

Pastor Russell's Sermon

FATAL AMBITION NOBLE AMBITION

Ambition a Prime Necessity to a Successful Life.

A MISTRANSLATED TEXT.

Its True Import—Two Notable Examples in the Bible of Right and Wrong Ambitions—A Glorious Life and Prospect Ruined by Wrong Ambitions—In Contrast, Another Glorious Life Enhanced in Eternal Glory by Following Right Ambitions—The Lesson to the Church of Christ—Incidental Lessons to All and to Angels.



Washington, D. C., November 2.—Of Pastor Russell's two discourses here today we report the one on "Ambitions—Noble and Ignoble." He took for his text Philippians 2:3, 7, but corrected the translation, declaring that he had the support of scholarship in rendering it thus: "Who, being in the form of God, did not meditate an usurpation to be on an equality with God, but [contrariwise] made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant." He said:

Whoever has no ambition has not properly begun to live. Ambition implies appreciation of the value of life—a weighing of prospects and possibilities—a decision, and a fixed determination of will. Parents and teachers should aim to lift before the mental vision of the young noble ideals, and to assist them in determining what they would copy and which goal they will bind life's energies to reach. To such parents and teachers many of those successful in life refer in terms of endorsement, declaring how much they owe to the encouragement of ideals and ambitions to which these assisted them.

Many Woe-Begone Faces. As we learn to read character and to observe people, we perceive that many are wholly without ambition; or that their ambitions are so low and trivial as not to be of real benefit. In a crowd of a thousand people, less than a hundred will show by their faces and their energy that they have an ideal, an ambition, and are pursuing it. In other words, nine-tenths of our poor, fallen race lack the very mainspring of life.

This lack of proper ambition not only makes life a drudgery instead of a pleasure, but it is a menace to our social fabric. According to the Bible, it is this nine-tenths of the human family, without lawful ambitions, that will be anarchists, striving to pull down the structure of civilization in a kind of blind fury—the awakening of an ambition which, knowing not how to vent itself, will bring trouble upon all.

Worldly Ambitions Profitable. It is the ambitious tenth of humanity that cause the wheels of progress to turn. Their ambitions are keeping their own minds actively occupied and are giving employment to the remainder of men. The ambitious mechanic hopes to become an inventor and to rise in the social scale. The ambitious clerk strives for success, hoping to become a successful merchant. The successful merchants, princes and captains of industry take pride in building up vast enterprises, in the erection of monumental edifices, in the construction of great bridges, tunnels, etc. Others have ambitions along professional lines.

There is a general tendency among the ambitious to view these successful people harshly, to think of their ambitions as purely selfish, giving no credit to the pleasure of an exercise of ambition which the majority cannot appreciate because they have none themselves.

Contrary Thoughts should Prevail. Men with ambition leading on to honors should be admired, appreciated, and it should be remembered that they have helped mankind in general to larger conceptions of life and to wider possibilities. I grant, indeed, the necessity for legislation in restraining the rich, and especially trusts and combinations of brain and money which might endanger the liberties and prosperity of the masses. But let us never forget how much we owe to the ambitious men whom we seek to restrain from power to crush those of less ambition and less capacity, who are more or less dependent upon them.

As proving that some of our successful men were moved by ambition rather than love of money, we note the fact that, having accumulated vast fortunes, some are directing their energies in expending the money in the endowment of colleges, the building of libraries, the financing of political and medical investigations for public weal. Whether their judgment and ours agree as respects the wisdom of their beneficent actions is another matter. They have a right to exercise their own judgment in the use of money which came to them through the exercise of their own brains and ambitions.

We can surely agree that a beautiful library building becomes an incentive for the erection of other beautiful buildings, even though comparatively

few of the public make use of the books therein and prefer the trashy kind. Perhaps some good may also result from the endowment of great colleges, even though they are doing more than anything else to undermine faith in the personal God of the Bible, and thus hastening the great day of anarchy by destroying faith and hope in Messiah's promised Kingdom, which are an offset to the trials and difficulties of the present life.

And if to you or me should come the thought of how much more wisely we could use the money, let us check the thought, remembering that God has not entrusted it to us, and that all our time and thought may be more wisely used in connection with our own stewardship of what talent, influence and money we do possess.

The Lesson of Our Text. We should remember that our text, and indeed the entire Bible, is addressed to the Church of Christ—to those who have left the world, who have given their all to the Lord, acceptable through Christ, and who are intent upon knowing and doing God's will. The world is left by the Lord to try out its own ambitions, to realize eventually that these result in disappointment. It is when we experience the disappointment of our own plans and ambitions that we are truly prepared to look to the Lord.

