

SIN

And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.—Judges xvi. 4.

Someone has said that the sweetest word in the world is "home;" someone else has thought it was "mother," but this has been contradicted by others who have declared "Jesus" to be the most endearing word.

I can tell you the most offensive word. It is spelt with three letters—S-I-N. It is a sibilant. You cannot pronounce it without the "hiss" of the snake and the "siss" of the fire.

To-night, I am going to introduce you to the most awful subject that was ever brought before humanity—the subject of sin.

The persons I have selected to illustrate some of its characteristics are Delilah and Samson.

Sin is deceitful. Delilah deceived Samson. She pretended to reciprocate his love, but did not. How could she, when she had entered into a contract with the Philistines for eleven hundred pieces of silver to find out the secret of his marvellous strength, that they might put out his eyes?

In the East Indies there is a tree known as "the Judas tree." It resembles our peach tree, inasmuch as the blossoms appear before the leaves. These blossoms are of brilliant hue, with a variety of beautiful colors, but principally of a bright crimson. When the rays of the sun strike them, the bees, flies and other insects for a radii of many rods are attracted to the tree by its beauty. They light upon the flowers, imbibe their opiate and in a few rods fall