

The Work Most Sublime

(By Rev. George H. Bennett.)



How beautiful is the world today. Fare forth in thought on a journey this morning over the sunlit land. Behold the dreaming sky with its white-sailed clouds; consider the peaceful fields stretching away in emerald beauty and the broad acres of waving grain; see the hills and vales clothed with their myriad rows of thrifty orchard trees; scan the mountains slumbering in mystic blue in the distance, clad with mighty forests; and contemplate the majestic ocean beating ceaselessly on the rock bound coast. Who is not moved by the inspiration and power in such a panorama of nature's smiling features. How beautiful is the world today! In all these elements of life and beauty we perceive the presence and power of the Creator. But there is something more noble and beautiful in the world than this. It is found in the co-operation of man with God in activities worthy of both God and man.

We are assembled this morning in the house of worship. These native elements, wood and iron, sand and lime and silica, which compose this structure, stand as representatives of the presence and power of God. But these hewn timbers and molded mortar, this architectural form—all these stand as representatives of the presence and power of man. And in this homely illustration we learn that the noblest beauty in this world of beauty, and the grandest excellence in this excellent world are not found where God works alone, or where man works alone, but are found where man and God work together in consummating the divine plan in human life; for this house of worship which represents the presence and power of both God and man has been erected to promote the grand work of character building among us—and the human character in its perfection and likeness of the divine image is far nobler and more beautiful than the towering mountains or the ruddy and golden sunset.

This era is called a commercial age, an age of invention, a scientific age—and all this is splendid. But we should each so work together with God in developing our moral and religious natures, that it may be called a character age, for character in the final test will prove more important than science or invention or commerce. Commerce building, invention but character building in co-operation with our heavenly Father is the work most sublime. The sinful heart that repents and is born anew; the cold heart that becomes warm and sympathetic; the selfish heart that becomes charitable; and the cynical heart that melts and loves—this is the work most sublime. But it is the divine plan, which can be consummated only when man co-operates with the heavenly Father.

Character building according to the divine plan and specifications is first an individual work. It then through individuals becomes national in its spread, and then it becomes worldwide. And so, what you believe, and think, and do, is of vast importance to the community, and to the state, and to the world. Are you engaged in that work most sublime? And how shall you co-operate with God in realizing His plan for mankind, unless, first, you lose your enmity and unsympathetic feelings toward Him through the divine forgiveness and renewal of the heart? Forgiveness is your first great need. There is no co-operation with the Father without building, science building, world building are works indeed sublime—it. Honesty, temperance, baptism, penance, ritualism will not take its place. Forgiveness and renewed by the grace of God, then you make God's plan your plan, and enlist with Him in uplifting mankind. Is it not worth while? Go forth, now, with a clean heart and a willing spirit, a new creature in Christ, and win others to the fellowship with Christ. This is the work most sublime.

You have heard much, in these trying times, about unity. Ambitious men have risen from time to time who dreamed of unity. Ambitious Caesars and Alexanders and Napoleons, and possibly Wilhelms, have dreamed of world conquest, and unity of nations ruled by a single scepter. Ambitious captains of industry have dreamed of the centralization of wealth and power in commerce and industry and transportation. Ambitious clergymen have also dreamed of a unity of all peoples and creeds under the dominion of a single hierarchy—one church in which all subscribe to the same form of organization, the same ritualism, as well as the same faith. But while there is a unity in the kingdom of nature there is also diversity. In the classification of animal life there are eight great branches, but in each branch there is a unity of structural character. At the same time the eight branches differ from each other in structural characters, like the vertebrates from the invertebrates. So while there is a unity in the kingdom of nature there is also diversity.

Among the nations of mankind unity of organization in political life, and the foundation of one grand state is not possible nor desirable, owing to racial differences. Every race has a right to its place in the system of human existence, and should not be enslaved, but should be assisted by the more favored to work out its career and destiny among the races of mankind. The great races of men thus advanced to the highest planes of enlightenment, and living side by side in sympathy and brotherhood is the ideal condition of mankind all should devoutly crave. Its realization is an important factor in the work most sublime.