In our text the Apostle does not specify Satan in contrast with Jesus; yet we may read between the lines that He had in mind the opposite course pursued by Lucifer, who became Satan, and the Logos, who became Christ. The Scriptural record is that Lucifer was one of the highest and most glorious spirit beings—a cherub. But a sinful ambition took possession of him. Instead of the righteous ambition to serve and honor his Creator, he thought that if he had an empire of his own he could improve upon the Divine order of things. —Isaiah 14: 12-15.

This ambition ultimately led Lucifer to carry out the program in connection with mankind. Thenceforth he was known as Satan, God's Adversary, "the Prince of this world, which now worketh in the hearts of the children of disobedience." According to the Bible, Satan has been permitted to have a certain amount of liberty, to show what the evil course would be and what its evil results. But according to the Bible he is soon to be restrained for a thousand years, while Messiah's Kingdom will break the shackles of sin and death, and give all the fullest opportunity to return to harmony with God and to attain everlasting life. Ultimately, Satan is to be destroyed, together with all who have his spirit of antagonism to God—in subordination—evil ambition.

The Logos Humbled Himself. Mark the sharp contrast between Satan's course and that of the Logos, the Only Begotten Son of God. The latter meditated no such usurpation of Divine authority as Lucifer aimed to obtain. On the contrary, He was the very personification of loving obedience and self-abnegation. Instead of meditating a usurpation to make Himself equal to the Father, He declared, "My Father is greater than I"; "My Father is greater than all"; "I delight to do Thy will, O My God."—John 14:28; 10:29; Psalm 40:3.

As in due time Satan found opportunity for manifesting his ambition, so in due time the Logos found opportunity for manifesting His humility and loving obedience. Man's fall brought the opportunity—the need of a Redeemer. As it was man who was condemned to death, so the redemption of Adam and his race must be accomplished by the death of a man. The death of bulls and goats could be only typical. Neither would an angel be a corresponding price. Hence the Divine proposal to the Logos—that if He would become a man, taking the sinner's nature, but not participating in the sinner's weakness or sin. He might thus be the Redeemer of man and accomplish the Divine will.

Attached to this proposal was the promise that so great a manifestation of love, loyalty and obedience to the Father would receive a great reward—an exaltation to the Divine nature, glory, honor and immortality. Thus Jesus declared that for His faithful ones He had been rewarded by His Father with a place in His Throne.—Revelation 3:21.

The Lesson of Humility. St. Paul was seeking to impress the lesson of humility, as the context shows. Jesus exemplified in His own course of humility the ambition to be and to do just what would be pleasing to the Heavenly Father, not meditating for an instant to grasp Divine glory and honor, and association with the Father in His Throne. He did God's will at the cost of His life—even the death of the cross.

And behold God's wonderful grace! He who sought not to usurp the Throne, but who humbled Himself, has been exalted to the right hand of God! What an exemplification of the teachings of God's Word! Did not God declare, "Yield ye to God before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall"? He permitted Satan to be an illustration of just such a result; and this illustration is forceful in its application to all "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble."

The Apostle points out that the Heavenly Father, who so highly rewarded our Savior's loving obedience has made a similar proposition to those whom He is calling during this Age to become associates with His Son. If we become dead to the world and lay down our lives in obedience to the Father's will, as Jesus did, we shall share His Throne, as He has promised. Jus-

tified by faith in our Redeemer's sacrifice, presenting our bodies living sacrifices, and faithfully persevering in the narrow way, we shall "make our calling and election sure."

"Every Knee Shall Bow." The Apostle (V. 10) declares that our Master's exaltation, as a result of His humility, is so great that all eventually must recognize Him as Lord of all. Unto Him every knee shall bow of the Heavenly and the earthly families. Already the angels acknowledge Him. As we read, the Father saith, "Let all the angels of God worship [acknowledge] Him." The bowing of earth will come later.

The work of the entire thousand years of Messiah's Reign will be for the uplifting of mankind from sin and death. Whom the Son will make free will be free indeed. But all those made free will know that their release is due to the great sacrifice which Jesus accomplished in the carrying out of the Divine Plan. And all will know that the Redeemer has been honored of the Father and exalted to the chief place. And those reaching perfection will be glad to bow the knee to Him and to confess Him with their tongues.

