an adequate companion; and so woman is formed. When Adam beheld her, he was so delighted that he exclaimed, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man." Therefore," we are told, "shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

But so much for the first man and the first woman. I desire to discuss for a few moments the "Ideal Wife." In order to belong to this class, you must

I. Be considerate. You should always bear in mind the fact that your husband is engaged in one of the most severe and terrific battles that was ever fought. Whether in professional, or commercial, or artistic, or mechanical life, he is struggling from morning until night to make a living. Sometimes he is tempted to give up the conflict. He needs your help. He has enough worries and anxieties and perplexities without being annoyed to death by a cross and peevish wife.

Just at this point it seems to me that many women fail.
often allow themselves to drift into a spirit of whining, complaining, and fault-finding. Soon they become so selfish that they think of nothing but their own whims and fancies. It makes no difference to them if their husband has been betrayed by a business partner or a customer has cheated him out of a bill of goods or a protested note has been flung in his face and he has nothing with which to pay it or some one has called him a liar or everything has gone wrong in the mines, they expect him to always be pleasant and cheery when he comes in from his work. They make no effort to help him bear his burdens or lighten his load. (Dr. Talmage on the man of forty-five: Some women, "Might as well have no husband, etc.").

II. Keep yourself as attractive after marriage as you did before marriage. The reason that many men cease to love their wives is because the wives cease to be lovable. Before they were married, they were so careful about their personal appearance and spent so much time in an endeavor to appear beautiful to him but since they have him for richer, for poorer, for better, for worse, until death do them part, in many instances, they never dress up or comb their hair or look like anything until somebody calls. It is no wonder the husband never cares to stay at home with such creatures. (Hedwig Farny)

III. Avoid falling into the unpardonable habit of criticizing and nagging your husband. It is a self-evident fact that he is not an angel for had he been one, he would not have married you. He has his faults but he should always be to you the sweetest and dearest man on earth. You can not make him any better by constantly quarreling with him. (The Irishman.)

Many years ago, there lived in the land of Palestine, a king by the name of Solomon. Unfortunately he was said to have been the wisest man that ever lived. Altho' endowed with such wonderful wisdom, he made his mistakes. Unfortunately, he took unto himself seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines. And we hear him lamenting after many years of marital life, "It is better to dwell on the corner of a house-top than in a wide house with a brawling woman." If there is a single individual in this building that has a quarrelsome and turbulent wife, it were better for him that a millstone were hung about his neck and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." 

IV. Be contented. By this, I do not mean that you are to be devoid of energy and ambition and are willing to sit down and do nothing all the rest of your life. Such a thing is farthest from my thought. You should be wide-awake and alert.
5. A home loves, Women
6. Avoid meddlers
7. Be quiet
V. Avoid meddlers.

VI. Remember your sphere in life.

VII. Be a Christian.
1. Realize your responsibilities.

2. By making yourself more self-sufficient.


4. Give her money.

5. Be as good morally as you expect her to be.
Text. — "And it came to pass, by the way in the inn, that the Lord met him, and sought to kill him."— Exodus 4:24.

When this incident occurred, Moses was eighty years of age. The story of his life is so familiar to all Bible readers that it is hardly necessary for me to repeat it in order to refresh your memories. A short time before his birth, Pharaoh had issued a decree that all male infants of the Hebrews should be cast into the river and drowned. But when Moses was born, his parents became so attached to him that they defied the order of the king and hid him three months. When they saw he could no longer be concealed, the mother took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink. His sister, Miriam, in the meantime, stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him. The daughter of Pharaoh, coming down to bathe herself in the river, beheld him and had compassion on him and nourished him for her own son. And he was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds. But when he was come to years, he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the pleasures of Egypt. But mistaking the methods the Lord wanted him to employ in liberating his people from their tyrannical bondage, Moses arose and slew one of the Egyptians that was oppressing his fellowmen, and it became necessary for him to flee from the presence of Pharaoh into the land of Midian where he was a stranger forty years. While there, Jehovah appeared to him in a burning bush and commissioned him to return and deliver His people. He took his family and started and it came to pass, by the way in the inn, that the Lord met him and sought to kill him. It is not known what took place, but most commentators are inclined to the opinion that he was smitten with some grievous sickness which nearly caused his death and which would have terminated seriously had he not gotten right with his Maker. It appears from this mysterious happening that he had neglected to circumcise his youngest son, on account
No. 8.  

**Mother.**

M. H. C.

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REV. M. HOMER CUMMINGS.

