MAN'S GLORY AND SHAME

Preacher Says Conscience Does Not Make Cowards of Men.

Our glory is this, the testimony of our conscience.—II. Cor. i. 12.

Paul's statement is the answer to the question. Does conscience make cowards of us all? It is an emphatic no. A gift of God, conscience could not be the curse it would be if it made its owner a victim of abject fear. It may make one afraid of the punitive sanction of the law. If so it is a salutary check, but does not unnerve. The best among us, when the blood burns and greed goads needs to have the awfulness of an offended Deity fleshed terrifyingly upon him. Such a warning engenders a caution which implies courage, not pusillanimity. He of Tarus when He calls conscience our glory lifts that faculty up to the dignity which is its by every right, divine and human.

WHAT CONSCIENCE DOES.

Conscience makes us cowards? No! But it unmasks cowards. It reveals every character of which the fiber makes not for intrepidity. Where manhood is, conscience inspires prowess; where cowardice is, it exposes the aspen trembling of him who dares not battle for the right. Man's glory and man's shame come from the evidence of conscience. By its declaration he is acquitted or condemned. Its verdict garbs him with a glory which dazzles in the dark ways of life or accuses him of backsliding from ideals into the slough of mean aspirations, corrupt desires and dishonest practices. The noblest thing we can say of a man is that his word is his bond and that his bond is stronger than corporations or trusts or any of the associations of men.

What has fortified such a man so impregnably is the courage with which he has followed the suggestions of conscience. As it bade, he gave to God what was God's and to Caesar what was Caesar's. No man can do more. Such a one, whether confronting the terror of unprecedented adversity or riding on the highest wave of prosperity, whether in war or in peace, in health or in sickness, in life or in death, whether summoned by God or by his fellows, is sublimely unafraid.

THE HERALD OF LAW.

Before the bar of unpurchasable justice the testimony of a man's conscience is the umpire of his fate, no matter what his creed may be. As he has treated his conscience here so will it deal with him then. Yet conscience is only the herald of the law. It gives light, but the strength which the will needs to obey its behests must descend from above. Here religion comes to the rescue. That religion must be heaven-born. No religion can prove that its charter is divine unless it make it irrefutably clear that it holds within its gift a light which so illumines conscience as to make it inerrant and endows man's will with a robustness which makes it indomitable.

A man whose conscience is so enlightened and whose will is so panoplied can never be a coward, but always and everywhere a hero.

REV. P. A. HALPIN.

THE S. S. LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, JUNE 13.

Lesson XI. Heroes of Faith.
Golden Text, Heb. 11: 1.

Introduction.—Why is our lesson from the Hebrews studied at this time? Because, perhaps, of its possible connection with the church in Jerusalem, which will not again come so prominently into the history as in Lesson VIII. The theme of this chapter, also, is illustrated finely by the missionary activities of Paul, our study of which is soon to be renewed. Faith is the great cornerstone of missions, as of all theology and Christian living.

I. The Book of Hebrews.—Who wrote the Epistles? The author is unknown. The title, ascribing the Epistle to Paul, found in the King James version, "forms no part of the original document; but it must have been given to the book at a very early date."—Westcott.

II. What Faith Is.—Vs. 1-3. How does the writer define faith? Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Faith is not hope, but underlies hope and renders hope confident. Faith is not the vision of mystries, but that proof of them in heart and life which asures us of them without any sight of them.

III. Seven Guide-Posts on the Way to Faith.—Vs. 4-16. How does the writer proceed in his illustrations of faith? With a series of pictures, showing different aspects of faith, taken in order of time from the book of Genesis. In connection with each illustration the writer points out some characteristic of faith in terse and beautiful phases that have become guide-posts on the way to faith for all God's children.

IV. Abraham's Great Test of Faith.—Vs. 17-19. What is the point of the writer's next illustration? The value of tests of faith. The writer now passes to particular events, and begins with one of the finest examples of faith in all history, the testing ("trying') of Abraham. Think how many eager hopes were centered upon young Isaac, what long waiting was rewarded by him, what glorious promises had their fruit in him. In Isaac should his (Abraham's) seed be called (Gen. 21: 12); that is, Isaac and his descendants were to be counted especially as Abraham's seed, inheriting the promises made to him. And now his loving father has offered Isaac up (R. V. margin)—for Abraham's submission to God's will is so entire that the sacrifice is as good as completed and the lad as good as dead; so that, when the ram was substituted (Gen. 22: 13) for the boy, Abraham may truly be said to have received his son back again from the grave.

