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TE DIVINE SCALES

HOU ART WEIGHED IN THE BAL-ANCES AND FOUND WANTING."

THRILLING BIBLE INCIDENT

The Measure of the Almighty Absolutely Perfect and Just-No Man Can Gainsay It Nor Escape Its Metes and Bounds-The Example of Belshazzar For the

Entered According to Act of Parliament of Con-ada, in the year 1902, by William Baily, of To-ronto, at the Dep't of Agriculture. Ottawa.

Chicago, Oct. 26 .- From one of the tory Rev. Frank De Witt Talmage draws lessons for the life of to-day; text, Daniel v, 27, "Thou art weighed in the balance and found want- love. Eelshazzar was not, as some

royal banquet hall of the most fa- prime minister was Daniel, the migh mous capital in the east. This is rupt, luxurious, shameless Babylon; the commentments of the God of t Eabylon the pride of the Chaldeans, tected the prophet and closed Babylon the wender of the world! Ctesias tells us that Babylon was sixty miles square. That means its lion's don. Deniel, at the time area was more than one-third the which I speak, was about eith the English bee-hive, with its 5,000,- ed and in all probability the English bee-hive, with its 5,000,-000 inhabitants. It was of such vast to Belshazzar how the loves of the wealth that within its central temple which alone was worth over \$200,-000,000. Its surrounding walls were 365 feet high and wide enough to alcharioteers to drive their of them, while the moon shimmered pon 250 watch towers and tipped with light the spears of hundreds of ntinels and shone upon a hundred rates of solid brass; which swung opto let friends in and clanged shut

Standing upon the heights of the fa nous hanging gardens, which Neb-uchasin zzar, the king who had courted Amytis among the hills of Ecbataca, had thrown up to humor whim of his queen, we can see off in rates flowing through the midst of river were daily heard the cries of the sailors unloading from the ships praying cargoes of merchandise and foodstuffs rom other lands. In the centre of do." lake was wide enough and deep enough to harbor all the modern navies of the world. In it all these ships of war could drop their anchors, fold their white sails and float side by side in peace.

The boulevards of this ancient city were pillared with statuary. The streets encircled the busy marts where merchants wrangled for barter and gain or led down to the magnificent bridges which spanned the riv-These bridges were flanked with palaces, where beauty and wealth loitered away the lazy hours or sang hemselves to sleep, cradled in the graceful gondolas, which gently pressed the waters into ripples or ontemptuously tumbled the foam from off their crested breasts. Every where artesian wells tossed up the into fountains, shining through which the sun arched the flowers with rainbows, while birds of brilliant hue, whose ancestors had been brought from tropical climes, stopped their singing long enough to quen'h their thirst or to cleanse their gorgeous plumage. There in the evening hour these fountains lifted up their lips, while their theeks blushed into a deep red for the good night

kiss of the setting sun. But we must hurry on to-night and not linger over the scenic delights of this famous capital, for I am going o lead you into the royal banquet hall, where Belshazzar, the king of the Chaldeans, is giving a great feast to a thousand lords of his kingdom. He is giving this feast to-night in a hall decorated with the trophies of conquest and the triumin of art, with the air rhythmic with song and redolent with incense, with the faces of his dead ancestors pictured upon the walls or chiseled by the sculptors in marble of purest white. He is giving this feast in a banquet hall where the sandaled foot strikes mosaic floor or sinks into oftest rug; where, under the light, the precious stones sparkle and gleam, as the jeweled hand of an arstocrat pushes back the tapestry or lifts the golden chalice to the lip. The king is given this drunken feast to show his contempt for the besieg-ing army of Cyrus the Great, which for nearly two long years had fruitlessly laid siege to his capital, that

eemed impregnable. But at last, in this banquet hall, at this famous feast, when the intoxicated eyo became more brilliant than the diamonds glittering upon the naked throats of the assembled ruests and the flushed cheeks redder than the wine cup, there appears a marvelous sight. Out of space there stretches a hand—an armless, bodiess hand-and with the finger of this strange hand for a pen a hid-den power writes there awfunl words of doom upon the wall of that banquet hall. It is to interpret one of those words, "tekel." which means "thou art weighed in the balances and art found wanting," that I am to-day preaching this sermon. I preach upon this one word because these fatal five letters announced to Belshazzar, the king of the Chaldeans, that night that he had to die.

