

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

REV. J. J. BURKE, PHOENIA, ILL.
 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER
 PENTECOST

THE LAST DAY

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass. (St. Math. xiv. 35)

These words, my dear friends, taken from the gospel just read, remind us of the last day. There will come a time, there will certainly come a day which to this world will be final and fatal. That day is already known in the councils of heaven; but to us one of its most awful circumstances is its total uncertainty. Like the day of the death of each one of us, it is certain to come, but uncertain when it will come. It will be preceded by signs and warnings; but notwithstanding the most pointed warnings, uncertainty will remain.

A little over eighteen hundred years ago Pompeii stood at the foot of Mt. Vesuvius, in all its splendor and glory. It was a magnificent city. In its suburbs many rich Romans had villas. On a certain day in the fall of the year 79, when the amphitheatre was filled with thousands of spectators to witness the games, they were suddenly startled by a great noise—a rumbling and a roaring and a quaking of the earth. Looking towards the mountain they saw the cause. A great smoke was issuing from the crater accompanied by vast quantities of molten matter, which was increasing at a frightful rapidity. First it came rushing down the sides of the mountain; then, with terrible belches it sent the fiery liquid and ashes on the city, and for miles around and beyond. Try to imagine for words cannot describe, the terrible scene—the consternation and confusion—the howling and yelling and crying for aid. But the city and its inhabitants were doomed to destruction.

This event is but a faint image of what will come to pass on the last day. This great day will be preceded, too, by rumbling and quaking of the earth. There shall be wars and pestilence and famines and earthquakes. War, famine and pestilence are the scourges of the Almighty by which He at times punishes the sins of men. And if they are now so formidable in the day of God's mercy, what will they be then in the day of His wrath?

The earth, as if impatient of its iniquitous burden, will swell and oscillate on its circumference and open its jaws to swallow sinful men. The sea will add its horrors, and announcing God's vengeance strike terror through a guilty world.

"There shall be distress of nations by reason of the roaring of the sea, and of the waves, men withering away through fear and expectation of what shall come upon the world." The air will be charged with vengeance. It will be loaded with pestilence and death. There will be awful lightning and thunder and whirlwinds and tornadoes.

"The sun shall be darkened; the moon shall not give her light; and the stars shall fall from heaven and the powers of heaven shall be moved." Then the earth and the works that are in it shall, as St. Peter says, "be burnt up." As the Lord formerly chastised the world by water, so He will then destroy it by fire. Houses, gardens, villages and cities shall be swept away in a moment by the devouring element and every trace of man's existence on the earth will disappear. Where then will be the great ones of the earth who figured so prominently on account of their riches, their eloquence or their insatiable ambition? They thought they would live forever and had no thought of another life.

O, mockery of earthly ambition! O, vanity of vanities! And all is vanity but to love God and serve Him only.

All these terrors are but the forerunners of the great judgment day when the whole race of Adam will be gathered together to be judged. At the appointed time, ere the Judge descends upon the earth, the celestial trumpet shall sound forth the decree: "Arise ye dead and come to judgment." In a moment, says the Apostle, "in the twinkling of an eye, the dead shall rise." They shall issue forth from the bowels of the earth, from the depths of the sea and from the abyss of hell. All shall be there—the rich and poor, the exalted and humble, the infant of a day and the patriarch of nine hundred years. But there will be no distinction then except between the good and bad.

When all are assembled, the Son of God shall appear to judge the living and the dead: "And every eye shall see Him." In front of the Judge shall appear the ensign of the cross, the comfort of the just and terror of the wicked. The whole court of heaven will be His attendants. Thus shall the Jews, to their great confusion, behold Him Whom they had crucified; thus, too, shall bad Christians see Him Whom they have again crucified by their sins. Immediately all men's consciences, which are the books, shall be opened and their sins published to the whole world. The most secret sins of their hearts, the sins concealed through shame in confession—all shall be made manifest. Many would almost die of grief, if they thought their private sins were known what in secret father or mother knew what in secret they had committed. Then all the world shall to their confusion know it. Those who have sinned but confessed and repented will render thanks and divines praise to the Lord Who has pardoned them. Virtue then shall appear admirable in all

A MESSAGE FROM A WOMAN TO WOMEN

"Every Woman Should Take 'Fruit-a-tives'"