V. How Faith Gives Clear Vision.—Vs. 20-22. What is the point of the next three illustrations, those of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph? In each case, the clear vision of the future that faith gives.

VI. Moses' Great Venture of Faith.— Vs. 23-31. How many conspicious instances of faith does the writer note in connection with the exodus from Egypt and conquest of Canaan? Seven in all—not because seven is "the perfect number," nor because there were not more than seven, but because (v. 32) time failed him to recount others, such as the victory at Rephidim, the healing wrought by the brazen serpent, the report of the two faithful spies.

VII. Heaven's Honor Roll.—Vs. 32-40. How does the writer close his examples of faith? So many crowd upon his mind, from the times of the judges, kings, prophets, that he despairs of going on with even the condensed summary he has been giving. He instances the faith of Gideon, who with only a handful of men turned to flight the armies of the aliens (Judg. 6-5); of Barak, whose exploit was similar (Judg. 4, 5); of Samson, who stopped the mouths of lions (Judg. 13-16), as did David (1 Sam. 17: 34,25) and especially Daniel (Dan.6); of Jephthah (Judg. 11, 12), who turned to flight the Ammonites; of David, who subdued kingdoms (2 Sam. 8, 10, 11); of Samuel, who wrought righteousness (1 Sam. 12: 3 4,). Then follows a crowding rush of memories, the triumphs of faith in escaping fire, as Daniel (Dan. 3); receiving the dead raised to life again, as the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17: 22,23) and the Shunammite (2 Kings 4: 35-37; holding to the truth in trials such as stonings (Jeremiah, according to tradition), or being sawn asunder (the traditional fate of Isaiah). Many of the trials here enumerated occurred in great violence during the times of the Maccabees.

MAIN CAT THAT CAN COUNT.

Missed One Kitten, Went After it Five Miles.

A resident of Lewiston, Maine, has a cat that counts her kittens. A few days ago the old cat left her kittens in the box by the stove and went out to catch some mice for them. When she came back she looked into the box, nodding her head along the box as if counting. Suddenly she turned from the box and went to her mistress and meowed most pitifully. The cat then went back to the box, the mistress following. When the cat reached the box she again went through the form of counting her kittens, and meowed again. The woman had given one of the kittens away, and as if talking to a child, she told the old cat to whom she had given the kitten. Then she thought no more of it until the next morning, when she went to the box and there was that kitten! She was surpried, for she had given the kitten to a friend, who lives out in the country five miles. It seems that the old cat had gone and lugged her kitten home.

A GOOD FOUNDATION.

Mre. Youngwed—"This is the first bread I ever made, darling."

Youngwed—"Well, dear, you ought to build up an excellent reputation as a house keeper on it."

Mrs. Youngwed—"Why?"

Youngwed—"Because you have started with an almost indestructible foundation."

HATS AT $10,000 APIECE.

That of the Cardinal's is a Very Expensive Affair.

The cardinal's hat, which a recent death has placed at the disposal of the Pope of Rome, will cost, whoever may be its recipient, certainly not less than $10,000. This includes a variety of disbursements to all sorts of people, but the whole of them centre round the all-important hat.

Thus custom decrees that the officer of the Papal Guard, who is responsible for its safe custody while it is in process of delivery to the new cardinal, shall be presented with $1,000 in cash, and a gold ink-pot worth $200.

The actual bearer of the hat receives $2,000 in money, and a cross and missal of the value of $200. The secretary of the mission which accompanies it gets $300.

The cost of the registration of the patent is $4,400. And between $1,000 and $1,500 has to be distributed in compulsory presents, when at the Pontificial Court, the recipient balances it on top of his head for the first and only time.

For a cardinal's hat cannot be worn like any ordinary piece of headgear. Indeed, it is not really a hat at all, but a flat, pancake-like square of red cloth, destitute alike of either brim or crown.

The first thing the new cardinal has to do, therefore, after paying out the $10,000, is go out and buy himself a hat which he can put on. Even this one is pretty expensive, for there are only about half-a-dozen shops in Europe which stock them, and the proprietors naturally keep up the price to a remunerative level.

It is, too, exceedingly heavy and uncomfortable, being composed of a kind of thick cardboard material, covered with the fine cloth used for billiard tables, but dyed, of course, a brilliant red, and it is ornamented with gold cord and tasselss. It costs about $40, and four or five of them are needed by the cardinal every year.

The $10,000 hat hangs above the altar in the private chapel of His Eminence during his life, and at death is buried with him.

GAVE BACK $53,000.

Money Taken From Illinois Home Restored in Two Lots.

