

Curse of Extravagance

Rev. Dr. Talmage Admonishes People To Live Within Their Income

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of such a man is a grand larceny. He swindles the world, he goes into his coffin, and he deserves to have his bones sold to the medical museum for anatomical specimens, the proceeds to furnish bread for his children.

I know it cuts close. I did not know but some of you in his judgment would get up and go out. You stand it well. Some of you make a great swash in life, and after awhile you die, and ministers will be sent for to come and stand by your coffin and lie about your necessities. But they will not come.

If you send for me, I will tell you what my text will be: "He that provideth not for his own household, is worse than an infidel." And yet we find Christian men, men of large means, who sometimes talk eloquently about the Christian church and about civilization, extolling everything on themselves, and nothing on the cause of God, and they crack the back of their Palais Royal glove in trying to hide the one cent they put in the Lord's treasury.

And the desecration goes on, even to the funeral day. You know very well that there are men who die solvent, but the expenses are so great before they get underground they are insolvent. There are families that go into penury in wicked response to the demands of this day. They put in casket and tombstone that which they ought to put in bread. They wanted bread; you gave them a tombstone.

One would think that the last two obligations people would be particular about would be to the physician and the undertaker. Because they are the two last obligations those two professions are almost always cheated. They send for the doctor in great haste, and he must come day and night. They send for the undertaker amid the great solemnities, and often these two men

SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. V. AUG. 4, 1901.

Abram and Lot.—Gen. 13: 1-13. Commentary.—The famine caused the removal of Abram and Lot to Egypt, where the beauty of Abram's wife was the occasion of his deception, of Pharaoh's wrong, and of Abram's expulsion from the land.

1. Very rich, Abram and Lot had both been greatly prospered and were very rich. "The property of these times did not consist in flocks only, but also in silver and gold."

2. Even to Bethel—Abram returns to the place of his altar in Bethel. In like manner Christian settlements cluster around their churches. Nothing can satisfy God, in reference to a wanderer or backslider, but his being entirely restored.—C. H. M. Between Bethel and Hai—Stanley well describes this point as a conspicuous hill, its topmost summit resting on the rocky slopes, and distinguished by its olive groves offering a natural base for the altar, and a fitting shade for the tent of the patriarch.—Jacobus.

3. Called on Lot.—The Lord—This implies more than an ordinary prayer; re-established public worship.—Leale.

4. Went with Abram.—It seems plain that Lot was from the very beginning borne onward rather by

15. All the land—God repeats his promise for the support of the faith of his servant. Will I give it—He who was willing to give up everything for the honor of God and religion repeats the blessing of the Lord; but he who sought this world lost all.

16. Thy seed as the dust—That is, they shall increase incredibly, and, taken them all together, shall be such a great multitude as no man can number.—Henry.

17. Walk through—Survey the land; enter and take possession of it, for thyself and thy posterity.

18. In Hebron—This is the first mention of this name; it was anciently Kirjath-arba. It is one of the most ancient cities in the world. Here Sarah and Abraham died. An altar—This was the third altar Abram had built. "Lot might choose Sodom; but as for Abram, he sought and found his all in God."

Thoughts.—"We may purchase worldly prosperity too dearly. 1. If it nourishes our selfishness and pride. 2. If it deprives us of the benefit of religious ordinances. 3. If it exposes us to the contagion of evil examples. 4. If the spirit of the world so increases upon us that we forget God."

PRACTICAL SURVEY. "Blessed are the peacemakers," and Abram had begun to be one at this early day of his recorded history. This was the period of Christ and of every Christian. How much better to give peace in the family than to have worldly goods with strife!

Lot was allowed to choose which he should go, and he seems to have decided from a worldly point of view. Where he could make the most money; where he could gain earthly goods most rapidly, seems alone to have governed him in making the decision. He does not stop to inquire as to the character of the inhabitants, church privileges, or advantages of education. All these considerations seem to have been sacrificed to the one consideration of



ZOOLOGICAL TALK.

Tiger (in menagerie)—I tell you, my life is a hard one. Lion.—In what way? Tiger.—I'm starved when I'm alive and stuffed when I'm dead.

are the very last to be met with compensation. Merchants sell goods, and the goods are not paid for. They take back the goods, I am told. But there is no relief in this case. An inability, moreover, to pay for the goods which he had in luxuries and extravagance while he lived, and then he goes out of the world and has left nothing for his family, nothing for the orphans, and as he goes out of the world he steals the doctor's pills and the undertaker's shippers.

