

SAYS PHILOSOPHY IS IN BONDAGE

Rev. Hiram Vrooman Declares Universities Teach More That is False Than True.

INSTRUCTORS NOT WELL ACQUAINTED WITH FACTS

Declares Church Accepts Science Joyfully but Looks With Great Suspicion Upon Philosophy, Saying Majority of It is Not True.

"Our Universities in Egyptian Bondage" was the subject of a sermon delivered by Rev. Hiram Vrooman of the Swedenborgian church at the Knights of Pythias hall yesterday evening. Dr. Vrooman charged that the philosophies of religion as taught in the universities contain more that is false than is true, and that the universities are in bondage because of making misuse of scientific knowledge. He said in part:

"All educators and scientists would do well to learn the true, symbolical meaning of the word Egypt as used in the Bible and then study the passages in which this name occurs. By so doing they would be turned in the direction of a truer spirituality.

"All purely scientific knowledge, gained through the instrumentality of sense impressions, is the specific thing which the word Egypt stands for symbolically wherever employed in any part of the Bible, whether in Genesis or Revelation or elsewhere.

"Science is utilized by the really rational and educated Christian as the veritable basis of a spiritual philosophy. But it is perverted by the coldly selfish materialist to prove and establish his infidelity.

"Wherever Egypt is spoken of in a good sense in Scripture it refers to scientific knowledge used in behalf of rational religion, and wherever spoken of in bad sense it refers to the same thing used against rational religion.

"It is declared in our text that, 'The Lord, riding upon a swift cloud, shall come into Egypt, and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.' When science and nature shall have been interpreted in terms of human nature and made to reveal, as in an image, the mysteries of the human mind, then the Lord himself will be revealed in science and this text will be fulfilled.

"Our universities teach science and philosophy, and their chief function. There is a vast difference between science and philosophy. Science represents facts that are indisputable. But philosophy represents the rational or irrational conclusions derived from these facts. The church cannot offer any adverse criticism of the sciences as taught in our colleges and universities. She rather embraces them with wide open arms. But she has the gravest kind of objection to make against the philosophies as taught in our universities.

"As a matter of fact, those courses of instruction in our institutions of learning, which are of a more philosophic than scientific character, contain more that is false than is true.

"The materialistic philosophies as taught in our universities, as they refer to religion are essentially false, and for this reason our universities, by making misuse of scientific knowledge, perverting it by bad logic to the detriment of a rational spirituality, are in a state of Egyptian bondage. Scientific truths will be liberated from this bondage (and also the universities) when the Moses of spiritual reasoning directs them to the development of spiritual philosophies which truly interpret the phenomena of life."

EVILS OF LAW-MAKING.

Religious Legislation Outside Sphere of Law, Says Rev. George A. Snyder.

Pastor George A. Snyder of the Seventh-Day Adventist church spoke last evening on "Evils of Religious Legislation." He took his text from Matt. xxii:36-40, and spoke in part as follows:

"Love to God is the great primary principle or universal law. Love to our neighbor is the secondary principle, and covers all the varied relations between men, which it is the duty of civil law to regulate. When civil law attempts to regulate the relations between men and their God, it goes beyond its legitimate sphere, and enters the realm of religion where it has no rightful jurisdiction.

"In Romans xiii:1-9 Paul gives explicit directions concerning our duties to civil government. He quotes five of the ten commandments, all five of which pertain to the relations between men and their neighbors; and then sums up thus: 'If there be any other commandment it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' Now if all the commandments pertaining to our duties to civil government are comprehended in the saying, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,' it is self-evident that civil law is limited to the relations of men to their neighbors, and has no right to invade the spiritual domain of man's relationship to his Creator.

"Anyone can see, by reading the ten commandments over, that the first four precepts deal solely with man's relations to God direct, while the last six deal with man's duty to his fellow creatures. The first four of the ten commandments stand entirely outside the pale of civil jurisdiction; and since the Sabbath commandment stands fourth in the list, we claim that all state or national laws which attempt to regulate Sabbath observance are the forbidden fruit of religion-political union."

MILLIONS IN DARK.

Bishop Thoburn Tells of Bewitched People of India and Malaya.

"When I went to India 47 years ago our church had a total membership of 13, and all our work was in one vernacular," said Bishop Thoburn, a Methodist missionary to India, who preached at Grace Methodist church yesterday morning on "Watchman, What of the Night?" Bishop Thoburn is visiting in Portland.

"At the present time I am superintending missionary activities in southern India at different tongues, no dialects, and we have thousands of converts annually. Ours is only one of many denominations at work but though great things have been accomplished, the mass of heathenism is yet unlighted.

"Three hundred and fifty millions in India and Malaya and millions upon millions in Mohammedan and other heathen lands are living in mental, social and spiritual darkness without hope. They have no assurance of immortality. Many have a vague idea of future re-embodiment, but there is usually no serious thought of the hereafter and no clear hope."

LIFE AS A RACE.

Dr. E. L. House Draws Interesting Study From Teachings of Paul.

At the First Congregational church yesterday morning Dr. E. L. House preached on "Life as a Race." In order to be successful in the race, he says, one must be prepared to sacrifice, and must lay aside all excess baggage.

