

Sermon No. 2, by Elder Taylor.

RAND: MATT. 7:21.

The Divine Lord taught nothing more plainly on earth, than the fact that man have something to do to be saved. Yet, strange to say, nothing is more disparaged by modern orthodox teachers. Doing the will of the Father in heaven is a duty to be performed by man, that he may enter the Kingdom of heaven. Law is an expression of the impression of the will of the law making power.

When God spoke the words into existence, He impressed upon them His will, and that was the law of their existence. On all nature the will of God is impressed, but with regard to man it is also expressed. The etymology of the word implies that it was pressed out. God first taught man to speak, and then talked to him in the language He gave him. As Newton says, "God's greatest gifts to man were religion and speech," and God gave him religion by giving him speech. When God spoke to Adam and forbade the fruit of a specific tree, from that moment Adam was under law in respect to it. While the thought remained in the mind of God unexpressed, it was not law to Adam.

The New Testament is generally called the "will and testament of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ," "Testament" and "will" mean the same. The New Testament, therefore, is the new will. It is the new will of God. It is also, the will of Christ. He made it. All authority in heaven or on earth being given to Him, and it is exercised therein.

Considering the New Testament will, as a document, it is pertinent to ask how we came into possession of it. When Jesus left the earth and went home to his Father, not a line of the Book, as we now have it, was written. Christ is the author of it; every word came from Him, and yet, He left the world without writing a line of it. Before Jesus ascended He promised His apostles that He would send them the Holy Spirit to guide them into all truth. That He (the Holy Spirit) would convict the world of sin, of righteousness, and judgment. Of sin for not believing on Christ; of righteousness of Christ, because God had raised Him from the dead; and of judgment, because the Prince of this world is judged. Christ conquered Satan, the prince of this world, hence he will judge the world in righteousness at the last day. The Holy Spirit was to do all this by testimony. He was to testify by speaking. He was to speak through the apostles. He was to bring to their minds all that they had learned of Christ. He was not to speak by His own authority, but what He heard from Christ. He was to take the words of Christ and give them to the apostles and the apostles to the people. See John 14:15, John 14:27, Matt. 10:20. Hence, the Holy Spirit was the medium of communication between Christ on His throne and the hearts of men. Christ gave his will to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit gave it to the apostles just as he received it, and the apostles gave it to the same to the people. They spoke "not in words," which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches. Thus the will of God came fresh from the coronated King and found a lodgment in the hearts of men. And in this way the apostles found on earth what was first found in heaven and based on earth what had first been based in heaven. The New Testament thus went into effect as it was expressed by the Holy Spirit speaking through apostles.

"It is not good for man to be alone." "Perhaps not." "Did you ever reflect upon that part of the marriage service which requires couples to cleave unto each other until death parts them?" "I have." "I have often reflected upon it myself. Now, death has parted me from my wife and I feel very lonely." "I should think it likely." "I think I must do something to restore to me her kind consolations and the memory of her many virtues." He pressed the lady's hand and sighed. She returned the pressure, and also suffered a sigh to escape her.

"My dear," he said, after a long pause, "I'll come to the point at once. I have a proposal to make." "A proposal?" "Yes." "Ah!" she said, blushing and covering her face with her hands. "I have concluded to write my wife's biography. Now, I have but little skill in literary exercises, and if you will correct my manuscript and write the headings of my chapters I will give you five dollars."

She sprang from his side and her eyes flashed with anger. "I'll see you hanged first, and then I won't you—o—o—o!" She then left the room not being able to express her rage. The widower sighed, took his hat and went home—Ex.

"Doing Well" at the Bar. Judge Purple of Peoria was an able jurist, but he had eccentric ideas of what "doing well" at the Illinois bar meant. While visiting Washington, the judge was asked by a Boston gentleman as to the success of a young lawyer who had "gone West" some five years before. "He is doing well, sir," said the Judge.

"He is?" Well I am glad to hear it," continued the gentleman. "You think he has a good practice, and is making money, Judge?" "I don't know anything about his practice or his business; but he is doing well."

"How is that, Judge? You say you don't know anything about his practice or his business, yet you think he is doing well." "I mean just this," said the judge—"that any man who practices law in Illinois five years and keeps out of the penitentiary is doing well, whether he has much practice or not."—New York Weekly.

Looking for a Message. "Boy" he said to the newsboy who had opened the door to yell "Papers!"—"Boy, you has a shwinder and I doan' buy some more papers of you."

"What did I do?" "You sells me a paper last night and I took him home and hunt all over and don't find dat message."

"What message?" "Dat message by der President."

"Why, der President don't have a message but once a year. It came out long ago."

"Ish dot so? He come out and I don see him. Und he don't come no more?" "Not for a good while yet."

"Well, dot explains, und I beg your pardon. You can leaf me a paper some more, und if he doan' haf some message in maybe I can find if somebody hung himself or chas killed. No President's message, eh? What vhas dot President doing all der time? Why do we pay him feety thousand dollars a year?"

A Remarkable Dog. The following account of a very intelligent dog owned by Geo. Mason, of Princeton, should be shown every dog in Albany. It is that of an example that is certainly very commendable: On one occasion recently, when Marshal Charlton was enforcing the dog tax law, "Freyman's" master informed him that he was not wearing the regulation tag on his collar and that death was the penalty. The animal then inquired, in his most intelligent way, what he should do. His master informed him that he must go to the recorder at once and purchase a tag, at the same time giving the dog a dollar, the fee tied up in a kerchief. The dog went to the recorder's office, over a block away, pawed on the door until his records lip appeared, gave his dollar, received his tag and returned to his master accompanied by snickers. This actually happened in the presence of several men who witnessed it.—Albany Democrat.

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