The Father is Excepted. We are not to gather from these statements that Jesus, in any sense of the word, will take the place, the glory, the honor, of the Father. Jehovah God declares, "I give not My glory to another." (Isaiah 42:8.) St. Paul explains that although Jesus will be hailed as Lord of all, nevertheless it is manifest that He is excepted who puts all things thus in subjection to the Son. St. Paul emphasizes this by telling us (I Corinthians 15:27, 28) that it will be the Father's Power that will bring everything in subjection to the Son; and that when the Son, in carrying out the Father's gracious plans, shall have put all things in obedience to Himself, then shall He deliver up the Kingdom to the Father, that the Father may be all in all.

Truly the Divine Program, as stated in the Bible, is beautiful and wonderful. It illustrates to us elements of the Divine Character that we never could have appreciated except as man's fall into sin and death gave opportunity for the exercise of Divine Wisdom, Justice, Love and Power. Had there been no sin, no death, there would have been no opportunity for God to manifest His Justice in dealing with the sinner, no opportunity to manifest His Love for the world in providing that they should be rescued from the power of sin and death. Neither would there have been an opportunity for demonstrating Satan's disloyalty and whereunto it would lead. Neither would there have been an opportunity for testing the Only Begotten of the Father, and demonstrating the depth of His love and loyalty even unto the death of the cross, unless sin had been permitted.

Neither would there have been an opportunity for God to show His generosity in dealing with the Logos, in His high exaltation to the Divine nature and glory. There would have been no opportunity to show the length, breadth, height and depth of the Love of God in lifting the Church from the horrible pit and miry clay of sin and death, justifying them freely through the merit of Christ's sacrifice, inviting them to share in His glory, honor and immortality, and finally bringing the Elect to participation in the Divine nature, and in the great work of Messiah.—Rev. 2:10, 28, 27.

Room For Boundless Ambition. In view of what we have seen of the Divine arrangement there surely is room for the exercise of the most boundless ambition imaginable amongst those best with the hearing ear and the Gospel Message. It would be a great ambition to strive to become kings or queens of the kingdoms of the world. It would be a great ambition to hope to become Judges, senators, or the President of the United States. But such great ambitions would be as nothing when compared with that set before believers of God's Word—the ambition to be received by the great Creator as sons, partakers of the Divine nature (2 Peter 1:4), heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ our Lord, to a Heavenly inheritance and Kingdom everlasting.

If any one wants a grand ambition, here is one worth dying for! Indeed, it can be attained only by dying. First must come the death of the will as respects earthly aims, projects, ambitions, etc. Then gradually must come the transformed mind, which rejoices to die daily and to suffer with Christ, if so be that we may be also glorified with him. (Romans 8:17.) This is the ambition necessary to make true, loyal soldiers of the Cross, willing to endure hardness in the Cause of the Captain of their Salvation, and to lay down life in the service of the King of kings.

A Grand Rush For It. One might suppose that such a Message would find millions anxious and willing to lay hold upon its terms. But not only a few have faith—and without faith they cannot be pleasing to God. Some have a little faith and render a little obedience, take some steps, refrain from certain sins and seek to walk hand in hand with the Lord—and with mammon. But these make a mistake. There is no promise of joint-heirship with the Savior except by a full cutting loose from the world and by a vital union with God through Christ.

"He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear." He that hath a humble heart of obedience, let him lay hold of the promise and attain the greatest of all ambitions. As for others, let them choose the noblest ambitions of which they are capable, assured that in proportion as they are honest and loyal they shall eventually be blessed under Messiah's Kingdom.

SOCIETY

Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Moores have sent out invitations for a large reception this evening, in Portland, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Chester Moores (Lacene Moreland) whose wedding was a recent event.

A delightful affair of Thursday evening was the surprise Halloween party given in compliment to Reverend and Mrs. Robert S. Gill.

Over fifty members of the church and their friends appeared with a winter's supply of bottled fruits, which would be the pride of any housewife.

The affair was planned informally and hurriedly, and the surprise was very complete.

Cider and doughnuts, refreshments for Halloween, were served to a merry crowd.

Interesting events for the coming week will be the receptions held by Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Gilbert at their gallery on North Commercial street.

Ferns and cut flowers will add beauty and fragrance to the surroundings. The entertainments will be given each evening and art lovers are cordially invited to avail themselves of this opportunity for viewing reproductions of famous paintings and an exhibition of pottery and statuary and beautiful carved teak wood.

Decorating, last Tuesday night, of Masonic Temple for the dancing party, was the ingenious and artistic work of Mr. Little and Mr. Russell, who are attending Willamette university, paying their tuition by the exercise of natural abilities.

