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THE BIBLE IS A SPIRITUAL BOOK

(Copyrighted by the San Jose Mercury)

Many people think they see that the Bible is not intended as a text book on geology or astronomy or history, but that it is a spiritual text book, and from its first page to the last all the lessons are intended to be spiritual. Much of it is clothed in figurative or allegorical language or is in the form of narrative. This, so it is claimed, is not to teach history but to put the spiritual lessons intended to be conveyed in such form as to appeal to the unspiritual man. This is done for the same reason that the secular text books prepared for beginners are made so as to appeal to the immature mind.

For example, the first lessons in arithmetic usually are about like the following: "Willie had one apple and his mother gave him two more; how many apples had Willie then?" Or: "James had five apples and he gave his sister Mary two apples; how many apples had he left?" The purpose of these hypothetical short stories is simply to teach arithmetic. What would we think of the teacher who would direct the child's mind in the consideration of these simple problems, not to the mathematical results to be obtained from them, but only to the thought of the goodness of Willie's mother in giving him two apples and of the unselfishness of James in giving his sister two of his five apples? Whatever effect this might have upon the child, it certainly would not teach him arithmetic. Although these simple problems are told in attractive stories, it is the teacher's province to direct the thought of the pupil, not to the stories but to the lesson in numbers they are intended to convey.

So the stories of the Old Testament are told allegorically to interest the immature spiritual student, young or old, not in the stories themselves which are not the important things, but in the spiritual lessons which these stories are designed to teach. By these stories the Old Testament illustrates the development of man from his primitive, undeveloped, ignorant state to the condition of spiritual strength and maturity illustrated by the life of Jesus the Christ. In order to show this development it is necessary to carry the typical man through many generations of changing experiences and struggles before he is finally brought to the "full stature of the perfect man." The stories which do this are not intended to be historical realities any more than the little arithmetic stories cited above. These stories are told in the allegorical or narrative form in order the more strikingly and effectively to teach the spiritual lessons intended to be conveyed by them.

It must be admitted that a general acceptance of this view would sweep away many of the difficulties which the modern teacher of religion encounters in his efforts to reconcile the literal statements of the Old Testament with modern scientific knowledge and discovery. These stories begin with the creation of man and his experiences in the primitive Garden of Eden; wise and natural stages they follow him through his slavery in the darkness of Egypt; his journey through the "wilderness in" into the "promised land;" through wars and famines; through temptation and yielding; through suffering and repentance; through periods of depressing doubt and fear and of lime exaltation; and finally they bring him to the new era, to the birth of the spirit that comes through purity and humility to the acknowledged Son of God, manifesting the Spirit and doing His works.

They are wonderful stories filled with inspiring spiritual lessons and the promise of perfection for every one who will heed them. But may it not be that the chief profit these lessons is lost if we become absorbed in the narratives and do not see the spiritual meaning they are designed to convey? Why learn in detail the story of the Creation and of the Garden of Eden, both of which have long since been proven without historical or scientific foundation? Are we not to forget the application to ourselves of the story of the Children of Israel from Egypt into the Promised Land if we think only of the story and forget its allegorical application to our own experiences and lives? We hear the call that calls us to throw off the bondage that holds us in sin and to follow the guide that God gives us that we be led into light, with its resulting peace and gladness, we begin the effort, but because we do not obtain quick results we doubt and complain; we doubt the divine source of our leadership and, even as the Children of Israel cursed Moses because he did not provide them food and their cattle drink, we complain and draw back before we are prepared to receive the promised spiritual refreshment and riches. Many

times we feel that the rewards of the old life are greater than those that are promised and we are inclined to give up the struggle, even as the Children of Israel threatened to return to their former state in Egypt. Fortunate are we if we are able to grow out of the darkness and bondage of the life of the natural, physical man and to enter into the brightness, and joy of the spiritual, divine life in forty years.

After all, the important thing in all these stories of the Bible is not what happened to Adam or Noah or Jonah or Abraham or David or Joseph or to any other of its characters or individuals, but it is important that we understand that many of these experiences or similar ones may come to one who is striving to go the way that leads to the "Throne of God," which is to be built in our own natures if we are to become, as Paul says, "Sons of God;" that we must fight the enemies within us; that we must suffer the sorrows and misfortunes that result from the action of the unregenerate life with which we are born, until we have been cleansed through baptism in the purifying waters of the Holy Spirit. When this time comes we shall know that we have passed beyond the primary grades of life and are about to enter upon its larger, broader and higher work, the greatness and the glory of which we cannot now comprehend.

