

will cleanse from thence the evil thoughts with which you are afflicted. Look to God for divine strength to overcome this evil and He will enable you to do it. I know from experience whereof I speak.

Again, young man, in order to be safe you must be pure in speech. There are many ways in which this admonition may be transgressed. One of the most common is by swearing, and taking God's name in vain. One can hardly pass a few loafers upon the street corner without hearing some profane language before getting out of hearing distance. There are young men here to-night who are addicted to this habit, and who very frequently break the third commandment. O, young man, I beseech you to abandon this miserable, senseless sinful habit. You say "I have a violent temper and before I know an oath slips out." But that is no excuse. A young man ought to be ashamed of himself who cannot control both his temper and his tongue. Assert your manhood and instead of allowing these evil habits to rule you, you turn and rule them. You may find it difficult for a while but if you carry these matters to God in prayer, and look to Him for divine strength you will be enabled to overcome.

Then we have another species of swearing which is very common at the present time. We might call it abbreviated profanity. It consists in such words as by Jove, by George, by Jingo, etc. Now perhaps some of you think there is very little harm in such exclamations, still any young man is better without them. These are simply abbreviated forms of larger and worse oaths, and every young man in order to be safe, should endeavor to carry out the command of Christ: "Swear not at all."

Another form of language that should be sternly denounced by every pure minded young man is obscene language. Many a young man uses language when in company with other young men, of which he would be heartily ashamed, if overheard by his mother or sisters. In country places around the proverbial "blacksmith's shop" or "village store" are the places where such language is used, and in the cities around street corners, and at horse racings, etc. Young men, let me tell you there is nothing that will degrade you faster than this abominable habit of using filthy language, or telling obscene stories, and if you value your purity, if you want to be a man in the truest and best sense of the term, shun such places in which such lan-