

THIS SERMON IS A REGULAR WEEKLY FEATURE

PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by CHARLES T. RUSSELL, Pastor Brooklyn Tabernacle.

Workmen Needing Not to Be Ashamed.

"Study to Show Thyself Approved Unto God, a Workman That Needeth Not to Be Ashamed, Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth" (II Timothy ii, 15).

Louisville, Ky., June 19.—Pastor Russell of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, New York, today addressed the International Bible Students' Association here, using the above text. He also gave a public address under the auspices of the association. He had crowded houses and earnest attention. On the above text he said in part:

I address you, dear friends, as Christians, students of God's Word, and not as sectarians. Although the world is full of denominations, each claiming to be the Church of Christ, we all admit that there is but the one "Church of the firstborns whose names are written in heaven" (Hebrews xii, 23). This conviction is being borne in upon us more and more as the days go by, and as the eyes of our understanding open more widely to the teachings of God's Word. We realize increasingly that our division means our shame in the eyes of the world, and that our Creedal contradictions imply that we are not all led in all things by the Holy Spirit, the teachings of which cannot be Yea and Nay upon the same subject. It is this sentiment which is taking hold of the ministry of all denominations and making them anxious for an outward show of Unity in Church Federation, which will shortly be effected. The Christian public, however, and especially Bible students, are not deeply sympathetic with the Federation idea. They realize that at most it would be a gloss of deception so far as doctrinal oneness is concerned; and that otherwise it is but a business or worldly combination.

Bible Students are more and more coming to prefer the Lord's way—the Scriptural way. They are coming to realize that what God's people need is not more organization but less organization, not more explicit creeds but the one standard of fellowship which the Bible sets up. They are learning that this simple creed is—a turning from sin and acceptance of the Lord Jesus as the Redeemer from sin and death and the full consecration of the believer, mind and body, to know and to do the Lord's will to the best of his ability, under the Lord's Providential guidance. We all see that this simple bond of fellowship is the only one laid down in God's Word, and that whatsoever is more than this is injurious—bondage to men and to systems. We all see that "the Church of the Living God whose names are written in heaven" is composed exclusively of such as conform to the terms of this simple creed—that these alone will constitute "the Body of Christ which is the Church"—"the Bride, the Lamb's wife," whom he will accept and unite to himself in the end of this age. We all see that this class alone is referred to in the Scripture as "the elect," who are to be associated with the Savior in his glorious Spiritual Kingdom, which, invisible to men, is shortly to be established in power and great glory for the blessing of natural Israel and through her for the blessing of all the families of the earth—living and dead.

"Workmen Not Ashamed." Let us consider the latter part of our text first: The Apostle's suggestion is that Timothy and all the ministers of the Gospel of Christ are professedly workmen, laboring under the guidance of God's Word. In the larger sense every Christian is a minister of the Gospel, or, as St. Peter declares of all the consecrated, "Ye are a Royal Priesthood, a Holy People, a Peculiar Treasure." In the end of the age will come a reckoning time, a showing of results. "Every man's work that he hath wrought shall be made manifest" (I Corinthians iii, 13).

Our text urges that Timothy, and every faithful servant of God should be so loyal to God and his message that in the great time of examination in the end of this age preparatory to the introduction of the Kingdom the showing shall be one of which we need not be ashamed. Let us, then, as Christian Bible Students of all denominations gathered here today, ask ourselves respecting our own work in the world, and how it must appear to God, to ourselves, and to our fellowmen—yea, how it must shortly be made manifest to all!

Let us call the roll. Baptist brethren. What have you to show as workmen who need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth? Methodist brethren, what say you? Presbyterians, next. Congregationalists, Lutherans, Catholics—all!

The answer of one is practically the answer of all: "We have—so many hundred Churches. They cost—so many millions of dollars. Their steeples are—so high. Their cost of maintenance is—so much. The number of ministers is—so many. The Church collections amount to so much. The amount collected for foreign missions is—so much. The amount expended on fine choirs and elegant organs is—so much. The aggregated debts of all our churches is—so much. The unpaid interest on many of these debts is—so much. The time and energy expended in fairs, bazaars, etc., to help pay the expenditures is—so much. The number of Church membership is—so many. The number in Sunday Schools is—so many."