1. Oh! a vin-ten com- es to of my moth-er's door face As she 2. I can see her on - gal form in ter red tag for me, In temp-3. I re-call her ten der look as she bids me good by, "Will you 4. Ma -ry years have passed since then, but I can not for get, All her

kneel be side the old arm chair, How it beamed with light and year, slow with ta - thro's dark esp storm - y hour; And I hear her gas - to voice, with us meet me in that land so fair! Then her syl - it took its flight to her teams of here and pray're for me; At the Father's throne a love, mother-

beauty and grace Was brought to Je - sus ey - cry care! great sol - o - ry, Askang God to keep me by his poor's, I am glad moth-er home in the sky, And I promised her to meet her there, please for me yet, And some day with her a - gain I'll be.

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perhaps of the mother's objection to the rite. But seeing the danger her husband was in, and recognizing that his sickness was the chastisement of disobedience, she overcame her reluctance and performed the ceremony herself, with the result that Moses' life was spared. This incident is designed to show the necessity of obedience to God by those who profess to be his followers. Sometimes it is necessary to cause some affliction to come upon us before we will submit to Him. David says, "It was good for me to be afflicted, for before I was afflicted I went astray." (Sam Jones' illustration.) In order to be what He would have us be, we must let Him have His way with us. (A little boy and the mud man.)

Are we living as we should? Are we walking in the light as He sheds it upon our pathway?

Let us glance at the Ten Commandments again.

I. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Ways this may be violated. Money, etc.

II. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments."

III. "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain."

IV. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou.
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Text. - "A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." -John 15:34.

These words were spoken by Christ to His disciples just before He finished the work which His Father had given Him to do. They had been His constant companions for three long years but now He was going to leave them, and as He sent them forth into the world to preach the gospel to every creature, He gave them this commandment. Then He added, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

In considering this text, there is another thing it would be well for us to observe. John, the Apostle of love, is the only inspired writer that records this conversation. According to tradition, in the last days of this beloved disciple, he gathered together his followers for a parting message. As he looked in their faces with all the tenderness of a father, he said to them: "Little children, love one another." But they said, "Father, we have heard that message before. We have been telling us that from the beginning. Give us some other word." Again, as he looked down upon them with increased sympathy, he said, "Little children, that which ye have heard from the beginning that speak I unto you, that ye love one another." "Ahl" they replied, "but you have been giving us that message ever since we have known you. Now that you are going away, we want some parting word by which to remember you. Give us a new commandment tonight, father." And then for the last time he said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another." He had no other commandment. And in fact all of the ten commandments are included in that one word, "love." "Love is the fulfilling of the law." If you love a man, you will not steal from him; you will not murder him; you will not covet his goods; you will not bear false witness against him; if you love him as yourself, you will need no further instructions as to your conduct toward him for there will be no danger of you doing him an injury.

But plunging into the heart of this wonderful subject, let us notice

I. The kindness of love.

"Love suffereth long and is kind." It makes no difference how much love is ill-treated or scorned; how much it is
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ignored or neglected; or how little return or compensation it receives, yet it suffers all these things and stays kind. There was once a tramp that came to the home of a Christian woman and asked for food. As it happened she had nothing in the house—bread and butter and she promptly gave him a good supply of this. He then passed through the gate, walked to the edge of the side-walk, and threw the bread into the gutter. The lady who had been watching him from the window, saw this impolite act. This so highly offended her that she declared that never again would she feed a beggar. She had love enough to help one who seemed to be in need, but when that love was flaunted and unappreciated, it did not remain kind. But God loves men because they need love and although they are often unthankful and do not show Him any gratitude, yet He makes His sun to shine on the evil as well as the good and sends rain on the unjust as well as the just. "The Lord is kind and gracious, slow to anger, and of great mercy."

"Love suffereth long and is kind." This is what we as Christians need in our every day lives. All of us have our test days. There are times when everything goes wrong, and it is so hard for us to keep "sweet" in our souls, but if we have the love of God in our hearts, we can be kind one to another, "tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us." "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."

