

WORLDLINESS OF CHURCH NEEDS A JOHN THE BAPTIST

Purging of Modern Christian Institutions Urged by Evangelist Gipsy Smith; Calls His Critics Cowards.

Gipsy Smith Meetings.
 Sunday, 11 p. m.—Mass meeting for men only, auditorium. Eighteenth and Taylor. Meeting for all, auditorium, 7:30 p. m.
 Monday—Last noon meeting, Taylor Street Methodist church, for men; 7:30 p. m., lecture, from "Gypsy Tent to Pulpit," at auditorium. This will be Gipsy Smith's last appearance in Portland during his present tour.
 There will be no meeting at the auditorium this evening, the mass meeting for young people at the auditorium being today's only service.

With words whose power won tense hearing and frequent applause, Gipsy Smith at the new auditorium last night turned for the first time on the critics of his motives and faith, saying: "If you think I haven't religion, come, and if you will go a better religion out of this book" (indicating the Bible which he held in his hand) "I will sit at your feet and learn."
 "Cowardice, unbelief and stupidity" were the blunt terms used by the evangelist to describe the excuses that blame environment or another for the evil in the lives of many persons.
 "My environment—what a convenient excuse," said Gipsy Smith with great scorn.
 "If you are a drunkard, it is because you like to drink. If you are a thief, it is because you like to steal. If you are a liar, it is because you like to lie. If you are lustful, it is because the devil of uncleanness is in you.
 "Don't blame anyone for what you are. To blame a bad start, a bad mother, a bad father and a bad environment for weak or evil living are weak excuses," said the evangelist.
Don't Blame the Devil.
 "I am told, by many men," he continued, "that I was born with the devil in me." I tell such a man that by the blood of Jesus Christ he speedily can be reborn with the devil out. God made Adam good out of nothing. He can certainly make you good out of what's left.
 The gypsy told his hearers that for what they are they must blame either their pastor or the devil. He declared that the gray hair of the preachers is due largely to the backsliding of congregations and added:
 "Don't blame the devil for what you are. The devil can't make you sin. He can only tempt you. The devil's only appeal to men is the appeal he gave to Jesus on the mountain top: 'Cast thyself down.'
 "Is that good theology?" questioned the evangelist, turning suddenly to the pastors who were on the speakers' platform. The chorus of "Ayes" led the gypsy to say further:
 "I know it is good theology. It is the devil's business to tempt. But you can resist when you want to. If I were in the devil's business I would tempt, too, but I couldn't make you sin. You yourselves do that."
 The class who blame the preachers and their humanness for their own lack of disposition to be Christians or enter the churches were excoriated by the evangelist.
Get Into Church.
 "If all the preachers went wrong, that wouldn't lessen your obligation to attend to your own soul's salvation," he cried.
 "If you want perfect surroundings, that will make it impossible for you to be wrong, remove to some little distant island of the sea, where there isn't anybody.
 "If you love God, get into one of the churches. Help the praying people pray. Help make this city what God wants it to be."
 Fashionable, lenient churches and fashionable, comfort seeking church members were likewise subject of the evangelist's attack. He told his hearers that these choose smooth paths, and cast out the rough and thorny voices, but keep the "respectable sins," and in this list he included card parties, dancing, theatre going and wine suppers.
 "In 20 years no one has ever invited me to a card party, a whist drive, a dance, a wine supper or a theatre party,"

he declared. "You answer, of course they wouldn't invite. That would not insult you. And I answer you that if your Christian life were as it should be no one would insult you by asking you to participate in these things. You must put them all out of your lives. You can't keep the respectable sins and keep Jesus."
John the Baptist Needed.
 "Some John the Baptist will have to rise in America and risk his head in calling back the church of Jesus Christ from her worldliness."
 "You Christians are, as the Scotch would say 'on the swither'—neither one side or the other. And when you are gone from committing your respectable sins in the company of sinners, the sinners turn on you and deride you. None have less respect for hypocrites than the sinners themselves.
 "If you play the hypocrite, God will expose you just at the moment you want to make the best impression. God with a divine ventriloquism will expose you.
 "You must decide between the world and Jesus. One must go. You can't do wrong and keep God.
 Among the cardinal evils the evangelist named gambling, saying, "It will eat out of the soul, the life and the manhood of you." He told of a boy who came down to the breakfast table and displayed to his mother, who was leader of the church mission circle, a roll of bills amounting to \$250, which when he admitted having won in a gambling hell, his mother declared must be returned. The boy pointed to a vase and asked his mother where she got it. She answered that it was "prize of a whist drive, and when she did so her boy said, "When you return that vase I will return this money. You taught me the names and the nature of cards."