God's balances always have accordant weights. He weighs every man according to the work which he has given him to do. He weighs every man in proportion to the religious opportunities that have sur-rounded his past life. He weighs every man with reference to the Christian home in which he was born and the scruting of God's all seeing eye.

to the prayers of Christian men and women which have been uttered his behalf. God weighs a man n only with regard to his sins of commission, but also as to what he might have accomplished for God had he applied himself for his Divine Mas-

ter as he should have done.

When God in this royal banquet
hall of Babylon held high the balances with which he weighed het have zar, the king of the Chaldean , God weighed that life by a standard enirely different from that with which he would weigh the life of an ignorant, brutal African cannibal, taugh from the days of his youth that was right an! honorable, to eat th calted fe h o his captives and slaves. Col placed in one of the scales of his balances all Belshazzar infinite opportunities for doing goo most thrilling incidents of Bible his- as the highly ruler of the wealthiest that one scale all Delshazzar's of portunities for knowing and learning bout he true God and his divine suppose, the heathen ruler of a heathen nation. He was the grandson of These words were spoken in the the Nebuchadnezzar whose famou

ty man of God. In all probability he had heard from Daniel's own li when his servant was thrown into true God had cared for his believing child, now for nearly fourscore years So the wo d written on the wall of that hanguet hall was the record of Belshazzar's opportunitie of leading a godly life had been pl in the other scale it had gon down like a fash. That was the inevitable result. He had been weighed in the balances and found wanting.

My brother and sister, are you shazzar's life in the royal banque let him weigh the results of your he distance the mighty river Euph- | be, when I think of my past religthe metropolis and cutting the city | better ner more consecrated Chris one to-day has a more consecuted as well as the gold and silver and me and yet I am unwilling to pray myrrh and precious stones imported for myself or do what I ou he to he capital we can also see where the broth r, how are you to escape the engineers had gathered the water of doom of him who sat in Babylon' this mighty river into a large artifi- | an just hall? You are being weigh cial lake forty miles square. This ed in the balances and found want

fess that he has crushed out of hi Leart the religious influences which surrounded his early life. I onheard of an old man who arose in great religious meeting and, facing fight against the influences of th your behalf. If you do, you will live brought up in a Christian home. After I came to the city my business grew so rapidly that I drifted away from church and from the Bible and the family after. I had a little daughter who was the idol of my life. She was at that time accustomed almost every evening to go to an ighbor's house. I reproved her two or three times and at last whipped her for going. That night she was tal. en sick, and when she was flushed with the fever she called me to her side and said: 'Papa, don't think I did wrong because I wished to go over to Mr. So and so's house. I went there for you, You used to have family prayers, but somehow you are too busy now to have them, and my little schoolmate's papa always has family prayers," said the old man, with tears streaming down his cheeks. "My little daughter had to tell that to me, who had once been rocked in a Christian cradle and reared in a Christian home. She had to tell that to me, a sinful man, when the herself was about to take the long journey over the river . o. death, from which no traveler ever returns." If you, O sinful man, fight against the religious influences .of your past life, you, like the aged, broken hearted parent, will live to regret it. When God holds high his palances, he is going to weigh us it reference to our religious opportuni-ties, as he did when he weighed the sinful life of Belshazzar, the king of