May 1; but all serene in Salem, the city of peace.

Enforce the laws.

The persons to enforce the laws are the ones sworn to enforce them.

A charity expert finds that a beggar can make \$1.15 an hour. That is better than the wages of a carpenter.

Are you doing anything in the way of a drug garden? They are going to be more general here. See sioxan pages on Thursday.

"The Home Market club of Boston runs true to form in deciding that the tariff on imports should be raised before excess profits and income taxes should be cut down."—Springfield Republican. This is intended for sarcasm. But why should they not be raised? First, in order to protect American labor and capital against ruinous foreign competition. Second, to make the custom houses yield as much as possible of the money to pay the running expenses of the government, without doing injustice to either the importers of foreign goods or the consumers of them in this country where they do not come into competition with the products of our people. That is what the Home Market club of Boston means.

WHY NOT FOREVER?

It is all right to utilize General Pershing's great abilities in the preparation of plans on paper for the part the United States is to play in the next war, but it is a safe bet that the general will be dead long before that event arrives, and that this generation will have passed from the stage. Possibly the battles of the future will be fought largely in the air. Such problems are worthy of the study of the best minds in the army, but the hope will be general that it will be many years before the United States will again take up arms. A protracted period of peace followed the close of the Napoleonic wars, and this is likely to be repeated as a result of the exhaustion produced by the world war.—Philadelphia Record.

Why say the hope will be general that it will be many years before the United States will take up arms?

Why not forever? The battles of the future, if there are any more great armed conflicts, will surely be fought largely in the air.

But why not let the battles of the future be fought around the council tables in a federation of the world's nations? That is now and will continue to be the greatest issue before all the billion, six hundred million people now living, and their children and children's children, till universal peace, founded on universal justice, is absolutely established.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Crowded to the guards—

That is the condition of The Statesman of this morning. Much good matter crowded out. Some pages would have been added if the mechanical department had in time seen the flood of ads coming.

But all the ads are interesting, any way.

Getting back to normalcy is all right; but wage scales should not go down faster than the costs of living. The laborer is worthy of his hire. Normalcy is a general term.

Jupiter Pluvius is overplaying his hand. Does he think this country is still wet?

Moving day; and more new houses are going up in Salem for people to move into than for a long, long time. But there will not be enough till 1000 more are built. Then another 1000 will be needed. Salem is growing and going to keep on growing.

The best solution of the cold storage question in Salem is for

a private company to build a million dollar plant. And it would pay; and the right kind of an organizer could no doubt find the money.

Perhaps this will be moving day for the French; moving further into Germany.

Willamette Seniors Take Inter-Class Meet

Senior track men of Willamette yesterday captured the inter-class track meet staged immediately following the high school meet, taking the day by a lead of 17 points. The final score gave the seniors 51 points; the sophomores 34, the juniors 24, and the freshmen 16.

Jackson, senior representative was high point man, taking 15 points for his class. Logan, freshman runner, took first in both the mile and half mile. Other high point men were Gankans, sophomore, 13 points, and Irvine, junior with 11 points.

"The Gilded Lily"
 Has an Entirely Different Ending Than Most Pictures

Eastman Kodaks
 and Supplies

We have just added this line of world renowned kodaks and supplies to our stock.

Bring Your Films to Us
 All developing and printing work absolutely guaranteed.

COMMERCIAL BOOK STORE
 163 N. Com'l St., Salem
 Phone 64

Can You Concentrate Easily?

Or does your mind rove? Perhaps you easily get nervous—fidgety. Inability to concentrate is very often directly traceable to defective vision. Poor vision causes eye strain. Eye strain produces nervousness, headaches, "mental cloudiness."

Have our specialists examine your eyes and, if necessary, prescribe corrective glasses.

All lenses are carefully and accurately ground in our own laboratory.

MORRIS OPTICAL CO.
 Eyesight Specialists
 204-211 Salem Bank of Commerce Building
 SALEM, OREGON

Oregon's Largest, Most Modern, Best Equipped Exclusive Optical Establishment.

Anniversary

Of SHIPLEY'S "Pay As You Go Plan"

It was just one year ago on May 1st that this store adopted the "PAY AS YOU GO" plan, and perhaps you will recall in the circular sent out to announce this policy, this special paragraph:

"We advise all of our friends to be careful! Buy only what you need, and pay as you go until conditions strike a level where commodities are on a conservative basis."

Our plan of "PAY AS YOU GO" has been rigidly followed, both in the buying and selling of our merchandise. WE FRANKLY TELL YOU that the success of this policy has benefited all of our customers to a marked degree.