Many of our dear Christian friends say, What lack we yet? Have we not really attained the goal of our Church ambition? Should we build finer edifices or pay larger salaries? Are we not straining ourselves with collections at every turn? What more could God ask of us? "We are rich and increased in goods and have need of nothing" (Revelation iii, 16-19).

In reply we may suppose the Lord to ask, Where did I give you instruction respecting these things? Where in my Word did you find the suggestion that what I desired you to do in the world was to erect great church edifices, piles of stone and iron and mortar, polished woods and stained glass? You are not rightly reading my Word. However good in intention, you have failed to "rightly divide the Word of Truth." The Temple respecting which I gave instruction is the spiritual one, the Temple of the Holy Spirit—the Body of Christ which is the Church. I fear that you have forgotten the true temple of God while rearing so many temples of earthly materials. Concerning the true Temple I instructed you that "the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are"—"living stones" being shaped and polished "for the habitation of God through the Spirit." Show me what you have accomplished in this way. Show me to what extent you have rightly divided my Word, and properly instructed mankind respecting my glorious character and my great Divine Plan of the Ages! Show me fruitage of the glorious message!

How many in all the millions that you report are "New Creatures in Christ Jesus," who "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit"? Let me hear the message of my love and grace in Christ as you are proclaiming it! What mean these sectarian divisions amongst you? Why are there so many Church edifices and so few saintly worshippers? Who authorized you to put these creedal fences between my people to divide the flock? Know ye not that I said, there is one flock and one shepherd? Why have you so neglected the spiritual interests of my flock and their instruction in righteousness? Why are you so unable to rightly divide my Word?

Instead of coming together as one Church of the Living God whose names are written in heaven you have divided into hundreds of sects and parties, instead of taking my Word as a whole and rightly dividing its teachings as between the different ages and dispensations of my work, you have divided my Word in a sectarian manner. One sect has made one selection from my Word and another sect has made another selection. Thus ye array one part of my Word against another part of it, and hence get into confusion and conflict. What have you to answer for these things?

With shame of face we must all acknowledge that "We have done those things which we ought not to have done and have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and there is no help in us." The proper thing for us to do, dear Christian friends, is to get down upon our knees before the Lord and in contrition of heart to acknowledge that we have wrought no deliverance in the earth (Isaiah xvi, 18); that our sectarian differences are our shame; that the ignorance that we have all been in respecting the Word of God is humiliating. Now that our eyes are open so that we can comprehend as never before the harmony of God's message from Genesis to Revelation, it means a rich feast and blessing to our souls. The Word of God becomes more precious to us daily as we become able to comprehend it. Our duty is to fly to the assistance of our dear brethren and sisters in Christ, of all denominations, and to call upon them to join with us in a determined stand for righteousness, for Truth, for God and for his Word.

We must show them that ignorantly we and they have dishonored our God by misrepresentation of his character and misrepresentations of the real teachings of the Bible. We must point them to the fact that the Bible does not teach that all mankind except the "Elect" saints will be consigned to an eternity of torture at the hands of fire-proof demons. We must show them that the election of the Church during this age—a saintly little flock—does not mean injury to the non-elect. That, on the contrary, it is the Divine purpose that the elect saints with their great Redeemer in glory shall constitute God's Kingdom. That his Kingdom when established will bind Satan, put down sin, banish ignorance, error and superstition and uplift mankind by "restoration," by resurrection processes, up, up, up, to all that was lost in Eden by disobedience and to all secured for Adam and his race through the great transaction at Calvary (Acts iii, 19-21).

"Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth." Alas, how many intelligent people have turned aside from following Christ and from hearing the voice of God through the Bible! Alas, how many are looking to Theosophy, to Spiritism, to Christian Science, to

Higher Criticism, to Evolution—wandering farther and farther daily from the "faith once delivered to the saints" (Jude iii). We fault them no more than we fault ourselves. As a whole we have been workmen who need to be ashamed. We have dishonored God through misunderstanding and misrepresenting his Word and his Character. We have driven away from God and the Bible some of the most intelligent of our fellows, by reason of the contradictory nonsense of our creeds.

The Apostle urges, "Study to show thyself approved unto God." We are not to suppose, therefore, that the highest of all science, that which pertains to the Divine purpose and the Divine plan, can be acquired without study. We are not in this claiming that study alone would bring the desired results of proper knowledge. We heartily agree in the Scriptural proposition that "the world by wisdom knows not God." We are not therefore to study along the lines of worldly wisdom, but along the lines of "that wisdom that cometh from above"—along the lines of the inspired Scriptures. We must study! Whoever will not study will not know. "The secret of the Lord is with them that reverence Him." And reverencing him means the giving of our best thoughts and talents to the study of his Word, that we may "know the things freely given to us of God" (I Corinthians ii, 12).

We should note further as Bible students that we must not study to be approved of men, but to have the Divine approval. This will bring to us, as it did to the Master and his apostles, the disapprobation of the worldly-wise and nominally religious. It was the Chief Priests and Scribes and Pharisees, and not the common people of the Jews, nor the Roman soldiers, who were guilty of the crucifixion of our Lord. And we must expect similar conditions, because, as the Apostle says, "As he was so are we in this world." The class who called the Master Beelzebub is the same class which will oppose his footstep followers.

God permits all this with wise and loving foreintention. Nothing connected with the opposing forces is in any sense of the word interfering with his great Program. He set apart with Divine wisdom this Gospel Age of nearly nineteen centuries for the sole purpose of selecting from the world "the Church of the firstborns"—the antitypical Priests and Levites. The restriction of his message, the darkening of counsel, the clashing of creeds, the opposition of the world, the flesh and the Devil, are all wisely permitted with the foreintention on God's part that thus all through the Age the way of the cross—in the footsteps of Jesus—should be a "narrow way," so that comparatively few finding it would care to walk in it.

It is those few, that "little flock" zealous for God, for his Word, for righteousness, that he is now marking out as the prospective joint-heirs with Jesus in his glorious Kingdom, which is to bless the world with full opportunities for earthly salvation—"restoration." The trials of the faith, the patience, the love, the devotion of this "little flock" are all designed and not accidental. Satan and his hosts may think to thwart the Divine Plan and may mislead and use humanity as their tools, but it shall yet be seen that all of the Divine purposes shall be accomplished. The Word that has gone forth out of Jehovah's mouth shall prosper in the thing whereto he sent it.

St. Paul declared of earthly Israel, that they enjoyed "much advantage every way, because to them were committed the oracles of God." So now, dear friends, it seems to me that you and I and all sincere Christians the world around enjoy much advantage every way. Looking to the past we find great excuse for our dear forefathers who, with sincerity of heart, so misunderstood the Divine Word and so misinterpreted the spirit of the Master that they burned one another at the stake. We should not think so harshly of them for this—as though they lived today under the greater advantages which we possess. We should sympathize with them. We should consider them as blinded by the great Adversary as was Saul of Tarsus, when he, as a member of the Sanhedrin, authorized the stoning of St. Stephen. We should think of them sympathetically—as St. Peter spoke of the Jews who crucified the Lord. He said, "I wot, brethren, that in ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers." So also we should kindly, lovingly cast a mantle of benevolence over similar conduct on the part of John Calvin and others of our forefathers. But as we would not go to the Jewish rulers, nor to Saul of Tarsus for religious instruction, neither should we go to Brother Calvin or others of our forefathers who were blinded, as he was, respecting the true character of God and the true Spirit of his Word.