Ambitious capitalists and statesmen and emperors have often been deceived about the great underlying plan of God in human life, and so have

wasted their lives and efforts in pursuing a false ideal. The realization of those false ideals would have meant oppression and slavery to the great body of mankind. Ulysses was the hero of Homer. Ulysses was cunning and deceitful. Those qualities at that time were considered the attributes of the best manhood; but today, with our enlightenment, no man is highly esteemed who proves to be a deceiver. In old Sparta it was a virtue to steal, so long as stealing could be done without detection. It was regarded as a commendable kind of skill. Philosophers in those days were self-deceived, and they deceived their disciples, for people sometimes believe many things, which a little reflection and a little knowledge will show them is wrong.

So we should not be deceived about this doctrine of unity either in industrial, or political life among men and nations; nor should we be misled about church unity. Unity of organization and of ritualism was never required of the disciples by the Lord as he sent them forth to disciple the nations and organize congregations and churches. Among the body of believers in his day Paul said, "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are diversities of ministrations, and the same Lord. And there are diversities of workings, but the same God who worketh all things in all." Paul also speaks of "gifts of healings, helps, governments." It is clear therefore that in Paul's day there was no unity in the organization and government of congregations. He complained to the Corinthians, "Each one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I am of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided?" There was already division in organization and government in accordance with the diversity of gifts for those things. But Paul was not complaining about the differences in organization and government, but the differences in religious faith and life. He vehemently urged the congregations of believers "to walk worthily of their calling, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and further, 'Until we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God.' Unity in the essentials of Christian faith, and in the supremacy of brotherly love—unity in Christian co-operation, rather than in organization and government is what the Lord requires of His people.

Unity in name is as unimportant in the life and work of the church as is unity in organization and government. The church is nowhere in the bible called the Christian church. The word Christian occurs but three times in the bible, viz: Acts 11:26—"Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." Acts 26:28—"Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian;" and 1 Peter 4:16—"If any suffer as a Christian."

Jesus first mentioned the word church, when He said, "On this rock will I build my church." It is mentioned fifty-three times as the church; eight times as the church of God; and as the churches some thirty-four times. Variety in the form of government and organization, in fact denominationalism was foreshadowed in the teachings of Paul and must have had Christ's sanction.

It is very apparent therefore, that the title, christian, when applied to a church, or congregation, or organization is not founded upon any practice, authority, or teaching set forth in the scriptures. Methodist Episcopal, Baptist Presbyterian, or Christian are all of equal propriety, for unity in name is absolutely unimportant, but the "unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God," is commanded us, and to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

We then, may be American, German, or Russian; we may be Methodist, Baptist, Adventist, according to the laws of the gospel of Christ—so long as we keep the faith and obey the laws of brotherly love—for the supremacy of love is the work most sublime.

YAMHILLERS OF '65 TO MEET.

Veterans of Early Days to Assemble This Week at Sheridan.

The seventh annual session of the Yamhill County Veterans association will be held at Sheridan on Thursday and Friday of this week and the association has extended a cordial invitation to "old boys" of '61 and '65 to assemble in jolly conclave in the afternoon and evening of the 12th and morning, afternoon and evening of the 13th. Local talent of Sheridan will furnish the greater portion of the program, being assisted by the veterans' quartet of Portland and the drum corps of Dayton.

On Thursday morning at 11 o'clock the association will meet at the city park for the annual registration. The officers of the association are: W. J. Sargeant, president; Mrs. Etta Demorest, vice-president; Mrs. Jessie Dewey, secretary; D. H. Turner, treasurer; Rev. Ezra Hay, chaplain. The total enrollment of members is 75.

Training School Gets Polk Youth.

Cecil Ensminger, an Independence youth of 12 years, enrolled Friday at the state training school for boys at Salem, by order of Judge Teal of the juvenile court. The lad had been making his home with his grandparents at Independence, his mother having her residence in Portland. The father's care does not appear. Sheriff Orr delivered the boy to the school on Friday. Mr. Orr said there seemed to be nothing vicious in the young fellow's habits, but he was unconcerned as to the path prescribed by the grandparents. The juvenile court found by the evidence likewise, and directed the sheriff to place the prisoner in the home for incorrigibles.

Announces Live Stock Sale.

Congressman C. N. McArthur of Portland announces a sale of Duroc Jersey hogs at his farm near Rickreall, on Wednesday, September 8th.