God's balances weigh every individual at the times when he feels indepen-dent of God as well as when he feels dependent upon the divine mercy Never in all his life did Belshazzar consider himself more independent of his enemies than on the occasion of this sinful feast. The capital of this sinful feast. Babylon was stocked with provisions enough to supply the city for many years. The battering rams of the hesieging army had made no impression at all upon the bronzed gates. The walls were too high to scale. For two long years the Persian hosts had been conducting a futile siege. But history tells that on the night of the famous feast, while the king and his princes and a thousand aristocratic lords of his kingdom were drinking themselves drunk, Cyrus, seeing his opportunity, turned as its the course of the River Euphrates and in the early hours of the morning marched along that river bed, under the great bronze gates and along the great boulevards, until at last his soldiers, with drawn swords, broke into that banquet hall and changed the wassail of wine into a carnival of blood. So, my brother, at the very time when you feel you are most secure and can sin with the greatest safety, God is watching your secret sin and he is decreeing that you must die. Oh, man of sinful habit, hearing to-night of Belshazzar's banquet hall, do you not feel that you can never escape

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never be independent of his inexor-

While we live God's balances are never put away. His all seeing eye is always watching us, even in the most secret of places. He watches us in the most sacred places of our chambers, in the office, when we go down the street, wherever we may be. No sin is a secret sin to God. He knows all and sees all The same divine scales that weighed the sinful life of Belshazzar in the banquet hall of the Babylonish capital are continually weighing us, no matter

where we may be But, though God's balances may be condemning scales for the Belshazzars of sin, they may also become scales of salvation for every immoratonement. It is not now a questicu of how many sins may be piled into we are willing to place the atoning cross in the left. Though the sins of God's wayward children may le that cross is able to o tweigh them all. In the Philadelphia mint can be across the La ancing bur overhanging

found wanting. thought this should be, that we can have all our sis outweighed! less at the same time we could offer pardon for all sins to all people balances if he will only let the cross of Jesus Christ be placed in the scale opposite to that which is piled high

with his past sins. But in all that vast throng there was many a sad heart, many a hopeless despair. To me Belshazzar s feast is better described by the art ist by whom I saw it pictured at Buffalo, N. Y., in the World's Fair of 1901. Ushered into a dark room, we sat there awhile in total dark-

Do not go without Abbey's Salt! If you have a bottle of Abbey's in your travelling bag, you are safe from the discomfort and danger of from the discomfort and danger sto-constipation, biliousness, sour sto-mach and kindred aliments that mar the pleasure of a holiday trip. Take a teaspoonful of in a glass of water before breakfast and it will keep you well for the rest of the day. 'Abbey's."

ights, it slowly became brighter and erig ter, until, upon the side of the vail, we could see dim figures begin o form themselves. They looked at irst like hideous phantoms. Then, as t became lighter and lighter until the whole room glowed with light, we saw the inside of a huge palace. There were the broad stairs leading ward. There were the bodies of men and women lying prostrate upon the floor, amid overturned tables and spilled decanters and bro en furniire. It was a scene of grandeur, but lso a scene of filthy bestialities. he centre of the staircase stood the orrified king, with strained eyes oking at the letters of fire burning e distance could be seen the Persian soldiers with drawn swords, ready o dilute the spilled wine with human gore and to change the floor ino a reservoir of blood. Then the ights of the room began to dim, and grew darker and darker and blacker and blacker until at last it seemed is though we were incarcerated in the dungcons of the eternally lost and the destroyed.

So when the would-be sinner would enter the banquet hall of sin he als ways goes there at first like one groping about in the darkness, as taring that he may be walking upon the edge of a precipice. He enters with horror and trembling, in terror and with tears. Then in the midnight hour of the carnival the baneter in the hall of sin sees that atal handwriting on the wall you, O sinner, to y see it! You ee it with horrise eyes, as Belsharzar saw it; you e it written by the dead fingers of tose who have lifted the same cup or death to their ips that you are lifting at the pre-Then, as in the room ent time. World's Fair, you feel that it begins o grow darker and darker. The light in the reveler's eyes can no longer keep your courage up. Already in that darkness you can see the adancing messenger of God's vengeince. It is horror at the opening of he banquet; it is norror, in the miderable horror at its close when God. shall finally say to you, O sinner, nd art found wanting.