David Myers of Mount Vernon, Ill., who recently lost $53,000 from an iron safe he kept at his home, has had the entire amount restored to him. The money came back in two finds. The first was discovered in a cellar at the home of his son, Clarence, who made the find. The first intimation that the money might be buried in the cellar came to the son when he noticed the earth disturbed in the cellar, and in digging about the place he unearthed a package containing $18,000.

It was announced that the search for the rest of the money would be given up, but it develops that the search was coninued quietly and persistently, and resulted in uncovering the missing $35,000, but where it was located has not been made public, and an effort will be made to keep the particulars of the find a secret.

Myers is a farmer living about ten miles from this city, and also is engaged in money loaning. It was when he went to his safe to deposit a payment that had been made on a mortgage that he discovered his loss. The money was taken while a family re-union was in progress at the Myers home last fall, and in spite of the efforts to keep it secret the story leaked out about as soon as the money was found.

Myers kept his money at home, because he did not believe in banks, but he has changed his plans, and the banks now take care of his surplus thousands. He was thought to possess only an ordinary amount of money, and the disclosures brought about over the losing and finding of the $53,000 caused much surprise in his family and among the residents of the district in general. Detectives have been working on the case since last fall.

POPULATION OF THE EARTH.

Estimated at 1,467,000,000, About 31 Per Square Mile.

The population of the earth is estimated at 1,467,000,000, which is about 31 inhabitants per square mile. This total land surface, which slightly exceeds 46,000,000 square miles, is composed of 28,000,000 square miles of fertile land, 14,000,000 square miles of steppes and 4,000,000 square miles of deserts. Ravenstein estimates the maximum density of population that can be supported by the fertile regions at 207 persons per square mile, and thus (allowing 14 persons per square mile to the steppe regions), obtains 5,994,000,000 as the maximum population of the globe. The present rate of increase per decade is 8.7 per cent. in Europe, 6 per cent. in Asia, 10 per cent. in Africa, 30 per cent. in Australia and Oceanic, 20 per cent. in North America. The mean rate of increase for the whole earth is 8 per cent. per decade. At this rate of increase the earth would be completely filled with its maximum population of 5,994,000,000 in the year 2072, or in 163 years from the present time.

The Home

DELICIOUS CAKE RECIPES.

Pittsburg Fruit Cake.—Take one-half cupful of butter, one cupful of sugar, two eggs, one cupful of New Orleans molasses, one cupful of chopped apples, one cupful of sour milk with which two teaspoonfuls of baking soda have been mixed. Add flour enough to make a batter the same as you would for any ordinary loaf cake. Bake in a square pan with a slow fire about forty-five minutes. When baked it is moist. Frost if you like.

Fig Fruit Cake.—Six figs chopped with one cupful of raisins. Dissolve one level teaspoonful of soda in one cupful of boiling water and pour over figs and raisins and cool. Cream together one cupful of sugar, one-half cupful of shortening, three eggs well beaten, reserving the white of one for frosting; two cupfuls of flour, flavor with vanilla and one-half teaspoonful each of cloves and nutmeg and one level teaspoonful of cinnamon.

Fruit Cake.—One and one-half cupfuls of flour, one cupful of brown sugar, one cupful of sour milk, four tablespoonfuls of melted butter, one cupful of chopped raisins, one cupful of chopped nuts, one teaspoonful of soda, one heaping teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of cloves, citron if desired. Stir the dry ingredients together, then add milk to which has been added soda and butter.

Blackberry Jam Cake.—One cupful of sugar, one cupful of blackberry jam, one-half cupful of butter, two cupfuls of flour, three eggs, one teaspoonful of soda in one-half cupful of sour cream, one teaspoonful each of allspice, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Cream the butter and sugar, add the jam, and mix; then add the eggs, well beaten, flour next, then spices, then the cream with the soda. Put together with white caramel icing as follows: One pint white sugar and one cupful of sweet milk. Boil it until it drips from spoon; add butter size of hickory nut, and whip to a cream; put between layers while hot.

CARE OF CARPETS AND RUGS.

To spoil a carpet sweep it with a stiff, half worn broom, but to save a carpet dip your broom in clean, hot suds once a week, then shake it out and hang it up to dry. This will make a broom last almost twice as long as it otherwise would.

Rugs should be beaten on the wrong side, then swept on the right side. Spots may be removed by the use of oxgall or ammonia and water, using a sponge or flannel. Slightly moistened bran is equally as good as salt in brightening rugs and carpets.

