

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOY, D. D.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE POWER OF FAITH

"At that time, entering into a boat, Jesus passed over the water and came into His own city. And behold they brought to Him one sick of the palsy, lying in a bed. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the man sick of the palsy: 'Be of good heart, son, thy sins are forgiven thee.'" (Matt. ix, 1, 2)

Faith seems limitless in its power. Throughout the whole Gospel we have excellent examples of the wonderful benefits faith brings to man. It causes His Maker from His throne to look down upon him with a sympathetic eye, while allowing him, poor earthly creature, to raise his heart to love his God, to lift his eye to see Him, and to elevate his mind to come to the knowledge of Him. When faith abides in a man, as it did in the instance related in the text, it is almost impossible to enumerate the blessings that it may bring to him. And, after all, to a person well disposed, faith is easy of acceptance. It does not require study, nor labor, nor any great sacrifice. It is true that many outside the fold look upon faith as a sacrificing of reason. This is not so. Rather is it the ennobling of the highest faculties of man, for when a man believes on faith he believes on the authority of God. When he believes on history, he accepts it on the authority of the historian, who is but human and fallible. When he submits to the laws of science, he places himself, as a rule, under the laws of the material world. So it is with whatever we believe in this world, on the authority of anyone other than God. It must all be human, no matter how learned the man from whom it proceeds, and so we need make no apology for faith. Those who do not possess it need more than an apology to those who do, whom they frequently ridicule. Such a curse as the total absence of faith is more deplorable than the misfortune of ignorance, for unbelief is more debasing than lack of knowledge. The humblest person can have a faith that will carry him to the sublimest truths of heaven, but he can not always—nor does he very often—have even a knowledge of the highest truths of earth. On the other hand, many a one with a great and comprehensive knowledge of the things of earth has no faith. Who will doubt that the position of the former is the better. Human knowledge will count as nothing toward the final perfection of man, unless it is joined with faith; whereas faith, without even a pretense of human knowledge, will make one see God as He is.

Faith fills the mind with the blessedness of heaven, and it forms temples of righteousness and peace in this world. It makes the human eye look beyond the fleeting things around it; it causes the heart to love more than the things with which it comes in immediate contact, and it enables the mind to rise to a sublimity far above its natural powers. Faith is the sweetened oil, gentle and refreshing, that flows over the wants of suffering humanity. It is a balm to the arrow-pierced heart, and it is the tie that links man to man and man to God in the bonds of purest love. Well has it been said in the Gospel that if one possesses faith he can move mountains. It may not be that we can move these mountains in a material way, but the figure serves to show us how strong faith is. By faith we can fathom the reason and the reality of their existence. Through huge, grand, and majestic things from them to One who is seated high above them. As we gaze upon them in all their beauty and magnificence, we realize, too, that they must pass, that their solidity will not always be stable, and that some day they will crumble like all other material things. It would be impossible for man to begin to enumerate the blessings that faith brings to us during our pilgrimage on earth. He alone who possesses faith can speak of it; he who is without faith knows nothing of it.

The reason why people do not understand the catastrophes that occur in the world, the unpleasantness of life, the uncertainty of the future, and the hard sufferings of daily existence, is because they lack faith. Without faith it is impossible to understand life, to know whence we came and whither we are going. It may be said it is a good argument to prove the necessity of faith, from the fact that we do not know our religion without it, and, as a consequence, could not know our end did we not possess faith. But God has been more generous in the blessings that he has given us, because of our faith. He has not intended faith simply for our knowledge, for the elevation of our minds to things existing in another sphere, but he also has intended it to help us even in a material way in the sphere in which we live. Outside of him who has felt these benefits, no one knows this better than he who deals with people who have faith. The only real consolation of the minister of God in his work for the Lord is the fact that he sees solid faith in those among whom he labors. He knows that every throb of their hearts is different from that of those deprived of faith. He knows that the words that fall from their lips are more truthful than the words of those who have not faith. He knows that the submis-

sion with which they accept the ills of life is more sincere than that of those who know not God by faith. He feels that he can rise with confidence and speak to them of things of religion, and of other things that relate to God. He will be given a willing ear, he will please their hearts and will enlighten their minds. He will make bright the path which they are following through life and offer to them guidance on their journey to the shore of Eternity.