So, in closing, as I plead with you o flee from the banquet hall of sin, again invite you into the other banuet hall where Christ the Divine Bridegroom is to be married to the church, his bride. I would invite you into that banquet hall, which is filled with the great multitudes of the redeemed. I would carnestly invite you to come, because there is a vacant place at that gospel banquet table which, I am sure, has been reserved for you. It is in the centre of a group of your loved ones. It is right next to your sainted, mother and father and wife and sister and child, and by the looks of your loved ones Ithink they are waiting for fit you for entrance among the saintthis spurned gosfel invitation, , be weighed in the balances and forever found wanting? God is e en now holding high the balances. May every through the countervailing weight of

Soil for spina h for winter and cary s ring use can hardly le made too

PRAY FOR EDITORS

Good Ladies of W. C. T. U. Abandon Criticism of Newspaper Men for a Better Plan.

Toronto, Oct. 30. - The second day's proceedings of the W. C. T. U. convention were marked by the presentation of a large number of reports from the various superintendents of depart ments dealing in a practical manner with the problems entrusted to them. The opening half-hour in the afternoon was profitably spent in a conference on anti-narcotics, led by Mrs. Waters, of Hamilton, who produced a

largely-signed petition from the London unions, praying for the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of cigar-SHOULD PRAY FOR EDITORS. In presenting the report upon the ress department, Mrs. Jennie Baritrop, of Toronto, noted with satisfaction the increased number of corpora-

tions which were requiring prohibition or a higher standard of temperance from their employes. Another report from the same department was read by Mrs. Emma Waterson, of Kemptville, in which it was suggested that unions set apart a portion of their time to praying for newspaper editors and publishers. Most of them were ready enough to criticise and condemn the publishers, but few perhaps took the rouble to pray for them.

Rev. J. E. Starr was introduced as a representative of the Temperance Legislation League, organised last Domin-

ion day, and which has already a membership of between 3,000 and 4,00, Mr. Starr stated that the league has been organised on independent political lines, but will work from the inside and through the old parties for the attainment of national prohibition. "If you had the right to say at the bailot-box what you want," said Mr. Starr to the ladies, "we would not be in the muss we are to day.—Applause. We propose to make the politicians fear us more," concluded Mr. Starr in an earnest and similicant manner.

SHAME ON MINISTER, An interesting feature of the morning's work was the report of the missionary for New Ontario. Miss Sproule, who braved great hardships and travelled 5,400 miles in the pursuit of her work during the year. On one occasion she had been obliged to travel with a

GOING TO LAST a long time-yes, barring accidents, you can count on your great-great-grandchildren enjoying the wisdom It's always well to remember that we are the oldest and largest makers of stoves in Canada (nearly 65 years now), and our personal guarantee goes with every stove, so that satisfaction is guaranteed or your money back. Souvenirs are made in hundreds of different styles and sizes to suit every requirement and need, of the best materials, by skilled mechanics, in the greatest stove works. They combine every modern convenience and attractiveness, specially including Agrated Ovens. They are highly recommended and personally endorsed by over balf a willion users as being great labor, time and fiel s vers. Sold only by the best dea'ers throughout the Dominion. Made by The Gurney-Titden Company, Limited, Hamilton, Canada Geo. Stephens & Douglas Local Agents, Chatham.

corpse in a wagon, while the minister rode alone in a covered buggy.
"I wish we had that minister here," said the president fervently. "I think we could make him ashamed of him-

During the morning \$50 was voted to the department of law enforcement.

The "Y's" had charge of the even-

Two instances of the danger that rises from the use of fermeated wine at communions were noted in the reort upon that subject. Each was that ladies or de kitchen maids. of a man, a reformed drunkard, who after drinking fermented wine at the cult to fool his neighbors.

De worst ob de imitation ladies is

not always found among de scrub A man may be able to fool himself had again taken to the downward road as to his importance, but it is diffi-

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