LAKELET, ONT., MAY 12th, 1911
 "Kindly publish this letter of mine if you think it will benefit other women who have had in the past, but am now, thanks to 'Fruit-a-tives', completely cured of. It is my firm belief that every woman should take 'Fruit-a-tives' if she wants to keep herself in good health. Before taking 'Fruit-a-tives' I was constantly troubled with what is commonly known as 'Nerves' or severe Nervousness. This Nervousness brought on the most violent attacks of Sick Headache, for which I was constantly taking doctors' medicine without any permanent relief. Constipation was also a source of great trouble to me and for which the Doctors said 'I would have to take medicine all my life', but 'Fruit-a-tives' banished all these troubles and now I am a well woman!"

Mrs. FRED. GADKE,
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her beauty and vice horrible in all her deformity.

The just Judge will pronounce sentence in favor of the good in these words of love and mercy: "Come ye blessed of My Father, possess the kingdom which was prepared for you from the creation of the world." What joy will then fill the saints! On the contrary, what envy, spite and sorrow will fill the hearts of sinners when they hear Him say: "Depart ye cursed into everlasting fire."

This, my dear friends, is the end which is to terminate all time, and this the catastrophe so fearful to the wicked which is to conclude all things temporal. Let us therefore, be careful how we use the things of this world, and that we may use them well, let us look to the last day, that day of terror and amazement, and see how we will be able to stand before a severe judge who receives neither bribes nor excuses. The wise man says that to avoid sin we must remember our last end. Did we frequently and seriously reflect that we must one day give an exact account of our consciences, of the conduct of our whole lives, of all our sins, to a judge who knows and remember all things, would we not be terrified at the thought of the judgment, of the terrible account we are to give? And would we not endeavor to keep from falling into sin? Let us, then, be convinced that the sure way to avoid condemnation in the next life is to punish and condemn ourselves in this.

If we do this we will avoid grievous sin and also avoid that terrible sentence, "Depart ye cursed into everlasting fire."

TEMPERANCE

Don't drink to drown your trouble, I tell you, if you do, You'll find your trouble double And the drink drowns you.

THE CHURCH'S HELP

When a Catholic takes a temperance pledge and takes it with the proper intentions he receives supernatural help to keep it. But he should fortify his soul with the sacraments of penance and go often to Holy Communion. This is the only way in which the pledge-taker may hope to keep the promise he has

DRUNKENNESS CAN BE CURED

OLD FALLACY THAT DRUNKENNESS CANNOT BE CURED EXPLODED

Many men drink who desire to stop the habit. Whiskey, however, has undermined the constitution and creates a craving that is not to be denied, and the man must have whiskey or something that will remove the craving and build up the system and restore the nerves.

Samaria Prescription stops the craving, steadies the nerves, builds up the general health and makes drink actually distasteful and nauseous. It is tasteless, and odorless and can be given with or without the patient's knowledge, in tea, coffee, or food. It is used regularly by physicians and hospitals. It has cured thousands in Canada, and restored happiness to hundreds of homes.

Read what Mrs. G. of Hull says of it and what it did for her:

"It is four months to-day since I started to use your remedy. I followed the directions and had the best of results. One week after I started using your remedy the patient stopped drinking and has not drunk a glass of liquor since. I hope you will accept my heartfelt thanks. Hoping God will bless your remedy wherever tried, I remain,
 Mrs. G. of Hull, Quebec."

(Name withheld by request)

Now, if there is anyone in your town who needs this Remedy tell them of it. Practical philanthropy can take no better form. If you have a husband, father, brother or friend who drinks, help them help themselves. Write to-day.

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made. The frequentation of the sacrament will keep his pledge before his mind, and the graces he will receive from them will strengthen him in the temptations that are sure to come.

In one who has been a habitual drunkard, the craving for drink is so strong that constant help is necessary to withstand it; and where can such help be found save in the sacraments which Christ instituted to transform sinners?