Only within the past century have the masses of God's people been able even to read the Bible, if they had possessed it. And only within the same time have they had the Bible to read. Our great hindrance has been that with Bibles in our hands and with ability to use them, we looked for instruction to our well-meaning fathers instead of going to God's Word itself. Now by God's grace the eyes of our understanding are opened. The wonderful Bibles of our day with their marginal references, their concordances, etc., and other assistances in Bible study are bringing us in touch with the whole message of God's Word. Now one passage of Scripture throws light upon another and thus with increasing brightness the Word of the Lord as a lamp gives light upon the pathway of his Church.

MILLER BUYS FROM CENTRAL

Interests of Heirs of Charles Lux Purchased by Head of the Firm Through Bond Issue Floated by Bank.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 2.—Announcement was made here today that the Bank of California has financed in New York a \$5,000,000 bond issue to enable Henry Miller, majority owner in the company of Miller & Lux, to purchase all interests in the company, which are held by 27 heirs of Charles Lux, his partner, who died in 1887. The bonds are 5 per cent and are to run for 25 years. All the heirs have agreed to sell their interests in the great land and cattle company to Miller. This will end a long period of litigation. The company owns 600,000 acres of land in California, 200,000 acres in Nevada and 200,000 acres in Oregon. It has 1000 miles of canals and ditches for irrigation purposes. There are 250,000 head of cattle and 250,000 sheep on the land.

Advertised Letter List. The following letters remain uncalled for at the postoffice at Medford, June 29:

Mrs. Victoria Baer, Mr. Bernad, Dr. F. J. Barr, A. A. Burns, A. J. Colvin, Mrs. C. J. Davis, Arthur Dilks, Mrs. Edna Evanson, Ernie Ellett, Oscar Fletcher, Tom Fox, Frank Fross, Mrs. W. K. Gassette, Marin Giuseppe, Biassi Gularion, Cora Gibson, Miss O. A. Hall, Erma Hamilton, E. H. Hearsford, J. P. Imingo, Mrs. R. S. Keyer, Mrs. Wm. Knighton, A. J. Lane, W. L. Lowe, Wilko Luoma, W. W. Lucas, Forest Maxwell, Charlie Maginnis, Jesse Midkirk (2), Frank McDaniel, C. N. Nygard, Ashley Nelson, Oscar Nelie, Oregon Electric Co., O. Orpwood, G. F. D'Brien, J. D. Parker, Albert Pankey, Joe Pierce, E. L. Pink, Mrs. L. L. Reames, Mrs. A. L. Reed, Wm. Rhodes, Lucile and Hazel Rodes, Mrs. Kittie Smith, Miss Anna Smith, James Stevens, Dela Wasley, William Weilhamer, Webstone Ranch, Trexel Williams, Geo. M. Whitney, Mrs. James Willison, S. F. Woodbury.

Parties calling for the above letters will please say "advertised." A charge of 1 cent will be made upon delivery.

A. M. WOODFORD, P. M.

ENTIRE RAILROAD IS PUT OUT OF BUSINESS

SALEM, Or., July 1.—The Oregon state railroad commission put a whole railroad out of business by an official order issued today. Until the officials of the railroad comply with the requirements of the commission no further service can be given, no trains run, nothing done.

The railroad falling under the ban is the Corvallis & Alsea River railroad, running between Corvallis and Monroe, Benton county. It has been in operation about three years, hauling logs, freight and passengers. The action of the commission came as a result of the complaint of A. Wilhelm & Son of Monroe, who charged inadequacy of service.

The investigation resulting from this complaint led to the discovery of poor track conditions, which the commission decided made travel over the road unsafe. Consequently the order closing the road to further use pending its repair was issued by the commission.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a school meeting of School District No. 49 of Jackson County, Oregon, to be held at the high school building, in said district, on the 15th day of July, A. D. 1910, there will be submitted to the legal voters of said district the question of contracting a bonded debt of fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars, thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars thereof to be used for the purpose of erecting and equipping an east side school building, and twenty thousand (\$20,000.000) dollars thereof for the purpose of repairing and constructing an annex to the Washington school and installing a new heating plant therein, the vote to be by ballot, upon which shall be the words, "Bonds—Yes," and the words, "Bonds—No." Polls to be open at 1 o'clock p. m. and remain open until 4 o'clock p. m. By order of the Board of Directors of School District No. 49 of Jackson County, Oregon.