Lauds Christian Life.
 With a sudden splendid rush of eloquence the gypsy turned from the dark picture of sin and excuse and hypocrisy he had painted to the brightness and beauty of Christian living, saying that the life in Christ is grander than Mount Hood, more majestic than Mount Adams, more imposing than the Cascade range.
 With tones unexpectedly tender and appealing he concluded: "It hasn't been easy to say to you some of the things I have said. I haven't spared myself and I haven't spared you. But I have tried to be faithful. I've been trying to lead you up to see the kind of Christian life you must live to be worthy the love and the atonement of Jesus. Won't you decide tonight to lead this kind of life?"
 Responding to the appeal a great number—the evangelist called it a multitude—said the power of God had not before so greatly rested on a meeting in Portland since he came—first rose and asked for prayers and then came forward crowding the inquiry room. The majority of these were men but there were many children.
 So many people have written Gipsy Smith asking that he pray for them that he said last night he could not read them all. Two of these said they thought they had committed the unpardonable sin, and the gypsy replying said:
 "The only unpardonable sin I know is the sin that will not be pardoned. God will pardon all who ask him."
 Many of the letter writers had been reading the evangelist's messages as reported in the newspapers and wanted him to remember them in his prayers.
Addresses 1500 Employees.
 The gypsy told of a meeting at 5 o'clock yesterday when he addressed 1500 employees of the Meier & Frank store in a room especially cleared for the purpose.
 "I was treated like a prince," he averred. "Mr. Meier introduced me, and I have never looked upon a brighter lot of department store employees. It was the first time in all the history of the world that I have been asked to address such a meeting. And certainly I will accept all such invitations. I would rather speak to such a gathering than a smaller crowd in a drawing room."
 The gypsy said he was looking forward with keenest anticipation to the meeting Monday night when he delivers his lecture, "From Gypsy Tent to Pulpit." He admitted that he never slept in a house until he was past 17 years of age. He invited the people to come and hear him, saying it would be interesting to learn the inside of the gypsy life from a gypsy. Dr. Young,

chairman of the executive committee announced that tickets for the lecture are going rapidly. They are being sold at the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, Sherman, Clay & Co., and at the auditorium, just before and just after each service.
 Members of the choir of 1000 voices gave testimony to the caisson in which they hold the gypsy evangelist and his wife whom he called his "silent partner," by presenting them at the close of the service last night with a traveling cup and clock, and for Mrs. Smith, a "rose leaf necktie."

PORTLAND GIRL WEDS IN HONOLULU COTTAGE
 Salem, Or., Nov. 25.—Friends of Miss Eva Patterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Patterson of East 32nd and Yamhill streets, Portland, have received notice of her marriage to Dr. Val Priestly Osburn of Honolulu. The ceremony was performed in a romantic thatched cottage on Waikiki beach. Dr. Patterson was formerly of Pasadena, Cal.

VETERAN OF TWO WARS DIES OF HEART DISEASE
 Forest Grove, Or., Nov. 25.—John Hauser, a veteran of the Spanish-American and Chinese Boxer wars, died suddenly at his home in this city Thursday evening, of heart disease. He was about town during the day.
 Mr. Hauser was born in Berlin, Ger-

many, 57 years ago, and came to America with his parents when he was 8 years of age. He lived in Ohio, and came to Washington when a young man. He enlisted in the regular army, and was stationed at Vancouver Barracks for about 20 years. At the outbreak of the Spanish war he went to the Philippine Islands, being sergeant of Company G, Fourteenth Regiment. At the

storming of the Chinese wall by the allied armies during the Boxer troubles, Mr. Hauser was wounded in the hip and side, and suffered greatly from his wounds. He had lived in this city for 8 years, and is survived by his widow. Funeral services will be held tomorrow under the auspices of J. B. Mathew's, G. A. R. of this city, with interment in Forest View cemetery.

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