

# PERFECTION IN HEAVEN GRADED

Rev. Luther Dyott Preaches on Various Degrees of "Perfectibility."

NO ONE PERFECT THERE IN CERTAIN SENSE

Within Man Is the Seed of God's Love That Awaits Ripening Through Nourishment of Proper Living With Fellow Men.

Taking for his subject "Are Souls in Heaven Altogether Perfect?" Rev. Luther R. Dyott preached in the First Congregational church yesterday morning using for his text, "Ye, therefore shall be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:48, and "Now we see in a mirror darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then shall I know fully, even as also I was fully known. But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three, and the greatest of these is love." First Cor. XIII:12-13.

Rev. Dr. Dyott dwelt upon the omnipotence of God's love and the relation of man to the infinite. He also dwelt upon the state of relative perfection of men on earth and their reward in heaven. He said:

"Perfection is that degree of completeness in which nothing essential or desirable is lacking. Christ's idea in our first text is almost overwhelming. Here the mind of man trembles amid light unendurable to mortal flame. God is perfect. We are imperfect. We are in his hands. A perfect being can never be satisfied with an imperfect work. That which Christ means is not the commensurate degree or equivalent of the human to the divine. The terms and entities are incommensurable. It means the approximate realization between the absolute and the relative. God's character is the guaranty. If we were to use either the word 'because' or 'inasmuch,' instead of the word 'as' in

our first text, we should find the deeper truth. Thus: 'Ye, therefore shall be perfect because (or inasmuch as) your heavenly Father is perfect.' It is as though Christ had declared that religion is not to find its stages, assets and finalities amid the everlasting degradation of a large portion of the human race. Omnipotent love is not to stand forth at last and say: 'I tried, but I was unable. I undertook something that I could not complete, and cannot fail even amid the dense imperfections of human life.'

"In this broad earth of ours, amid the measureless grossness and Enclosed and safe within its central heart, Nestles the 'seed of perfection' belongs to God.

"That seed belongs to God. 'Perfection' that doctrine that man, as the child of God, has not reached a state of maturity which will not admit of advancement, but is capable of going forward in all the good things of God, when he depends upon the fulness of God's love. At life's luminous center he can stand and offer affinity and receptivity to God. But even then, owing to the limitations of the finite, the most capacious vessel cannot hold the fulness of God's love and invincible love may find life in its entirety, somewhat enigmatic. But still this cannot defeat the purpose of revelation and he who now knows in part is to some day know fully. If faith and hope and love have mastered him, and he has put his imperfect life into the arena of harmony with God.

"Heaven is harmony with God—harmony with his will, his character, his love. Heaven is, therefore, not only a place in the great beyond but it is a state or condition of life here and hereafter. But just as a pupil in music may find harmony with a teacher who is far beyond him in attainments and knowledge and imperfection is between the pupil and the teacher, so a soul may be in heaven without being perfect in the sense and to the degree that God is perfect. When the thief on the cross harmonized his soul with the soul or spirit of Jesus he received the assurance from Jesus that on that very day Jesus would take that saved life of the penitent man with him to Paradise. But there was a vast difference between the quality of the penitent's life and the life of Jesus.

"A little child dies with an innocent soul. At the same time a Christian, who has spent many years growing in grace and the knowledge of God. They were not equal at the time of death. Death does not change their nature. Neither does it alter the degree of their attainments and their capacities for God. A soul has been in the other world, growing through all the centuries. A heathen dies. He has, let us say, lived up to the best light he had on

earth. If the soul of that heathen and that developed saint meet, can we think of them as being equal?

"Surely there are different degrees of perfection in heaven and no one there is yet perfect in the sense and to the degree of perfection realized by our heavenly Father.

"According to our interpretation of heaven, it is not a place merely held in reservation as a reward for faithful life on earth. It is a state, a condition of life to be found and enjoyed while we are on earth. No man is right with God while he is wrong with his brother man. We should find heaven here and now. We should make more of heaven on earth for every soul on earth. Even when we have done so we are not perfect. Neither are those whom we are the means of bringing into the kingdom of heaven here. But both they and we may continue to improve. In this we find more of heaven. It is in the reflex influence of doing good that we are to increase heaven on earth. It is in improving the environments of life here and now. It is in improving life here and now. Do not sit fondly dreaming of a heaven that you are to enter after death, but with wide awake life live to love and love to serve.