Dated this 25th day of June, A. D. 1910.

ORIS CRAWFORD, Clerk.

Water is King. Alfalfa is Queen The Fruits of This Royal Union are Riches and Independence

A B C's of Irrigation

QUESTION—

What is irrigation?

ANSWER—

Irrigation is the practice of wetting the soil by means of pumping water or by gravity flow from mountain streams by means of a dam and ditches.

QUESTION—

Is irrigation better than rainfall, and why?

ANSWER—

Yes. It beats rainfall because the farmer can apply the water just as he needs it. He knows exactly what he can do. The element of chance is eliminated. Crop failure is reduced to a minimum.

QUESTION—

What is the best system of irrigation?

ANSWER—

Gravity flow, because when once installed, it is there for all time and the maintenance expense is reduced to a minimum.

QUESTION—

Why is a farmer on irrigated lands, the most independent man on earth?

ANSWER—

Because he does not have to lay awake night asking these questions—Will it rain? Will it rain enough or too much. Will it rain at the right time. He gets moisture when and where he wants it. His strawberries and alfalfa may want water, but the orchard might be injured by rain just at that time. He is master. He does not have to PRAY FOR RAIN. Can you beat it?

QUESTION—

Why do we make the statement that "the lands of Los Molinos Land Company are the RICHEST in the great Sacramento Valley of California?"

ANSWER—

Because it is a fact. The soils are 15 feet to 30 feet in depth, are of a dark sedimentary loam nature, studded all over with gigantic oaks, park life in effect, and drained by several rapid streams that flow into the Sacramento river, with an abundance of water for irrigation.

QUESTION—

Is there any danger of a lack of water for irrigation?

ANSWER—

No. The water supply is from Los Molinos river, which rises at Mt. Lassen, 10,400 feet high, perpetually covered with snow, 30 miles east of Los Molinos. This river carries more water during the summer months when the snow is melting "by degrees" and at the time when the most water is needed for irrigation.

QUESTION—

How can I obtain more information about these lands and what are the prices?

ANSWER—

Call on our Agent,

Mr. Frank G. Andrews, No. 6 South Fir Street.

Office between the "Bunch of Grapes" and the "Jug and Bottle," and he will give you our literature.

THESE LANDS SELL AT \$150.00 PER ACRE—\$30.00 DOWN, BALANCE IN FOUR ANNUAL PAYMENTS—INTEREST 6 PER CENT WATER DEEDED WITH THE LAND.

CHARLTON MAY GO SCOT FREE

If Alienists Pronounce Him Insane, Wife Slayer Goes to Asylum—If Sane, He Will Be Turned Loose in Community.

NEW YORK, July 2.—According to R. Floyd Clark, chief counsel for Porter Charlton, confessed wife-murderer, Charlton probably will be sent to an insane asylum if the alienists employed in the case report that he is mentally unsound. The report of the experts is expected on July 8.

Italian authorities have not yet asked for Charlton's extradition and it is customary for foreign countries to ask this within two weeks after a fugitive is captured. It is believed no attempt will be made to return Charlton to Italy. If the alienists decide that he is sane he probably will be released.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE.

"Love," said the maiden, "is a rose that in life's garden sweetly grows." "Marriage," the horrid man did scoff, "is the wind that blows the petals off."

- - For Sale - -

428 ACRES—Rogue River bottom land, suitable for fruit and general farming purposes. 300 ACRES—Alfalfa land, covered with irrigation ditch and perpetual water right. Has coal outcropping. At a bargain on long time, easy payments.

Gold Ray Realty Comp'y.

209 WEST MAIN ST.

J. E. ENYART, President J. A. PERRY, Vice-President. JOHN S. ORTH, Cashier. W. B. JACKSON, Ass't Cashier.

The Medford National Bank

Capital, \$50,000 Surplus, \$10,000

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