About a dozen sows, some with litters and others heavy with pig, and 35 head of spring gilts and boars will be sold. It is barely possible that Mr. McArthur will also sell some of his Jersey cows and heifers at this sale, as he has decided to reduce his herd to certain blood lines in order to carry out his plans for line breeding. Mr. McArthur has a choice lot of hogs and cattle and prospective purchasers should get in touch with him.

AROUND THE COUNTY

FALLS CITY.

Last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock the home of F. J. DeWett, one mile southeast of Falls City, was the scene of a beautiful double wedding. The contracting parties were Miss I. V. DeWett and Mr. Guy Lewis, and Miss Nettie Hunter and Mr. R. V. DeWett, all residents of this vicinity.

The crackjack of the donkey engine at Balderee's camp at Black Rock broke Thursday and repairs have been ordered from Portland and will arrive Monday. As a result half of the men are down from the camp. According to the Dallas papers the victims of the recall are considering the propriety of invoking the aid of the grand jury in the defense of their official reputation. A statement in the Itemizer from C. R. Canfield, one of the prime movers in the recall, does not indicate that he is much "skewed" of the grand jury. As we are not furnishing munitions of war nor shipping contraband to either party we strictly are "neutral" and free to "harpoon" either side as we deem proper.

The city council met Tuesday night in regular session. The usual business was transacted, but nothing new brought up. It was deemed best to lay the extension of the water system over until next year. The city attorney said that it was impossible to make heads or tails out of the records in regard to the old street assessment and that he would take a new tact in the matter that he thought would bring things to a focus.

Tuesday evening at 7:30 occurred the wedding of Miss Louise Sampson to Mr. Harry Taylor. The event was solemnized at the Methodist parsonage and was witnessed by Miss Miriam Kieney and Mr. Harry Sampson. The beautiful ring ceremony was used. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor expect to leave at once for Eastern Oregon.—News.

WILDWOOD.

Mrs. Ida Kopplen and daughter, Mrs. Ira Green, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Mason visited the Fry family Sunday.

Some of the camps of the Valley & Siletz Railroad company just got nicely located above Spaulding's old camp, when they got orders to move to Independence.

Two dogs have been killed here lately, having symptoms of rabies. J. F. Hugh has been doing some work on the school ground.

F. L. Price is binding his wheat this week. J. F. Leigh went to Hoskins on Friday.

WEST SALEM.

E. E. Lawhead of Portland, was an evening guest at the J. H. Eaton home recently.

Mr. E. Rhodes and daughter, Miss Dole, drove to Lewisville Sunday. They will be away for a few days combining business with pleasure.

Miss Laura McLaren of Highland was a Sunday over-night guest of the Misses Beth and Ruth Bedford.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Eaton and son, Kermit, and their little nephew, Monte Siddal, George Tobin, Louis Siddall and Mr. Howard, all went by team to the Airle neighborhood Sunday, where they will camp for ten days or two weeks and move out some wood purchased by Tobin and Eaton.

Mrs. Harry Fennel and daughter, Marion, of Marion, were Tuesday guests at the Joseph Fennel home. The F. A. Turner family have moved from the Shields property onto a ranch near Independence.

The Misses Mildred and Dorothy Douglas of Kingwood Park, returned Thursday from a two weeks' visit with their grand parents on a farm a few miles from Oregon City.

Mrs. John Simon, who underwent a serious triple operation at the Williamette sanitarium recently, is gradually gaining strength.

Mrs. R. W. Hogg, who had a bad fall some time since injuring her spine is recovering.

Miss Blanche Smith of North Dakota, who was on her way to San Francisco to the fair, stopped off Tuesday for an over-night visit with her old friends, the D. R. Brannons.

Mrs. Clay Heise and two little ones went to Woodburn Wednesday for a week-end visit with her sister, Mrs. Plank, and other friends.

Attorney Blue and wife and small son, Asbury, are away on a combined business and pleasure trip. They expect to walk over the mountains to Eastern Oregon and back, a distance of about sixty miles.

Miss Lottie Hunt, a niece of J. T. Hunt, left Monday for her home in Dayton, Wash. She has been spending the summer with friends in Albany, Newport and in West Salem with the J. T. Hunt and Ed. Becker families.

Mrs. Gene Hanna and two daughters of Pacific City, California, are the guests of Mrs. Earl Wood, a niece of Mrs. Hanna.