Blessed above all on earth is he who has faith, but he must pray in the words of the Gospel that he believe yet more, and above all things he must lead a life that will be consistent with his faith. Instances are numerous in which people possessed of this greatest of blessings have in time lost it. Not only has this happened to individuals, but entire nations have fallen away. A review of the history of the world will convince us how lamentable are the consequences to those who have lost the faith with which God blessed them. From the first time that man sinned, God punished him for his lack of faith; and all the plagues and scourges that have come from the hand of God have been sent upon man not only because of his sins, but also because he had either lost faith or had neglected to live up to its practices. And people should remember that faith comes from God, hence every one may receive it; but, as with all other gifts of God, a person must be under the influence of divine grace to receive faith and live up to it, and to have any assurance of persevering in it. It is true that faith and sin can be co-existent in a man, but such faith is dead. We refer to a heavenly faith—a faith that makes a person live, hope, and love; a faith that makes him overcome all the difficulties of life, traveling unswervingly the path set for him, and finally reaching a safety that is eternal. A faith, in other words, by which we live, with which we live, and in which we live; a faith that brings us to the presence of God, where it will be turned into a true light by which we shall see God face to face, know Him as He is, and enjoy Him eternally.

"ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME"

By Henry C. Watts

West Malling, Kent, Eng.—For many hundreds of years there has been a saying in Europe that all roads lead to Rome, and as I sit here under an ancient walnut tree in the grounds of Malling Abbey I wonder how many feet have passed along the white dusty road that winds through the Abbey domain on the road to Rome.

The walnut tree which flings its wide shadows across the roadway which just here is little more than a track, was an old tree when Henry VIII. drove out the Benedictine nuns from Malling, where they had lived ever since Bishop Gundulf of Rochester built their Norman Conqueror's Abbey at the same time as he built Rochester Castle.

Many feet have passed along this dusty path in the course of centuries; some on their way to Rome, and some, perhaps to perdition. For the roadway leads right under the ancient abbey gate, with its chapel and lodge over the gateway and tradition says that when the four knights who murdered St. Thomas in the Cathedral at Canterbury fled in panic from the scene of their sacrilegious crime, they made for Malling Abbey, where they demanded hospitality for the night.

Whether that be true or not, it is still said by quite trustworthy persons, that in a certain room of the gatehouse on a particular night of the year the tables are turned upside down, and that the sound of hasty panicky feet is heard trending heavily across the old roadway. A little stream runs along the road, and flows along the borders of the old garden of the nuns and skirting the grey cloisters and ruined tower of the once magnificent abbey church.

THREE WHO FOUND THE ROAD I remember being here some years ago, when I was a boy, and at a time when the abbey was occupied by a community of Anglican Benedictine nuns. Under this same old walnut tree I listened to three Anglican clerics talking. They were Mr. Richards, the Chaplain of the Abbey, Mr. Penson, a young Anglican clergyman at that time curate to the Vicar of Kensing; and the Superior of the then Anglican Benedictines, Dr. Aelred Carlyle. Since that time all have gone; they have all passed along the white dusty roadway that leads out to Rome. The saying is true. All roads lead to Rome, else why did roads lead to Rome, else why did the dusty road of this ancient Abbey lead out through the old gateway and direct those who walked on it to Rome.

The first of those who found where the road led was, I think, the Chaplain, Mr. Richards. In the days when he talked with his companions under the old walnut tree he was a fervent High Churchman. He and they talked of the Church of work—to restore to the Church of England that Catholicism of which they believed she had been robbed by the self-same tyrant who turned the Benedictine nuns out of Mal-

ling, and gave it and its church over as a spoil to one of his favorites.

When Mr. Richards passed along the roads that lead out from the Abbey, and then beyond, I do not know. It was only when I heard that he had reached the end of his journey; that he had died at Davos Platz a Catholic priest and a Friar of the Order of St. Dominic, that I knew whither the road from Malling led, and that Mr. Richards had travelled it until he reached its end.

For Mr. Benson, the young Anglican priest, whose father had but recently died as Archbishop of Canterbury, the road led him back to his curacy at Kensing, and then to Mirfield, and when he died in 1914 he, too, was a priest of the Catholic Church and wore the purple as a Domestic Prelate of the Pope.

ONE WHO BECAME AN ABBOT Along the same road walked the Superior of the Anglican Benedictines. His work of restoring Benedictine monasticism to the Church of England seemed to have reached its highest fulfillment and then the road opened once more to him, and he is now a nitred Abbot of the Benedictine order in the Catholic Church.

Last of all, the Malling nuns themselves. There came a day when they, too, passed on under the old abbey gateway for the last time, to make a new home in Wales. They went, so far as they knew, because Malling was inadequate for their needs, and that the increasing numbers of their community made it essential that they should establish themselves in more expansive conditions than were possible at Malling.