Vinegar will remove lime spots, soot from an open chimney or the careless handling of stovepipes can be removed by covering thickly with salt, and this afterwards can be brushed up quickly without injury to the carpets. Spirits of ammonia, diluted with water, if applied with sponge or flannel to discolored spots will often restore the color.

Remove ink stains with milk and after soaking up all that seems possible, either sprinkle thickly with salt or wash with a pure white soap, a clean brush and warm water.

For grease spots use powdered magnesia, fuller's earth, or buckwheat flour. Sprinkle on spots and let it lie until grease is absorbed. Renew the flour or other absorbent material as often as necessary.

Housewives are cautioned to look out for the carpet moth early in spring. When carpet moths are discovered, after removing all artificial lights in the room, saturate the cracks in the floor with benzine. Wash upper edge of the carpet with solution of corrosive sublimate and alcohol, sixty parts of poison to one part of the alcohol. Be extremely careful about using this if there are children about.

For ingrain or three-ply carpets wring a cloth out of hot water and lay it over the edges of binding, and iron with an iron as hot as can be without scorching. This destroys the moth as well as the eggs. Wilton and the heavier carpets must be steamed on the under side.

A good solution to use in wiping up the floor before putting down the rugs or carpets is as follows: A quarter of a pound of red pepper steeped in a gallon of water, to which are added two drams of strychnia powder.

KITCHEN TIME SAVERS.

When cheese is too dry to serve with apple pie, grate the cheese and spread a layer over the pie when it is still warm (not hot), as that melts the cheese and makes it tough.

When baking individual custards if you will put a thin buttered square of bread in the bottom of your cup you will avoid the custard being soggy at the bottom of the cup.

When creaming sugar and butter for cake, a pinch of salt will give the cake a splendid flavor. Add a tablespoon of cream to your butter and sugar and the work will take only one-half the time and makes cake smoother.

Save the pieces of tin that come out of the salmon cans, as they are ofttimes of such a shape that they can be got into any kind of corner or crack—their uses as a scraper are unlimited, pots pans, pipes, furniture, molding—anything that needs scraping.

USEFUL HINTS.

The Care of Bread Boards.—Bread boards shoud be occasionally scrubbed with a little salt. This helps to considerably whiten the boards.

To Clean Dirty Sponges.—Put a piece of soda the size of a walnut and a tablespoonful of salt into a basin, and pour on boiling water. Allow dirty sponges to stand in this for a short time, when they will be quite clean and free from grease. Rinse in cold water.

When Buying a Broom.—Heavy brooms should always be selected in preference to light ones for thorough sweeping, as the weight aids in the process. In buying a broom test it by pressing the edge against the floor; if the straws bristle out and bend the broom is a poor one, for they should remain in a firm, solid mass.

A Substitute for a Hot-Water Bottle.—Make a bag of linen or calico to measure. When made about 16in. by 10in. fill with nice clean sand and sew up at the end. Place in the oven until thoroughly hot, then slip into a flannel bag. It is then ready for use, and will retain the heat much longer than an earthenware heating jar.

In Place of Firewood.—When firewood is scarce in the home it is a good plan to eke it out when fire-lighting (or use instead of it) a sheet of newspaper, rolled very tightly and then tied twice, if possible, in a hard knot. One who has tried fire-lighting in this way declares that five or six of these knots will kindle a fire without any firewood.

How to Relieve Choking.—Raising the left arm as high as you can will relieve choking much more rapidly than by being thumped on the back. Very frequently at meal times, and when they are at play, children get choked while eating, and the customary way of relieving them is to slap them sharply on the back. The effect of this is to set the obstruction free, so that it can be swallowed. The same thing can be brought about by raising the left hand of the child as high as possible, and the relief comes much more rapidly.

The Baby and its Thumb.—If the baby persists in sucking his fat little thumb, here is a way to induce him to stop. Make a pair of light-weight white flannel bags considerably larger than the baby's hand, and, when the small child begins to suck his thumb, put the little hands inside the bag, fasten the top of the bag with a shield, and pin to the sleeve of the dress. Baby won't like it, of course, but it will cure him of the habit more quickly than any other method. Many babies wear the little bags until they fall asleep at night, and then they are taken off.

SENTENCE SERMONS.

Half a mind to is equal to a whole mind not to.

The glory of love is that it never knows its sown cost.

Shifting the blame for sin does not uproot its sowing.

No man can feed his soul who is starving his servants.

Only a clothes rack will let dignity stand in the way of duty.

It takes a tremendous lot of religion to convert a man's pocket.

The straight truth would often save a lot of crooked travelling.

So many mistake anxiety to wear a crown for endeavor to win one.

Some people get so close to the facts that they cannot see the truth.

