

Euphrates and the Tigris (called an arrow from the swiftness of its course) take their origin. There are two other large rivers which rise there, the Ker and the Araxes, and some have thought that these are the Pison and the Gihon. They tell us that bdellium, a wax-like substance, valued for its fragrance and medicinal properties, is best found in Arabia; and Pliny says that the onyx, which was much valued by the ancients, is also best found in Arabia and India. They say further that it is the only place in which wheat is indigenous; so that they think that the various streams of humanity had their source in the East, and thence flowed in innumerable branches over the whole earth.

The Threefold Gifts of Work, Law and Marriage.

Work.—In order to complete man's happiness three primal laws were given. The first was work; this was embittered later in consequence of man's sin, but is still his greatest blessing, whether he recognizes it as such or not. We find this to be true, for whenever man evades work, and seeks pleasure only, his whole nature becomes impoverished, and deprived of the stability of earnest purpose and responsibility which ought to be his birthright.

Law.—The gift of law, even in its rudimentary stages, "thou shalt not," is the second great blessing to man. The moral law, putting man into the right relationship between good and evil, is as necessary as the great laws of the physical world are to the universe. Further, with the revelation of that law was given also the penalty of transgression. "In the day that thou eatest thereof, dying thou shalt die." "The wages of sin is death."

Marriage.—Before the institution of marriage, the true relation of woman to man is defined. She is to be the comrade and the help-meet of man, not an idler, a playmate, or a drudge. The position thus assigned to her is full of beauty and dignity. It is true that after the Fall, just as work was embittered, just as law and order were changed from more or less unconscious obedience to a grudging

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