But, as I look along the Abbey road and remember what was, and recall what is, it seems that what really led the nuns from Malling was the call of the road, the road that leads to Rome. For the nuns, too, have heard the call and they are now Catholic Benedictine nuns at Talacre Abbey, the ancient seat of the Mostyns in North Wales. They are all gone, and Malling no longer remembers them. The old days have a simple memory in the humble tombstone in the little plot in the abbey garden where lie buried the late Abbess Hilda Stuart, the first and last Anglican Abbess of the nuns. For the rest, a Dominican priest lies buried at Davos Platz; Monsignor Benson lies in the grave in the garden of Hare Street House, and the Caldey monks and the nuns of Talacre Abbey tell the tale of where the dusty white roadway led from a quiet Abbey in a sleepy country town in Kent.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, Sept. 11.—St. Paphnutius, Bishop of Upper Thebias, was one of the confessors who, under the tyrant Maximin Daia, lost their right eyes and were sent to work in the mines. He defended the faith against the Arian heresy, accompanying St. Athanasius to the Council of Tyre in 335. It was said that the Emperor Constantine held Paphnutius in such regard that each time he dismissed him he kissed respectfully the place where his right eye had been.

Monday, Sept. 12.—St. Guy of Anderlecht, who left his home in Brussels to serve before Our Lady's shrine at Laeken, near Brussels. He befriended the poor and was famous for almsgiving. Once he yielded to the temptation to enter a business pursuit and left the shrine, but his ship was lost on its first voyage and he returned to repent his inconsistency. He served faithfully until he felt the end approaching, when he returned to his native Anderlecht.

Tuesday, Sept. 13.—St. Eulogius, patriarch of Alexandria, a Syrian by birth, who wrote many excellent works against different heresies, especially that of the Eutychians. He died in 909.

Wednesday, Sept. 14.—The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, instituted in honor of the victory of Constantine, inspired by the sight of a miraculous cross in the heavens and which was extended after the victories of Heraclius over Chosroes King of Persia.

Thursday, Sept. 15.—St. Catherine of Genoa, who, when young, lived a life of greatest virtue. Finally yielding to the solicitations of her husband she relaxed the rigor of her life and entered Genoa society. Warned by a vision of the sufferings of the holy souls, which was revealed to her, she broke with the world and gave herself up to penance, by which she induced her husband to amend his life. She died in 1510.

Friday, Sept. 16.—St. Cyprian, Bishop and martyr, who was converted in middle life and shortly after ordained priest and made bishop of Carthage. His desire was to die while preaching the faith. He was beheaded in 258.

Saturday, Sept. 17.—St. Lambert, Bishop and martyr and successor as bishop to St. Theodard. A revolution overturning the kingdom of Austrasia, Lambert retired to a monastery. Later his zeal in suppressing many and notorious disorders in his diocese led to his assassination in 700.

God counts all the steps we take to the Throne of Grace, and all the minutes of our waiting.

FREE AT LAST OF KIDNEY TROUBLE

"Fruit-a-fives" Brought Her Health and Strength

624 CHAMPLAIN ST., MONTREAL "For 3 years, I suffered constantly from Kidney Disease and Liver Trouble. My health was miserable and nothing in the way of ordinary medicine did me any good.

Then I started to use "Fruit-a-fives" and the effect was remarkable. All the pains, Headaches, Indigestion and Constipation were relieved and once more I was well.

All who suffer from such troubles should take "Fruit-a-fives"

Madam HORMIDAS FOISY. 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-fives Limited, Ottawa.

Do You Want a Lovely Rosary Free of Cost?

If you want one yourself or if you want to get one to give to a friend or relative, send us your name and address. We will then send you Three Dollars' worth of lovely Colored Pictures to sell at 15 cents each, or Postcards to sell at 1 cent a package.

When they are sold send us our money and we will immediately send you this beautiful gold-filled Rosary with Amethyst colored beads. Write us today so you can get your Rosary quickly.

HOMER-WARREN CO. DEPT. 242 TORONTO, ONT.

Have the Ambition To Be Attractive

Madam, and attractiveness will be yours. A well proportioned figure, luxuriant hair, and a superb complexion—no woman possessing these attributes, can be considered, or need consider herself as being other than attractive. And to assist the woman who aims at perfection in these respects the art of the modern specialist has about it a proficiency and an efficiency which are well-nigh magical. A woman who desires her

COMPLEXION AND HAIR

to be the admired of all her admirers can ensure the fulfillment of her wish. If the hair is thin or falling, or lifeless, or lustreless, or prematurely grey, or if it exhibits signs of dandruff, or other symptoms of disease, or if the complexion is blotchy or muddy, or if the skin is robbed of its delicacy by pimples or freckles or tan, or is disfigured by scars, moles, etc., in each and every of these cases

DR. L. PARTIN the eminent specialist can, and will, work wonders for those who consult him. In his consulting rooms, bountifully equipped with science's very latest word in equipment and apparatus, he can give such advice as is absolutely unobtainable elsewhere. That advice is based on the dictates of up-to-date science and on his own almost unrivalled experience in practice. His methods are wholly painless and of marvellous efficacy.