Oh, my friends, let us take our stand against the extravagances of society. Do not pay for things which are frivolous when you may lack the necessities. Do not put one month's wages or salary into a trinket. Keep your credit good by seldom asking for any. Do not starve a whole year to afford one Belshazzar's carnival. Do not buy a coat of many colors and then in six months be out at the elbows. Flourish not, as some people I have known, who took apartments at a fashionable hotel and had elegant drawingrooms attached and then vanished in the night, not even leaving their compliments for the landlord. I tell you, my friends, in the day of God's judgment we will not only have to give an account of the way we made our money, but for the way we spent it. We have got to leave all the things that surround us now.

Alas, if any of you in the dying hour felt like the dying actress who asked that the casket of jewels be brought to her and then turned them over to her pale hand and said: "Alas, that I have to leave you so soon! Better in that hour have one treasure of heaven than the bridal trousseau of a Marie Antoinette or to have been seated with Caligula at a banquet which cost its thousands of dollars or to have been carried to our resting place by costliest and princely palbearers. They that consecrate their wealth, their time, their all, to God shall be held in everlasting remembrance, while I have the authority of this book for announcing that the name of the wicked shall rot.

Harvesting English Wheat. An Earlier Beginning Than Usual—Estimate of Crops. London cable says—The wheat harvest has begun in Eastern Kent. This is an earlier beginning than usual, the heat having rapidly developed the grain.

Estimating the wheat prospects, the Mark Lane Express says the wheat will be fine, both in quantity and quality on 7 per cent of the area sown, and average on 25 per cent, but the remaining 70 per cent of the area sown will inevitably produce a short crop. The straw crop will be the smallest since 1893.

In its preliminary trade estimate the Mark Lane Express puts the Russian wheat crop at 58,000,000 quarters, against 56,000,000 in 1900. On this basis the export surplus should be 18,000,000 quarters.

Kemptville, July 26.—At the regular Cheese Board to-day 1,100 boxes were offered. The usual buyers were present. Highest bid was 9-3-4c, at which all were sold.

Abram's influence and example than by his own faith in God.—C. H. M.

6. Not able to bear them—Their flocks and herds had grown too numerous to find pasture there. An inability, moreover, to pay for the goods which he had in luxuries and extravagance while he lived, and then he goes out of the world and has left nothing for his family, nothing for the orphans, and as he goes out of the world he steals the doctor's pills and the undertaker's shippers.

7. A strife—The occasion of their quarrel was their riches. Dwell then in the love of the Father, as mentioned in the title of our nation, Chap. 10. Their origin is obscure. The Canaanites were the original occupants of the soil.

8. He first let Lot take his choice, and then left God to choose for him. This was heavenly wisdom. This is what faith ever does; it allows God to fix its intertance, and is always satisfied with the portion which God gives.—C. H. M. No strife—There is a special danger of quarrels in the family and among kindred, where there is active work, because there are so many conflicting interests among them.

9. The whole land—The heavenly principle of forbearance evidently holds the supremacy in Abram's breast. He walks in the moral atmosphere of the Sermon on the Mount. Separate from me—His proposal to separate was not a proposal of peace, not from any selfish regard to his own interests.—Lange.

10. Lifted up his eyes—There is a crisis in man's heart, at which it will assuredly be made manifest on what ground he is resting, by what motives he is actuated, and by what objects he is animated; thus it was with Lot.—C. H. M. Plain of Jordan—Lot chose the Jordan valley north of the Dead Sea near the city of Sodom.—Hurlbut. Before destroyed—The face of the country was altered by the destruction of these cities.—Leale. Garden of the Lord—He knew of its fame as the garden of Eden; no crust of salt, no volcanic convulsions had as yet blasted its verdure.—Hom. Com.