Nothing costs less than encouragement and few things are worth more.

The people who know all about the mind of God are not always of a good mind.

It takes more than manicuring to make hands clean for heavenly inspection.

If our justice were only more even our generosity would be a good deal less strained.

The best way to wait on heaven for bread is to work for your bread in a heavenly spirit.

Some men seem to think that the only way to handle straight truth is to make a dagger of it.

There is no harm in desiring to get ahead; the danger is in our anxiety to keep our competitors back.

To make the life a serious search for happiness is to lose sight of the happiness of simply being alive.

INCOMES IN FRANCE.

Vicomte d'Avenel says that less than 5,000 Frenchmen have an income of $20,000 a year, 1,045 have $40,000, 350 have $100,000, 120 receive $200,000 and about 50 get $500,000. Although those possessing great riches are very few in France, several of the richest have very large incomes, compared with princes and kings of days past. Francis I. and Henry II. never had revenues of more than $500,000 a year.

NAPLES' GHOULISH TRADE

SHROUDS STRIPPED FROM BODIES NEWLY BURIED.

Investigation Reveals Appalling Conditions—Camorra Back of Trouble.

Astounding revelations are disclosed in the official report of the special commission of inquiry into the administration of the cemeteries of Naples, Italy. It is proved that, like other branches of municipal service, the administration of the burial grounds is in the toils of the Camorra. Blackmail is levied on relatives of deceased persons, under the threat that the bodies will be removed.

GHOULISH TRADE.

The municipal contractors have quarried the soil for their own building purposes, and a wholesale traffic is carried on in the sale of floral wreaths, and marble slabs stolen from graves, and linen shrouds stripped from bodies newly buried.

Families of position bribe handsomely to be allowed to carry off their dead clandestinely at night. Bodies sometimes mysteriously disappear altogether, and bones and even whole skeletons are stolen by ghouls for the requirements of witchcraft.

PRIESTS ACCUSED.

The commission's report makes grievous charge against certain priests, who are said to be leagued with the Camorrists, and who levied extortionate fees for burial.

Many bodies of poor people were doomed to be carried on filthy carts and tossed into a common pit without blessing or religious ceremony of any kind.

Among the accused clergy is the notorious Camorrist Don Ciro Vittozzo, who has been in prison some three years awaiting his trial.

The commission of inquiry owes its origin to a ghastly incident which occurred in July, 1905, when the body of a little girl was secretly removed from its coffin and the bones pulverized for purposes of witchcraft.

The Naples Municipal Council was prosecuted in 1907 as being responsible for the safety of coffins in the municipal burial ground.

TRANSPLANTED TRIBES.

Ghastly Tragedies Resulted in Two Instances.

A commencement has just been made in a most remarkable and long-talked-of enterprise. This is nothing less than the transplanting of the Lapps from Lapland, where they are a dying race, to Labrador, where it is hoped that they will flourish and increase.

Whether these hopes will be justified or not, remains to be seen. Similar experiments in the past have seldom been wholly successful, and some have resulted disastrously.

The Doukhobors, for instance, who, in 1899, were transported, to the number of eight or nine thousand, from their homes in Southern Russia, to the Canadian Northwest, were for a time in dire straits. They also behaved erratically, marching naked through the snow, and abandoning their flocks and herds to the wolves. They are now, however, reported to be settling down, and doing better.

On the other hand, the attempt made, some eighty years ago, to transplant the Roskolnikis of the Don country to a new home that was supposed to have been found for them in Eastern Turkestan, resulted in one of the most ghastly tragedies recorded in the annals of history. The huge caravan lost its way in the terrible Desert of Gobi, and was never heard of again, the probability being that hunger and thirst, combined with the attacks of nomad robbers, were responsible for the deaths of the entire party.

Equally dreadful was the fate that befell the 10,000 Jutlanders transplanted to the east coast of Greenland by Queen Margaret of Sweden. At first they flourished exceedingly. Villages were founded, churches and schools were built, and a bishop was appointed.

Then, one year, the ice pack broke loose from the remote northern seas, and came to a standstill along the coast opposite the settlements in a belt fifty miles broad. All communication with the open sea was thus cut off. The settlers were unable to obtain supplies, and in the end they perished down to the very last man.

MORE REVIVING.

"Moike!"

"What is it, Pat?"

"Shupposin' Oi was to have a fit?"

"Yis."

"Would yes kneel down and put the bottle to me lips?"

"Oi would not."

"Yez wouldn't?"

"No; I could bring yez to yourself quicker by standing up in front of yez and drinkin' it meself!"