Decorating, last Tuesday night, of Masonic Temple for the dancing party, was the ingenious and artistic work of Mr. Little and Mr. Russell, who are attending Willamette university, paying their tuition by the exercise of natural abilities.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cook, Miss Fretland and Mr. Varnald Beach were Portland guests for the dancing party last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Benham, of Eugene, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Brown for the private party at Masonic Temple, Tuesday night.

Madam Frances Alda, accompanied by Miss Minotta Magers, motored over the country roads last Friday afternoon. The visitor was charmed with Oregon scenery and climate, and expressed her admiration of Salem with its broad streets, numerous trees and metropolitan air.

Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Piatecki are leaving Salem today for Portland, where they will reside permanently.

Mrs. Seba Case-Wall goes to Portland this afternoon to attend a Halloween dancing party.

Mr. Ralph R. Matthews, of Berkeley, California, arrived in Salem last Saturday morning. Mrs. Matthews was called home the week before, on account of her father's serious illness.

Mrs. F. P. Talkington and Miss Corn Talkington were guests of Portland friends last week.

Mr. Thomas A. Livesley's sister, Mrs. John Morrison, returned to her home in Seattle last Saturday, after a stay of several weeks in Salem.

Mrs. William H. Lytle returned to Salem Saturday last, after a visit of six weeks in New York, and Pendleton, her former home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lytle are located for the winter in the Dayton apartments, corner of Center and Capital.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Brown have been entertaining Mrs. Brown's brother, Captain Charles A. Murphy and Mrs. Murphy, who returned Wednesday to their home in Pendleton.

Mrs. E. Hartley and little Katherine, went to Corvallis yesterday for the week's end visit with Doctor and Mrs. Clarence Hartley.

Mrs. E. E. Watters is visiting friends in Portland.

After a very delightful sojourn of four months in the East, Miss Son Stockton is returning home tonight. Miss Stockton encountered a disagreeable snow storm in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben W. Olcott are located in their beautiful new home at 925 Chemeketa.

SOCIAL CLUBS.

Mrs. Seymour Staff was delightful hostess yesterday afternoon in her pretty, new bungalow with a Halloween entertainment for her sewing club.

Decorations most appropriate for All Saints' day were used in profusion. For luncheon the table was centered with marigolds and lighted with pumpkin lanterns. Place cards were wittily mounted on brooms.

Members of the club enjoying the afternoon besides the hostess were, Mrs. Chester Cox, Mrs. Walter Spaulding, Mrs. Roy Mills, Mrs. A. J. Benjamin,

WET WEATHER SHOE SALE

This is one store that would rather sell at a very small profit, and sell a great deal, than only sell once in a while at a big profit.

You need wet weather shoes for yourself and your family. We're going to give you a chance to save money on them if you buy now.

Our big stock is all new—fresh and up to date.

Men's high top boots, 16-inch tops, with buckles; regular \$8.00, go at \$5.95

Men's high top boots, 12-inch top, double soles; regular \$6.50, go at \$4.95

Men's logger shoes, best French kip; regular \$6.00 shoes, go at \$4.35

Men's \$4.00 rubber boots, knee length, best grade, at \$2.95

Men's \$5.00 rubber boots, full snag proof, all sizes, at \$3.95

Boys' rubber boots, \$3.50 grades, all sizes, go at \$2.95

All sizes ladies' rubbers go at \$1.50

Rubbers for the whole family at from 10 to 25 per cent less than other stores.

We carry the best shoes in Salem. Our prices are the lowest—our quality best. We sell more shoes than all other Salem stores put together.



326 State St. Next to Ladd & Bush Bank.



Globe Wexford

Always the BEST Pictures.

TONIGHT.

THE TEST

A thrilling Vitagraph story of life in England and India, staged as only the Vitagraph people can. A great picture.

3 COMEDIES 3

Sunday and Monday

'DEAR OLD GIRL'

The beautiful college play in two reels, staged at Ithaca, New York, the seat of Cornell University.

PATHE WEEKLY.

10c TODAY

UNIVERSAL WEEKLY

ONE OF THE RABBLE

Two-reel feature

THE MOTOR BUG

Comedy.

OUR BABY

One of the best pictures ever shown at the Globe.

OXFORD TRIO

In piano and song, a rare treat

GLOBE

10c

Extra strong program Sunday.



This five-story building is the largest concrete building ever moved. It is constructed of Mt. Diablo Cement.

CHAS. K. SPAULDING LOGGING CO., Agents FRONT AND FERRY. PHONE 1830