11. Lot chose him—The choice was selfish. "He should have been generous and shared the best of the land, and then, the choice was made for worldly advantage without regard to spiritual things." They separated. It is not thus with the riches of grace, or of glory; the more we have of them the closer it unites us.—Fuller.

securing the almighty dollar. The only way Lot succeeded in living religion among that wicked people was "to vex his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds." He paid very dearly for making such a choice, as will always be the case. He saved his own soul, as by fire—by the skin of his teeth, as we sometimes say. But he lost his family. The unholy influences had been too strong for them. They are an illustration of the evil communications corrupt good manners." How sad to tempt a family amid such corrupt influences as surrounded his family in Sodom. Even his wife cast a last lingering look behind, showing that her heart's affections were still there ever after she had got well away, and she turned to a pillar of salt.

With Abram the first thing to do when an opportunity offered was "to build an altar unto the Lord." Whoever serves God the best serves his own interests best. Too many serve the Lord when it seems convenient. When it seems to interfere with their interests or business they can easily crowd the Lord out. I heard a man who was complaining of the leanness and barrenness of his soil say, in answer to a question, "What had family prayers 'untill the hurry of the season came on." We cheat ourselves every time we attempt to circumscribe the Lord in his service, or fail to do our duty. We should put God first, last, always, in all we do or say. He never should be turned off with a secondary place in anything.—Geo. W. Coleman.

Manitoba Wheat Markets. The Qu'Appelle, Assn. Progress says: "Reports on the grain crops in this district continue favorable. In a few days the grain will be heading out. Some of that which was hulled several weeks ago south-west of here has straightened up and will be none the worse for the storm. Twenty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre is prophesied." Deloraine, Man., Advertiser: "The wet weather which characterized the month of June and which extended into July, was beginning to make people feel anxious, as rust had commenced to show in some places, but the dry weather of the past week has stopped all fears from this source for the present. The season taken all around could not be better for the maturing of an excellent crop. Nearly all the fields in this district are headed out, and with favorable dry weather during this month harvesting will commence early in August."

Portage la Prairie Liberal: "A finer view than that presented to the eye in the surrounding country cannot be imagined. The wheat is rapidly heading out, and is beginning to assume a tinge of gold. The grain is remarkably robust looking and the heads will be well filled. A very few weeks will tell the tale. Oats will not turn out as well as wheat in comparison, this being due mainly to poor seed sown. The subject causing the most apprehension to farmers is that of securing harvest help, and it is sincerely hoped that sufficient men can be secured."

The Markets

Leading Wheat Markets. Following are the closing quotations at important wheat centres to-day: Chicago, July, Sept. 69 1-2 70 3-8; New York, July, Sept. 71 3-4 72 3-4; Toledo, July, Sept. 71 3-4 72 3-4; Duluth, No. 1 North, July, Sept. 71 3-4 72 3-4.

Toronto Farmers' Market. July 29.—Business on the street market here to-day was no better, and all lines of produce were rather dull. Four hundred bushels of oats sold at higher at 41c to 42c, but no other grain was offered. Fifteen loads of hay were delivered, and prices were steady to easier; old sold at 11c lower at \$12 to \$13 per ton, and new unchanged at \$8 to \$9. Two loads of straw sold \$1 higher at \$11 per ton. Vegetables and dressed hogs were all unchanged. Beef hindquarters were quoted 50c to 75c higher at \$8.50 to \$9.50 per cwt., and spring lambs were quoted 1c to 1 1/2c lower at 10c to 11c per lb. Other meats were steady and unchanged.

Wheat, white, 70 to 72c; wheat, red, 70 to 72c; wheat, goose, 68c; wheat, spring, 65c; barley, 43 to 44c; rye, 39 to 39 1/2c; oats, 41 to 42c; hay, old, per ton, \$12 to \$13; hay, new, \$8 to \$9; straw, \$11; butter, pound rolls, 16 to 20c; butter, crocks, 14 to 17c; eggs, new laid, 15 to 17c.

Toronto Fruit Markets. Receipts were lighter at the local market to-day, amounting in all to about 3,500 packages. Raspberries were higher at 9 to 10c for red and 7 to 9c for black. Red currants were higher at 40 to 60c and cherries sold higher at 90c to \$1.25. Other fruits were unchanged; there was an active demand and everything was quickly sold. We quote: Bananas, per bunch, \$1.50 to \$2.25; cherries, per basket, 90c to \$1.25; currants, red, per basket, 40 to 60c; gooseberries, per basket, small, 25 to 30c, medium 40 to 50c, large 60 to 75c; huckleberries, per basket, 75c to \$1.