"According to Paul this world is not a grandstand," he said, "where men should sit down and look on the show, applauding or criticizing; nor is it a promenade, where people may sit up and down to see and be seen; but it is a racetrack, a place for activity, effort and progression, toward an inspiring goal. There is a definite space of ground that must be covered, and many are the spectators who are watching us."

"Paul also says that the great crowd of witnesses have done their part and that we must take their places; we must keep up the order of the ages. To refuse to get into line is to antagonize the order of the world. It is to break up the progress of the world."

FALSE DOCTRINE.

Rev. Ben-Hen Stiles Ely Shows How It May Be Easily Conquered.

Rev. Ben-Hen Stiles Ely in his yesterday morning's sermon at Calvary Presbyterian church arraigned the ori-

PRaises COMSTOCK.

Dr. Wilson Says Man Who Puts Trouser on Statue is Good Citizen.

Anthony Comstock, the reformer who puts trousers on statues, has one friend in Portland anyway. He is the late Clarence True Wilson, who in the last of his series of lectures on "Modern Substitutes for Christianity" at the Grace Methodist Episcopal church spoke of Comstock as "that much-maligned man, a good example of what Christianity can make of a man."

Dr. Wilson's text last night was John iv:18, "God is love, and he that abideth in love abideth in God and God in him."

"Here we have the experience of Christianity—dwelleth in God and God in him. The indwelling spirit of God and the adopted child enshrined in the bosom of his eternal Father is the sublime experience of the Christian religion. You may have it for the asking now. Millions are now walking with him in white. They pass the pollutions of this present world and come out of its factories and stores every Saturday night pure as gold, white as snow. There is no power like the religion of Jesus Christ to keep one steady in temptations and griefs and disappointments, the Christian's secret of a happy life being a spiritual experience.

"The ethics of Christianity is expressed in this text: dwelleth in love. That will transform the world. That will make good neighbors of criminals and sinners. He that dwelleth in love will wrong no one. He will keep the golden rule and not simply talk about it. He will be giving himself in helpfulness to every cause which needs assistance. The Christian religion has raised up just such votaries in every land in every age. It has man enlisted to prevent crime, to tear down the strongholds of iniquity. Anthony Comstock, that much-maligned man, is a good example of what Christianity can make of a man. It has been doing such work through the ages."

SUFFERINGS OF LIFE.

Rev. E. S. Munkley Shows Character Cannot Be Made With Suffering.

Rev. E. S. Munkley of the First Christian church preached the last of the "Life" series of sermons under "The Sufferings of Life," from Heb. xii:11. He said:

"The meaning of suffering is a profound mystery to most people. And many, because they do not understand it, rebel against it. But the meaning of suffering need not altogether be wrapped in mystery. If we studied life in its various expressions and relations more so get a working idea of its meaning, we would understand the meaning of suffering better; for the meaning of suffering is largely if not wholly wrapped up in the meaning of life.

"God cannot make character without suffering, for there are some things that God cannot do. As a finite being man must learn to harmonize with his environment. It is God's plan that he shall grow by attempt to perfectly adjust himself with his environment. In this attempt he is learning obedience. Learning obedience involves suffering. We are told that even Christ learned obedience by the things that he suffered. But we are also told that for the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising its shame. When we have the Christian philosophy of life we find a large element of joy entering into our suffering, because we look beyond the experience to the eternal thing it brings.

"Suffering has made the world move toward the enduring. It has stimulated investigation and knowledge and through these has stimulated progress."

FIGHT FOR SEATS OF PETTUS AND MORGAN.

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FIGHT FOR SEATS OF PETTUS AND MORGAN
(Journal Special Service.)
Montgomery, Aug. 27.—Reports from all sections of the state indicate that at today's primary an unusually heavy vote will be cast. On the result depends the choice of governor and other state officers, representatives in congress, the successors of Senators Pettus and Morgan and two "alternate" senators. Supporters of Comer and Cunningham, the rival candidates for the governorship, express confidence in the outcome. Much interest centers in the senatorial contest, in which there is a large field of entries.

Peter Pan Change Purses.

All summer we have worn Peter Pan waists, and now we are to begin on Peter Pan change purses. The waists were really copied from the one Miss Adams wears in the fairy play, "Peter Pan," but as to change purses, it hardly seems possible that a fairy would need one. Perhaps Miss Adams wears it in testimony. Do you wonder that this plucky little woman "hangs on" till help comes?

Intuition.

"Our intuitions are the veiled queens Who steer our course through life." Masterlink says "our" but it is conceded by all that women have more intuition than men, perhaps because they act on impulse rather than reason. A man will carefully reason a thing from point to point, and when he has laboriously reached a decision will find that a woman has reached the same conclusion in no time at all, simply through her intuition—and the funny part of it is that her intuitions are seldom wrong. Men should, and do, consult their wives in regard to their business affairs. The very fact that she has not befuddled her brain by worry, reasoning, and arguing the matter, will help her to see the vital point clear-

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On behalf of the San Francisco Association of the City, I desire to acknowledge the satisfactory manner in which the loss of the library of the Association has been adjusted by the Phoenix Assurance Company of London, and the promptness with which the loss has been paid in the full amount of the policy. Not only was the loss adjusted with promptness and fairness, but the representatives of the San Francisco Association were treated with the utmost respect and consideration. Your Company may be sure of our friendly interest.
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