

REASONING ABOUT SCARLET SINS

Most Religious Teachings Are Unreasonable.

Pastor Russell Says Turning From the Creeds to the Bible Means a Return to Reasoning—A Refusal of Human Imitations—Greater and Lesser Sins, Punishments Proportionate—The Sins Which God Styles Scarlet, Men Often Consider Merely White Lies—The Scarlet Sins Theology Condemns Often Less Important With God.



Richmond, Va., April 6.—Bible students of all denominations were deeply interested in Pastor Russell's visit today. A series of special Bible lectures has been in progress for some months, and Pastor Russell has been brought here, evidently for climactic results. We report his discourse from the text, "Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."—Isaiah 1:18.

Although thoroughly loyal and very reverential, the Pastor has evidently cut loose from the creeds. He admitted that all contain kernels of truth.

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but declared that these are buried in a mass of chaff—hidden in God-dishonoring theologies so unreasonable that their best friends prefer never to think of them.

The Pastor claimed that the repulsiveness of the creeds hinders people from looking for the truth which they contain. This is well, he said. Why should we search for Truth in various creeds when we have the Bible? He urged Christians to abandon the creeds and unite as Bible students, intent on knowing the testimony of God's Word and of obtaining the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the understanding of it. Jesus held up to scorn the inconsistencies of His day. If here today, He would show us many inconsistencies in our estimation of sin and righteous ness, the Pastor believed. Our Lord declared that while the religious leaders of His time were careful to tithe all their increase, they outraged the very spirit of God's Law of righteousness; that in mean ways they took the bread from the poor, and to divert attention from their course they hypocritically lengthened their prayers.

It was not that praying was wrong, or that tithing was objectionable, but their recognition of these showed them all the more responsible in "devouring widows' houses," and other sharp practices, whereby they took advantage of the unfortunate. This principle still operates, said Pastor Russell.

Today, as in our Master's time, there is a way of keeping within the law and out of the penitentiary, while at the same time the spirit of the law is outraged and trampled in the dust of avaricious money-getting. Now, as then, money-lovers pose as philanthropists, and hold honorable places in churchianity. The Pastor placed not this class. He declared that religious hypocrites are the worst of sinners in God's sight. There were the most scarlet sins, he believed.

Greater and Lesser Sins.

Wealth covers a multitude of sins. To be financially unsuccessful is a crime, on account of which many consider a wife justified in seeking a divorce, and some churches justified in dropping the culprit from their membership list. What matters it that Jesus comforted the weary, heavy laden and unsuccessful? What matters it that the Scriptures declare that not many rich, wise, great or learned has God called to the Heavenly inheritance, but chiefly the poor of this world, rich in faith? What matters it that a very rich man

has two concubines, besides a wife? What matters it that his religious instructors know of the fact? He is a supporter of their church! Were he poor, this crime against human and Divine Law would be unforgivable. He would be assured that he would suffer torment throughout eternity!

Sins Scarlet and Crimson.

Our text discriminates between scarlet and crimson, as indicating shades of guilt in the same kind of sin. For instance, murder would be a scarlet sin, if committed by a worldly person; but hatred would be crimson—a sin of deeper dye—if cherished by a Christian. As love is the fulfilling of the Divine Law, so hatred implies its flagrant violation.

Mankind have inherited sin-tainted blood from Adam. Selfishness of varying hues status every member of the race. Many have not the proper focus upon the Divine Law. Taking the letter of that Law, they avoid the cruder forms of theft, adultery, murder—making the same mistake that Israel made.

According to Jesus' interpretation of the Law, theft could be committed in the heart by coveting, by stealing the business or reputation of another. Similarly, adultery might be committed without overt act; and hatred is murder. Increase of knowledge has brought increased responsibility. But human selfishness has kept pace. The thievish spirit abounds. The civilized world should awaken its conscience to the Golden Rule—the Law of Messiah's coming Kingdom.

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ELGIN ITEMS.

(From Elgin Recorder)

The residence occupied by Anos Mayfield in the southeast part of town was the scene of a small blaze Wednesday forenoon, which was the occasion for a fire alarm. The fire department promptly responded, but the blaze was extinguished before they reached the scene.

Joe Hallgarth returned yesterday from La Grande, where he went to visit his brother, Carl, who is rapidly recovering from an appendicitis operation. Carl will remain in the hospital until Friday, on which day he will return home. Joe reported that Lee Morlock was doing nicely and would soon be able to leave the hospital.

Mrs. Ray Patten returned the latter part of the week to her home in La Grande after a visit with friends and relatives in this city.

Mrs. Mame McKennon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Plass, died at the family home at Alice, March 29, 1913, after an illness lasting more than two years. Death came as a result of tuberculosis of the lungs and after long and intense suffering. The funeral services were conducted Sunday, Mar. 30, and the remains interred in the Summerville cemetery.

She makes all the trouble we have in this life. And causes our trouble to double; But, be she a maiden or be she a wife, She makes this life worth all the trouble. —Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Pa, what's the difference between a statesman and a politician?" "The statesman is the man whose views are similar to your own."

Spring's on her way. Take it from me. Do not delay. The snuffbox tea. —Indianapolis Star.