Toronto Live Stock Markets. Export cattle, choice, per cwt. \$1 75 to \$ 2 25; domestic, 1 50 to 1 75; Export cows, 1 25 to 1 50; Butcher's cattle, picked, 1 40 to 1 75; Butcher's cattle, fair, 1 20 to 1 40; do common, 1 00 to 1 20; do cows, 1 00 to 1 20; do bulls, 1 00 to 1 20; do steers, 1 00 to 1 20; Bulls, export, heavy, per cwt., 3 25 to 3 50; Bulls, export, light, per cwt., 3 00 to 3 25; Feeders, short-keep, 2 25 to 2 50; do, medium, 2 00 to 2 25; do light, 1 75 to 2 00; Stocked, 1 00 to 1 25; off-colors and heifers, 2 00 to 3 00; Milch cows, each, 2 00 to 3 00; Sheep, per cwt., 2 50 to 3 00; do, bucks, 2 50 to 3 00; do, ewes, 2 50 to 3 00; Lambs, spring, each, 3 00 to 4 50; Calves, per head, 1 00 to 2 00; Hogs, choice, per cwt., 6 00 to 7 00; Hogs, corn fed, 5 00 to 6 00; Hogs, light, per cwt., 5 75 to 6 00; Hogs, fat, per cwt., 4 00 to 5 00; Sows, per cwt., 4 00 to 5 00.

Toronto Dairy Markets. Butter—This market unchanged, with good grades wanted. We quote selected dairy tubs 16 1-2 to 17c; choice one-pound rolls, 17 to 18c; seconds, tubs and rolls, 15 to 17c; creamery prints, firm, 20 to 21c; solids, 18 1-2 to 19 1-2c. Eggs—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged. We quote strictly fresh-gathered, nearby, 12 to 12 1-2c; second-hand, 11 to 11 1-2c; seconds and culls, 6 to 8c. Cheese—Market remains steady, with good demand for finest goods for export. We quote finest, old, 9 3-4c; new choice, 9 1-2 to 9 3-4c; twins, 9 3-4 to 10c.

Cheese Markets. Perth, July 26.—Twenty-one hundred and seventy boxes cheese were brought into Perth cheese market to-day, all white and July make. Ruling price, 9 3-4c. Brighton, July 26.—At the Cheese Board meeting to-day nine factories boarded, 835 white. McGrath secured 185 and Bird 75 at 9 3-4c. Ottawa, July 26.—Nine and three-quarter cents were paid for cheese at the Ottawa Board to-day. Winchester, July 26.—At the meeting of the Cheese Board here to-day 788 boxes were registered, 595 white and 143 colored. The highest offer for both was 9 3-4c. South Finch, July 26.—The regular meeting of the Finch Cheese Board was held here this evening. Number of cheese boarded, 2,000, 356 colored, balance white. Price offered, 9 3-4c for both.

Bradstreet's on Trade. Wholesale trade at Montreal this week has been without any marked change. The shipping business is quite active and a good many fall orders are being booked. Wholesale trading at Toronto has been less active this week. The conditions of business are generally healthy, and a large turnover is looked for the next three or four months. At the Coast business is reported as dull. Trade at Hamilton this week has been fair for this season. The heat, and the fact that many people are away on holidays now, tends to make business less active. A good many fall goods are being shipped. Trade in wholesale circles at Winnipeg this week has been very fair. Business at London has been well maintained. At Ottawa there has been a fair movement so far in fall goods and the sorting trade has kept up well.

HUNGARIAN CROPS LIGHT.

Decrease in Wheat, Barley and Oats From Last Year. London, July 26.—The official estimates for the forthcoming Hungarian crops place wheat at 35,000,000 metric centners, which is 3,000,000 metric centners below the production of 1900. The quality of this wheat is considerably below the expectations. The rye crop is estimated at from 11,500,000 to 12,000,000 metric centners, which is somewhat above the crop of 1900. Barley is estimated at 10,000,000 centners, which is a decrease of 1,500,000 centners. The crops in Sweden are also seriously suffering as a result of the continued hot weather. Fires have devastated the forests of Jentland, Western Gotland, and the Smaland and Upland districts.