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS AND DRINK

The number of automobile accidents of late with consequent fatal effect has increased so noticeably that the authorities in more than one city are considering how they can stay this reckless waste of life and bring matters under something like normal conditions. It will never be known to what extent intemperance is responsible for many of these accidents, but it is generally conceded that drunkenness plays no small part. The automobile is a sky-larking machine, and many of our rich and reckless young men take the automobile route to spend their time and money in reckless living. Long into the night and early morning their cars can be seen flying back from country roadhouses, with their occupants loudly venting their hilarity in boisterous laughter. Beyond doubt many fatal accidents result from the unsteady driving of drunken chauffeurs who have yielded to the temptation to enter into the festivities of their friends.

So apparent has this become in this State of Washington that we have it upon authority a state law has gone into force that when any evidences of liquor are discovered in the wreckage of an automobile no claims for damages or insurance can be placed. It has come to the point where picnickers who might be perfectly safe in their behavior are afraid to carry bottles of liquor in their machines in view of this law. Our informant states also that, as a result of the operation of this law, the State of Washington has by far fewer automobile accidents than any other State in the Union.

We believe that conditions will not be bettered until the following regulation is effected: That absolute temperance shall be enforced upon all drivers of automobiles; that any driver or chauffeur who visits a saloon or drinks during the time he is driving his car shall be amenable to fine. This prohibition is placed upon the drivers of our railroad engines; it is also a restriction placed upon the motemen of our street cars. There is as much reason, if not more, why the public should be likewise protected against the drivers of automobiles. Gasoline in the engine and alcohol in the driver make a very dangerous combination.—N. W. C. Advocate.

THE ALCOHOLIC BREATH
 A vacancy occurred in a great New York banking house. The salary was large and the position very important. A young man from an inland city was suggested as the proper person to fill the place. A number of influential persons united in the warmest commendations of his character and ability. Letters recommending him were sent to the bank, and he received a special request to call and see the president.

He was received with affability, and after a few minutes' conversation was told that other arrangements had been made and the place had been filled, or was about to be given to another man. He was shocked beyond measure, and went home greatly disappointed.

An intimate friend of the president's who had warmly commended him, wrote inquiring why the place had been given to another man. The answer came back: "We never employ men in our bank who come to us with alcoholic breath." Then it dawned on him that, feeling nervous before calling on the president, the young man had taken a glass of wine, supposing it would steady his nerves and make him more presentable.—T. C. Crothers, M. D.

IRISH AND TOTAL ABSTINENCE
 This is what Cardinal Logue thinks of the importance of total abstinence for Irishmen:

"If I were asked to select one society from the various sodalities in the parish, and were confined to one, the society which I would prefer to retain would be the Total Abstinence Association. With Catholic Irishmen total abstinence is no mere mechanical device to preserve them from temporal evils. In the Catholic Church total abstinence rises to the level of a supernatural virtue which, when practised from a right motive, wins us grace here and glory hereafter."

BETTER HOUSING FOR THE POOR is related closely with temperance. A Dublin St. Vincent de Paul man declares that if one were to see some of the houses in which poor workmen have to live, and for which they are compelled to pay rent—how cheerless and desolate such places are—it would be easy to understand why the bright and warm and cheery saloons are so much frequented.

The Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America recommends that children take the pledge. This is certainly a most humane, a most Christian, a most beneficial recommendation for body and soul; yes, thrifty, honorable and patriotic. Teach the young not only the absolute usefulness of drink but more so the dreadful consequences in the undermining of health and honor; and

temporary and eternal ruin. And now at the very beginning of school is the time to do this work.—Young Catholic Messenger.

METHODIST PASTOR PRESENTS TESTIMONIAL PURSE TO DEPARTING PRIEST

The love and esteem which Catholics have for their priests was forcibly illustrated recently, when two public meetings were held, one at Shawnee in Perry county, and the other at Newark, in Licking county, both in the Columbus Diocese. Rev. T. J. Horan, who has been the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Shawnee, left for Philadelphia, his home, to take

PRESIDENT'S SUSPENDERS NONE SO EASY

up his priestly duties in that great archdiocese. During his eleven years in Shawnee he labored earnestly and zealously for his people, and left with the good-will of the entire community. A most unusual tribute was paid him at a public meeting recently in the Indian Theatre, when a handsome purse of over \$800 was given to him by the people

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of the parish. The purse was presented by Rev. C. E. Turley, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, who spoke in most eulogistic terms of Father Horan, who had won the respect and esteem of all citizens, non-Catholics as well as those of the faith.—Catholic Columbian, Columbus, Ohio.

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