Spring's on her way. But you will cough if before May. You take 'em off. —Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

"He said there are no classes in this country." "I guess he never attended night school."

Mary had a little lamb. Observe the tone, we pray. For with the price that prevail It couldn't be today. —New York Press.

"Franklin was a great philosopher." "And so many follow his example." "In what particular?" "He died, didn't he?"

Methuselah as microbes in his day. He didn't build the ice or await the day. He was never vaccinated. De-appendixed, fumigated—Yet Methuselah almost forgot to die. —New York Sun.

FANS GLOAT OVER CLASS SHOWN BY LOCAL SQUAD IN WORKOUT

La Grande fans got a splendid perspective of the team that is to represent the city in the Western Tri-State league, when, yesterday afternoon, about 200 loyal fans saw what was termed the Regulars swamped the Yannigans in seven innings. It was no tryout day for the pitchers and the mound-generals went to the hill with instructions to vary the speed only but keep everything off, and they did, and the only chance to size up the pitching staff, was just to see how they walked out to the mound. Some of those most highly touted didn't even venture the trip at all but were kept in the outfield.

From the grandstand, however, excellent opportunities to look over the fielders were presented and every fan has his team picked already, making allowances in each case for Peterson behind the bat, and Corbin at third, the last two named yet to appear in uniform. The regulars poked out four singles and two doubles in the fifth and thereby sent over six runs which coupled to one in the second canto and two in the sixth gave them a lead over the Yannigans, the latter captured by Generalissimo King and the regulars by Nadeau.

There is considerable variation in the lineup as picked by the fans but all agree that out of the bunch La Grande has one, two, three material or at least it looks that way. Slightly cold, and still early, the candidates dates didn't loosen up much but that tell-tale earmark that brands or unbranded a baseball player is ever present, even in a snowdrift and the critical ones saw plenty of "good material" brands on the pasture yesterday. Narrowed down to its narrowest confines there are four outfielders, any

three of which are as good as need be, and in the infield there are at least two more men than are needed, counting Corbin at third, and any four of which are good enough amenity. Naughton and his bunting bobbed to the front and the men who pay to get in think "Naughty" is here to stay; Vahrenhorst's old friends are stronger for him than ever, and Aikin made such an impression at first and with the bat that the fans will bowl if he let drop from the payroll entirely, some picking him for first and others placing him in the outfield. Walters played with the regulars up to standard form and he as friends pulling for him strong. Nadeau, the old head and terrific hitter—he leaned against a daisy yesterday—must sure be on the team, and Lind's lightning behavior in the field cemented him to the fans and Luttrell batted up to .500 yesterday and covered the pathes well, so his continuity of supporters is kept for him and that makes four outfielders, all of whom looked exceptionally good. King and Luttrell took turn about at third yesterday with Luttrell's dislike for he dotes on the outfield better. The catchers used yesterday were tryouters, Conroy who played with a badly bunged hand and Sellah, both of whom, the latter especially, made excellent impressions. The thing that King faces now is no snap—he has too many good men, and he is welcome to the job of applying the hook. It is a ticklish job, indeed.

By the middle of the week, the entire squad will be here, several of the recruits will have obtained a little blue envelope, and the season's ante-

activity work will be at its height. The score and lineup yesterday:

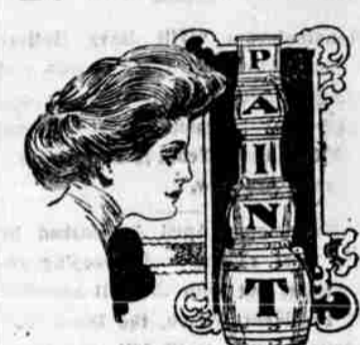
YANNIGANS.					
	AB	R	H	PO	A
Aikins, 1b	3	1	1	6	0
King, 3b	4	1	2	0	0
Vahrenhorst, 2b	3	0	1	3	4
Tyson, ss	3	0	1	1	1
Conroy, c	2	0	0	4	3
Hodson, cf	2	1	0	1	0
Burgett, lf	3	1	0	2	0
Childers, rf	3	1	1	1	2
Phillips, p	1	0	0	1	0
Moeller, p	2	0	0	0	1
26 5 6 18 10 4					

REGULARS.					
	AB	R	H	PO	A
Lind, lf	4	1	1	1	0
Luttrell, 3b	4	2	2	2	1
Naughton, ss	2	1	1	2	1
Nadeau, 2b	4	2	1	3	4
Walters, 1b	4	1	2	6	1
Sellah, c	4	1	1	4	2
Mountain, cf-p	2	1	0	0	0
Manning, p	3	0	1	0	0
Pugsley, p-rf	2	0	1	3	2
30 9 11 21 11 4					

SCORE BY INNINGS.
Regulars 0 1 0 0 6 2 x-9
Yannigans 0 4 0 0 1 0 0-5

SUMMARY.
Three base hits, Aiken; two-baggers, Vahrenhorst, Luttrell, Nadeau; first on balls—off Mountain 1, Pugsley 2, Manning 1, Phillips 1, Moeller 2, passed balls, Conroy 1; hit by pitcher, Hodson, Naughton; innings pitched, Pugsley three, Phillips three, Manning three, Mountain one, Moeller three. Umpire Yuhl.

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