"Believe, O believe in the improveableness of life! Find the sinful, the poor and needy, do the practical things of religion. Hold conceptions of life as broad as those of Jesus. Do the things he would do, if he were here on earth. Be in here in soul, to will and to work of his good pleasure. We are in heaven now if we are in harmony with God, but we are imperfect. So is our brother man. Perfection among mortals is only relative.

"O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother.

Where pity dwells, the peace of God is there.

To worship rightly is to love each other.

Each sings a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.

"Follow with reverent step the great example of him whose holy work was doing good.

So shall the wide earth see our Father's temple.

Each loving life a palm of gratitude."

### UPLIFT IN INDIA.

#### High Praise of Bishop Thoburn From a Native Woman.

The work of the Christian missionary in India was entertainingly described by Mrs. Phulad Ward, herself a native convert, in two addresses yesterday. The first was delivered in the morning at the Centenary Methodist church and the second at the Sunnyside Methodist church in the evening.

Mrs. Ward spoke enthusiastically of the work of Bishop Thoburn, who has been a leader in Christian work in India. She is now working for funds for a hospital named in his honor. She said that India is being gradually reformed and many of the heathen practices have been abandoned.

The speaker upheld the value of the work of the missionary, and declared that few of the converts became backsliders. Many of them suffer willingly for their faith, and they gladly give one tenth of what they earn for religious work.

### WEIGHT IN SOME WORDS.

#### People Should Think Longer Before Giving Opinions.

The old problem of labor and capital was the theme of the discourse of Rev. E. S. Mulkey, pastor of the First Christian church, last night. He took for his specific subject, "Extremists in the Labor and Capital Contention."

He took his text from Romans xii: 3: "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

The speaker was of the opinion that if the majority of the people were to follow out this injunction, they would think awhile longer before plating their thoughts before the public. He said that he had several times attended the meet-



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### AT THE THEATRES

#### Circus and Show at the Oaks.

There is no lack of amusement features at the Oaks this week. Every afternoon Senor Don Carlos will have his aboriginal circus go through its

the Socialists go to some extremes with which I cannot agree.

"It is the man who expresses himself with calm, sane, moderate spirit who makes his words count. We can accomplish nothing by abusing our fellows."

many wonderful acts, while in the evening the Allen Curtis Comedy company will present "The Show Girl," with a wealth of scenery, numbers of pretty songs, new costumes and new dances.

**Arabian Acrobats at Pantages.**

The seven Zansibar Arabian acrobats were equal to the task of arousing the attention and enthusiasm of the Pantages patrons at the matinee this afternoon. They are the best foreign acrobats seen in this country for lightning speed. Every one of the seven get into strenuous action to contribute their part to one of the most exciting exhibitions of acrobatics the vaudeville stage can offer.

**New Vaudeville Today.**

At the Grand today the headline act is composed of Manual Romain, the tenor; the Foley boys, dancers, and the Palmer sisters. The men are known wherever there are lovers of minstrelsy. Tom Gillen, "Pinetown's Friend," is a clever story teller. The Mozarts return after a trip to Europe. Louise Auber, singer, Hal Davis, "The Fall of '64," and others are on this new bill.

Some men seem to think that the world owes them a debt of gratitude for simply being alive.

**Morris Chair Special**

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**SPRING COUCH FOR \$4.25**

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**This Beautiful Oak Rocker**

Worth \$6.00

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Several dozen of these handsome Rockers, picked up at a great bargain by our eastern buyer, will be on sale this week at the above remarkably low price.

Note the beautiful quarter-sawed effect—the rich grain of the wood. They are handsome and durable also.

Order this week in person—phone orders not acceptable.

Only **\$2.90**

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No. 497—This Empire Bed, just like the cut, made of heavy tubing, nicely enameled in blue. A strong, durable bed that sells for \$6.00, but specially priced at only **\$3.75**

**All-Wool Ingrain Rugs \$4.95**

The size is 9x7½ feet, and they are in many patterns. One of the greatest bargains offered this week. In blues, tans, browns, etc. Sold for cash only at this low price.

**\$3.00 Floor Rugs Only 90c**

These Rugs are 27x54 inches in size, in many handsome patterns. Worth \$3.00 regularly, but we offer them for Tuesday's selling at **90c** only

Specials are for cash and will be delivered when our wagons go your way.

**\$6 Values \$3.75**