Legitimate debts such as buying a home on partial payments or going into debt for something that can be used as an asset is good business if kept reasonably in proportion to our income. But our advice is still:

Beyond that, go careful.

SPECIAL! HAIR NETS!
 In cap style, of real hair; full size; black, dark brown, medium brown, light brown, blonde and amber; 3 for 25c or.....90c dozen

Dresses of the Moment

You will find in no Eastern fashion salon, dresses that are more distinctive for their definite style and charm. Our highest praise of them is that they are "just what we want to sell," and we know that you will be as enthusiastic over them as we are!

OF TRICOLETTE
 \$12.48

We have for Monday's display a special assortment of Silk Tricolette Frocks in shades of navy and brown, attractively designed and trimmed with braid in novel patterns. You surely should not miss seeing these dresses.

OF TAFFETA
 \$19.75 and \$24.75

Since Taffeta Frocks are the rage this year, we determined and have succeeded in getting an array of the prettiest and most adorably youthful frocks that you can imagine. We believe that such frocks cannot be found anywhere in town or even in Portland at these prices.



Come Down Early on Monday

SUITS of Extraordinary Cleverness!

It was a bit of the most exceptional good luck that enabled us to make such a favorable purchase of these clever serge and tricotine suits that are tailored in the new spring and early summer styles. They are well lined and splendidly finished. AND THEY ARE ONLY

\$19.75, \$24.75 to \$64.50

OUR SPECIAL OFFER TO YOU!

This assortment of Women's and Misses' Tricotine Dresses was purchased by our buyer at unusually reduced prices just in time to be put in our Anniversary Showing. The styles are new and attractive and the shades are navy, blue and brown. You will appreciate the prices

\$12.48 and \$14.75

These Seem to Go Together

SPORTS SKIRTS
 \$7.48, \$9.75 to \$19.75

Offering you a varied choice in colors and weaves in plaid and striped sports skirts of decided desirability.

SILK DESPABLE SKIRTS
 \$9.75 and \$14.75

Lustrous and gleamy silk sports skirts in striped, plaid and also in plain colors that will catch your fancy.



SWEATERS

To Match Your Skirt! In jaunty Tuxedo models at

\$4.98

Of fine fibre silk, \$9.75 Of the highest grade of all-silk, \$24.75

WOOL JERSEY JACKETS
 \$5.95, \$10.48 and \$14.75

These Jersey jackets come in three lengths and in all the spring colors.



BLOUSES OF PERFECTION!

Dainty crepe de chine blouses fashioned in the Victorian model with full pleated fronts in shades of white, flesh, navy and bisque. at

\$5.95 and \$6.50

GEORGETTE BLOUSES in spring and summer models, finished with hand embroidery in silk and beads. Waist Blouses.....\$3.98 to \$12.48

PONGEE BLOUSES of exceptional value in plain, Peter Pan and Victorian models from

\$2.98 to \$3.98

MILADY'S SILKEN UNDERTHINGS

Space does not permit us to do justice to the line of underthings that we will put on display Monday, but these suggestions will give you an idea of the benefits of shopping early in this department.

Crepe de chine camisoles.....\$1.48 to \$6.95
 Crepe de chine Step-Ins.....\$2.98 to \$9.75
 Crepe de chine Bloomers.....\$2.98 to \$5.95
 Crepe de chine Envelopes.....\$2.98 to \$8.50
 Italian Silk Shirts with bodice or band tops.....\$1.98 to \$4.98
 Italian Silk Bloomers with plain or hemstitched knees.....\$2.98 to \$4.98

BANDEAUX
 An especially complete line of plain tulle and brocaded bandeaux in all sizes.....35c to \$2.98



ELASTIC CORSETS
 Corsets that are designed for the new spring and summer gowns; in two popular lengths at.....\$4.25 and \$5.00
 A wonderful dancing corset.

CHILDREN'S WOOL SWEATERS
 These are always in great demand and they come in high or low collar styles in most colors for.....\$3.75 to \$5.95

This Store Features Women's Apparel and Accessories Exclusively!

H. G. Shipley Co.

READY TO WEAR

READY TO USE

Originators of the Pay As You Go Plan

The Living Trust

To the Man or Woman who is working and saving money:

You can create a Trust with \$1000 or less, for 5 years or longer.

This money will be safely invested and interest will be paid to you or added to your investment, as desired.

Such a trust should return you not less than 6% under present conditions.

Our officers will be glad to explain further.

Capital National Bank
 SALEM, OREGON
 Don't forget your Will—It's Important