TELEPHONE NORTH 5147 and arrange a Free Consultation with Dr. Partin. If unable to call personally, write Dr. Partin, explaining your case fully, and he will advise a satisfactory treatment for you to pursue at home.

Up-to-date new department now open for Hair Shampooing (Antiseptic), Marcel Waving and Hair Dressing. Address:

DR. PARTIN INSTITUTE -193 Bloor Street East TORONTO, ONT.

sore muscles

Whether they come from bruises or overwork, sore muscles will quickly yield to the soothing effect of Absorbine, Jr.

Rub briskly into the muscles a few drops of Absorbine, Jr., and the inflammation which caused the pain will quickly disappear—and with it the pain.

Keep a bottle on hand and be prepared for emergencies. \$1.25 a bottle at most druggists' W. F. YOUNG, Inc. 344 St. Paul St., Montreal



Write to Cincinnati Bell Foundry Co., Cincinnati, O.

REGARD VIRGIN BIRTH AS "OPEN QUESTION"

Aberdeen, August 18.—According to the law in Scotland, every minister of the Scots Presbyterian Church is required, by statute, to declare his belief in the doctrine that Christ was born of a Virgin. But according to an open meeting, which has just been held in this

city, after the legal declaration has been made there is a good deal of doubt in the minds of some ministers as to whether they do believe it at all.

The controversy, if it can be called a controversy, though it was more like a bolshevist meeting, seems to have narrowed itself down as to whether the members of the United Free Church of Scotland are

obliged to accept the same doctrines as those of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

The intricacies of this controversy are of no direct interest to Catholics. But, it is of interest to know that some quite responsible speakers on the Presbyterian side declared that their church does leave it an open question as to whether Christ was born of a Virgin or not.

This Beautiful BLACK WOLF SET

is only one of the many hundreds of wonderful Fur bargains which you will find described in the HALLAM 1922 Fur Fashion Book. This book has been the standard family Fur Fashion Guide for years, and will be sent to you

FREE

It gives advance information on fur styles, and contains nearly 300 illustrations of up-to-date fur sets and fur coats. There is no other book printed, nor any store that can show you such a selection of fur sets as are contained in HALLAM'S Fur Fashion Book. Illustrations are mostly photographs of living people wearing the furs, thereby producing the most natural results. No illustrations, however, can possibly show the wonderful beauty and quality of Hallam furs.

Hallam Furs

Less than Half Price

You can obtain Hallam furs this year at less than half the price that they were sold at last year. This is due partly to the drop in the price of raw skins, and to the fact that, as usual, I bought our furs at the very lowest bid in the prices.

BUY Hallam FURS BY MAIL

"Direct from Trapper to Wearer"

It doesn't matter where you live in Canada, so long as His Majesty's mail will reach you, you can wear the latest styles and highest quality in fur coats or sets. Simply order by mail from Hallam. The price is the same to everybody—everywhere. I pay all delivery charges.

All Hallam Fur garments are high quality and wonderful value for the money—you can obtain them from me direct by mail at much lower prices than any furs elsewhere of the same quality. Every Hallam Fur garment is guaranteed.

Why I Can Sell at Such Low Prices

In the first place, I buy the skins direct from the Trappers and Indians for cash, and am the largest cash buyer of furs in Canada. Then, I sell direct to you for cash. This method saves you the various middlemen's profits, the fur dealer, the wholesaler, retailer, high store rent, sales clerks' salaries, bad accounts, etc.

Another big advantage is you can see the furs in your own home, and can examine them at your leisure without being influenced by anxious sales clerks.

If HALLAM furs do not please you in any way, you can simply send them back at my expense, and I will cheerfully return your money—you are not out one single cent.

You can be sure of satisfaction when you buy by mail from me. This is my guarantee.

Address in full, as below:

John Hallam Limited Dept. 652 TORONTO

Advertisement for ROCA Solid Steel Sash, featuring a large image of the sash and text describing its durability and features.

Advertisement for DR. L. PARTIN INSTITUTE, located at 193 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario.

Advertisement for PARTRIDGE TIRES, featuring a large image of a tire and text stating 'Partridge users throughout the Dominion testify to enjoying Durability in excess of their greatest expectations.'