II. The coveringness of love.

The literal meaning of the statement of Paul, "Love beareth all things," is that it covers all things. The tendency of the unregenerated human heart is to uncover the frailties and weaknesses of its fellow man, to hold them up to the light of day and to the scorn and criticism of those who gaze in idle curiosity upon them. If a brother stumbles or falls, instead of being sorry for him and praying for him as they should, there are people who glory in exposing him to the world. Before censuring another, place yourself in his or her position. What would you have done? Would you have withstood temptation as long as did he? Would you not also have fallen into sin? The person you are so ready to condemn, for aught you know may have endeavored faithfully to do right and a word from you may have prevented him from being overcome. I wonder how many people have prayed for Rev. W. S. N., the minister in Massachusetts who is charged with the murder of a young lady. Nearly every one has denounced him, few have asked God to forgive him if he is guilty and if he is not to restore him again to the confidence of the people. "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved..."
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you, that ye also love one another." The very instant you are tempted to uncover another's life remember how God in His grace has covered yours with the blood of Christ. Think of the years of your own sin and rebellion; think of your carelessness and thoughtlessness; think of all your unfaithfulness and waywardness; think of your many sins of omission and commission; and then consider the fact that it was only through the mercy and goodness of God that you were saved. It was not so long ago since you were the chief of sinners. "There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, it hardly behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us." Let him that is without cast the first stone.

III. The practicalness of love.

"Little children, let us love in deed and in truth." Like faith, love without works is dead. It does not only consist in compassion, sympathy, and tender sentiment, but it is also doing, serving, helping, and ministering. "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." When Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him, He gave this impulsive disciple to understand that love did not consist in ardent protestations, or transient feelings, but in his acts. So He told him to feed His sheep. There are people in this Kanawha valley who believe in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and who profess to have boundless love for their fellow-men, but who on election day vote for the license of the saloon, the greatest destroyer of humanity, and upon whom the sentence of death had been passed. The judge asked him if he had anything to say. A solemn hush fell over the crowded court room and every person waited in almost breathless expectation. Not a whisper was heard anywhere and the situation had become painfully oppressive, when the prisoner was seen to move, his head was raised, his hand was clinched, and the blood rushed into his pale, care-worn face. Suddenly he arose to his feet, and in a low, firm, but distinct voice, said: "Your honor, you have asked me a question, and I now ask, as the last favor on earth, that you will not interrupt me until I am through. I stand here before this bar, convicted for the willful murder of my wife. Truthful witnesses have testified to the fact that I was a loafer, a drunkard, and a wretch, and that I returned from one of my prolonged sprees and fired the fatal shot that killed the wife I had sworn to love, cherish, and protect. While I have no remembrance of committing the fearful deed, I have no right to complain or to condemn the verdict of the twelve good men who were a jury in the case, for the verdict is in accordance with my testimony. But may it please the court, I wish to show that I am not alone responsible for the murder of my wife." The prisoner paused a few seconds and then continued, "The judge on
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this bench, the jury in the box, the lawyers within this bar, and most of the witnesses, including the pastor of the old church, are also guilty before Almighty God, and will have to stand with me before His Judgment Throne, where we shall all be righteously judged. If it had not been for the saloons of my town, I never would have become a drunkard; my wife would not have been murdered; and I would not be here now, ready to be hurled into eternity. I was one of those remonstrances against re-opening the saloons of our town. One half of this jury, the prosecuting attorney in this case, and the Judge who sits on this bench, all voted for the saloons. By their votes and influences, the saloons were re-opened and they made me what I am. You legalized the saloons that made me a drunkard and a murderer and you are guilty with me before God and man for the murder of my wife. Your honor, I am done. I am now ready to receive my sentence and be led forth to the place of execution. You will close by asking the Lord to have mercy on my soul. I will close by solemnly asking God to open your blind eyes to your own individual responsibility, so that you will cease to give your support to this dreadful traffic." "Little children, let us love in deed and in truth." "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another."

IV. The eternalness of love.

Prophecies shall fail, tongues shall cease, knowledge shall vanish away, and all that we now behold shall be fame, applause, the tiny waves of a smile, some kind word, or loving ministry, will be rolling upon the shores of eternity. Every song that floats from your lips in the spirit of love; every word of comfort to the sorrowing; every loving warning and admonition to the wayward; every prayer that goes up out of the love of your heart for a friend in need; every word of cheer and solace to the despondent one; every bit of suffering from criticism and misrepresentation borne in the spirit of love; every mite of silver and gold given for the love of the Master and His suffering ones, yes, every deed of love, however it may seem to you, will meet you at the throne of reward, and go with you in your shining train of influence and love all through the countless millenniums of eternity. And there may come a time when your voice is silent, your hand motionless, your heart no longer throb, and men say that you are dead; but there will come a voice from Heaven saying, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the kingdom of heaven. Love never faileth. I am for their works do follow them," love never faileth. "Ye that love one another, as I have loved you, love one another."
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