Miss Zeila McLean of Kingwood Park, has as her house guest, Miss Mable Craven of Rickreall. She will return home Monday.

Troy Wood and Walter Brannon motored to Portland Thursday on business.

Messrs. Tarbell Hamilton and Crawford Moore are building a hop house near Independence.

OAK DALE.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson and family of Dallas spent Sunday at the Garwood place. Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Butler and family also spent the afternoon there.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Birch and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. J. W.

Robinson spent Sunday at Chas. Bird's.

Hops are looking better in this vicinity than in most places.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Siddons and Mrs. R. F. Robinson, all of Portland, made a brief visit at the Garwood place, Mountain View, and Thos. Card's Wednesday. They also visited the Halleck place, the childhood place of Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Siddons.

Don Miller is convalescing quite fast now after his terrible spell of sickness.

Mrs. Leland Murphy and daughters of Falls City are visiting at Fountain Murphy's.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Murphy visited Bridgeport Wednesday.

Frank Wright is home from St. Johns on a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Bird visited Dallas Wednesday.

Mrs. Leland Murphy and daughters visited at Willis Frink's over Wednesday night.

Mr. Clifford and Mr. Ross have gone to work with the Plaster threshing outfit. Will Dennis is working with the Bevens' threshing outfit on the Lucklamute. Lert Miller is also with them.

Superintendent Seymour, Judge Falls City a few hours Saturday on business.

ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern, that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Tena S. J. Hastings, by the Hon. County Court of Polk County, Oregon, and has qualified. All persons holding claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified on or before six months from the date hereof, and all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate settlement thereof. Dated this 24th day of June, 1915.

REUBEN A. HASTINGS, Administrator of estate of Tena S. J. Hastings, deceased.

SIBLEY & EAKIN, Attorneys for estate. 32-34.

SUMMONS NO. 4674.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County.—Department No. 2.

G. N. Phillips and Rosa E. Phillips, his wife, and J. M. Phillips, Plaintiffs, vs. Newton Carr, Fred T. Stewart, art and Frank M. Stewart, and Ada B. Stewart, his wife, heirs at law of Robert A. Stewart, Sr., deceased, also all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in and to the real estate described in the complaint herein, defendants.

To Newton Carr, Fred T. Stewart, heirs at law of Robert A. Stewart, Sr., deceased, also all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in and to the real estate described in the complaint herein.

In the name of the State of Oregon: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the within entitled suit within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons which is the 16th day of July, 1915, and if you fail to answer, for want thereof the plaintiffs will apply to the court for a decree against you as demanded in the complaint, to-wit:

1. That plaintiffs are the owners in fee simple of the following described premises, to-wit:

Beginning at a point 40.00 chains South and South 45 degrees West 52.00 chains from the most northerly northwest corner of the Donation Land Claim of Elias Buell and wife, Claim No. 40 in Township 7 South, Range 6 West of the Will. Mer. in the County of Polk and State of Oregon; thence N. 45 degrees E. 27.50 chains; thence S. 12 degrees E. 22.50 chains; thence S. 45 degrees W. 27.50 chains; thence North 12 degrees W. 22.50 chains to the place of beginning and containing 61.7-8 acres of land, more or less.

Also the Northeast quarter (N. E. 1/4) of Section 8 in said Township and Range; containing 160 acres according to Government Survey.

Also Lot numbered Six (6) and the North one half of Lot numbered five (5) of Section 9 in said Township and Range, containing 22.11 acres of land according to Government Survey and containing in all 244 acres, more or less.

2. That all adverse claims of the defendants may be determined by said decree, and that it be decreed and adjudged that said defendants and each of them have no estate or interest whatever in and to the said lands or any part thereof and that plaintiffs have a good and valid title thereto.

3. That the defendants be forever debarred, enjoined and estopped from claiming or asserting any claim, lien, interest or estate whatever in and to the said premises adverse to these plaintiffs and that plaintiffs may have such other and further relief as to the court shall seem mete and equitable in the premises.

This summons is served upon you by publication in the Polk County Observer, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published at Dallas, Polk County, Oregon, by order of the Hon. John B. Teal, County Judge of Polk County, Oregon, made at chambers in the City of Dallas in said County and state on the 14th day of July, 1915.

W. O. SIMS, J16-A27 Attorney for the Plaintiffs.

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