is in Hebrew "Shema." There is no doubt that the recitation of the Shema is one of the most ancient features of Jewish worship. Perhaps that is why it seems to have been so familiar to our Lord and the men of his day. It is clear that they laid the main emphasis on the idea of the first sentence : "Hear, O Israel : The Lord.. is one." They insisted there was only one God. The second section

THE TREASURY

In the Court of the Women in Herod's temple there stood thirteen trumpet-shaped chests of brass, with holes in their lids to receive the free-will offerings, which the people were expected to give for the services of the temple, the support of the poor and other pious purposes. This was in addition to the half-shekel, compulsory every year on every adult male, for the worship of Jehovah. Six of the chests were to receive free, unspecified gifts, the other seven were marked for distinct purposes, such as certain sacrifices, incense, wood, and other supplies. When Herod Agrippa I. came back to Jerusalem to take possession of his kingdom, he offered all the

1. The greatest things in life are often the simple and familiar things. The scribe who questioned Jesus about the greatest commandment may have looked for some rather startling statement from him. Instead, Christ referred him to what, as a scribe, must have been entirely familiar to him. The trouble is that the simple things and the familiar things are so simple and familiar that we pass them over unregarded. If the stars shone only once in a generation, how the event would be anticipated and how it would be talked about afterward. A prominent Scotch engineer made a number of inventions in connection with the erection of a bridge at Glasgow, and certain other engineers who came to see them were very angry with themselves that they had not made those discoveries, so simple did they seem.

2. If we are to live the lives we ought to be living, then love to God must needs be at their very foundation. We may say that love to God is the highest form of religion. And love for God such as calls forth all the of the Shema (Deut. 11:13-21) promises reward for obedience to God's commands, and threatens punishment for disobedience. The third section (Num. 15:37-41) gives instruction about the fringe and the corners of the garment tc which orthodox Jews still attach very great importance. The last clause refers to the deliverance from Egypt, the great act of redemption on which Judaism was founded.

fitting sacrifices and he hung up in the treasury the gold chain which he received from Caligula, and which was said to have been as heavy as the iron chain with which he was bound in his Roman prison.

Mites were the smallest coins recognized by the Jewish state and two of them was the smallest sum that it was lawful to contribute to the treasury of the Lord. The two were worth about one half a cent, but their purchasing power would be equal to two cents now. And in the treasury at this time there was about three millions of dollars and vessels valued at ten millions. Each giver, as part of the worship, may have held up his amount.

THE LESSON APPLIED

energies of heart and soul and mind and strength will produce a religion which will permeate every department of our lives. Religion will then be a thing not merely for the first day of the week, but for every day of the week. It will do away with one of the commonest of faults,—the attempt to live life in compartments. Lord Morley, in his life of Gladstone, has this to say about his hero : "All his activities were in his own mind one .. Political life was only part of his religious life .. Life was to him, in all its aspects, an application of Christian teaching and example."

3. It is when we remember that true love to God will make itself felt in every department of life that we see how the two commandments quoted by Jesus must ever go hand in hand. Love to God implies love to our neighbor. John asks how, if we do not love our brother whom we have seen, we can love God whom we have not seen. The other question is just as pertinent,—How can we love "God without loving our brother also?

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