

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS

FOR EARLY MASSES

By the Parish Fathers.

Frescoed in their Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Fifty-ninth street and Ninth Avenue, New York City.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

"Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."—St. James, 1:22.

Brethren, I fancy if St. James were addressing the Christians of our day he would be inclined to lay a little more stress upon the hearing of the word, for whatever may be said about the "doers of the Word" it cannot be denied that the number of those who hear God's Word with advantage might be increased. Indeed, there are many for whom a High Mass sermon, in view of its rarity, would be a luxury, and for whom even a five minute sermon is long and wearisome.

In addressing you, dear brethren, it seems hardly necessary to dwell much upon the importance of hearing God's Word, for we have reason to believe you value it most highly. But there are none of you who know too much, we are born in ignorance, and as long as we live we must feel the need of instructions and exhortations on the great questions of the soul—how to live and how to die well. The Word of God supplies, for, as St. John Chrysostom says: "What food is for the body, the Word of God is for the soul," and if we neglect to nourish our souls with the food, we shall eventually die through want of strength.

But the important question is this—how can I hear the Word of God? Oh! how many Christians have listened to the Word of God, which He Himself declares to be "words of fire," and have profited nothing, have remained cold and indifferent to the warnings of that voice that "breathes where it listeth." Christians who fancy they are wise enough and experienced enough, and who never think of applying these burning words to themselves.

How can I hear the Word of God with profit to my soul? "With meekness," says St. James, "receive the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls." Our Lord frequently likens the Word to the seed which the tiller sows in the field. Now, he who sows the seed must first carefully prepare the ground, for the harvest will be in proportion to the care he bestows in the preparation of the ground. The seed is the Word of God; and, dear brethren, your hearts, not your ears, are the ground, and, therefore, you must prepare your hearts. And how? Just as we must cleanse the ground from all that would prevent the seed from bringing forth good fruit, so must we cleanse our hearts from all that would prevent the Word of God from penetrating into our hearts.

It is because the soil is not prepared; it is because we come to hear the Word with hearts filled with worldly cares or even evil desires, with deep-rooted attachments to things unlawful, with no intention of learning how to lead better lives. If it were only something new we had to learn, some new doctrine, some new and fanciful creed; but no, it is the same Word that was spoken to the early Christians, only now by its practical application to our hearts.

But now, brethren, mark how St. James would have us receive ourselves. It is not enough, he tells us, to come here Sunday after Sunday and listen to the Word of God; but we must be doers of the word; that is to say, we must carry out practically in our every day life the lessons and inspirations which have been offered us through the ministry of preaching. For if a man, says he, be a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he shall be compared to a man beholding his natural countenance in a glass; for he beheld himself and went his way, and presently forgot what manner of man he was. Be not like this man, brethren, if you would save your souls. When listening to the Word of God, wherein the wants, the failings, the defects of your souls are mirrored forth, go not your way forgetful of what, through God's grace, has been revealed to you, but with meekness receive the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls, and blessed will you be if you hear the Word of God and keep it.

If the Sufferers from Consumption, Scrophulous and General Debility, will try Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, with hypophosphites, they will find immediate relief and a permanent benefit. Dr. H. V. Mott, Brentwood, Cal., writes: "I have used Scott's Emulsion with great advantage in cases of Phthisis, Scrophulous and Wasting Diseases. It is very palatable. Put up in 50c. and \$1 size.

UNEQUALLED.

P. B. MacNamara, dry goods merchant, Brooklyn, Ont., says: "An instant relief for cold in the head and ears. Nasal Emission is unequalled. The effect is noticed as soon as it is used."

OF WORK.

"For two years I was not able to work, being troubled with dyspepsia. One bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters relieved me; three bottles cured me as well as ever." John A. Rappell, of Farmersville, Leeds Co., Ont.

Useful to Know.

Mrs. John Siddle, of Orton, Ont., was afflicted for years with contraction of the bronchial pipes and tightness of the chest. She was cured by Haggard's Yellow Oil. This remedy cures rheumatism, neuralgia, inflammation, congestion, and all external and internal pains.

Do not delay in getting relief for the little folk. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is a pleasant and sure cure. If you love your child why do you let it suffer when a remedy is so near at hand?

There are a number of varieties of corns. Holloway's Corn Cure will remove any of them. Call on your druggist and get a bottle at once.

wied a Catholic.

By Rev. Henry A. Brann, D. D.

James Gordon Bennett, I only saw twice; once in his house, the mansion with the gilded dome among the apple trees on the hills, nearly behind the church, and then again when he lay dying and dead in his house on Thirty-eighth street and Fifth Avenue. I saw on the first occasion an old invalid with a large nose, a high forehead, keen grey-blue eyes, a pleasant easy manner, a face full of humor and at times sarcastic. I knew very little of him save by public report. Our conversation was as follows.

"I have heard, Mr. Bennett, that you would help me to build a Catholic church here, as you have donated part of the ground for the purpose."

"Oh, yes," he said, "we'll do what we can for you."

"This is very generous of you," I replied, "considering that you are a Protestant."

"I am not a Protestant," he said, firmly. "All my family are Catholics, and have always been so." He spoke of his brother Cosmas, and of a dead son, Cosmas, with affection.

"But I thought you were a Protestant, Mr. Bennett, on account of your fight with Archbishop Hughes?"

"Oh, Lord bless you!" he answered, "the Archbishop and myself made up our quarrel long before he died."

"But your newspaper has attacked articles of Catholic faith," I remarked.

"Well," said he—I cannot give his Scotch accent, "I am like a country storekeeper who keeps all sorts of articles for sale. My paper is for the whole community, and therefore contains all sorts of articles."

The ground on which the Rectory stands, and a donation of \$5,000 paid by the present proprietor of the *Herald* toward the erection of St. Elizabeth's and other acts of kindness, among them the gift of a valuable painting, prove the generosity of the Bennetts to the church here. Mrs. Bennett, although not a Catholic, was very kind to the poor of the neighborhood. They missed her very much when she went away.

I remember well the night Mr. Bennett died in his house in town. A messenger came for me, sent, I think, by Mr. Connerly. I hastened down, first calling at the Cardinal's for instructions. The Cardinal was not at home; but when I reached Mr. Bennett's I found that his emendence had been before me and had given the dying man the Sacraments. "Yes," said his emendence, "and he followed me in the Latin villa I was visiting him. Around the dying man's neck some one, I believe his Catholic daughter, had hung a scapular; and he died most assuredly in the faith. Vicar General Starrs and myself some time after performed the funeral service over his remains; and the old Vicar General preached, praising Mr. Bennett as a kind employer and a moral man, both of which he undoubtedly was. He was also a very able man who never lost his Catholic faith although it often seemed doubtful. The manner of the early bringing up of his children and his death in that faith, are the best proofs of my statement."

A Bishop's Blessing.

It seems but a simple thing to remember how gladly we kneel for a Bishop's blessing. But yet it is no light privilege, for the blessing of a Bishop is the blessing of the God he represents. A blessing given by a priest is something sacred and unrepeatable, consecrating in some sort and dedicating to God that upon which it falls. Even the simplest exercise of the priestly power of blessing, perhaps the only act that a newly-ordained priest can perform without the need of any permission, is yet one that the Church ranks among the sacraments, and holy water becomes the means of increasing sanctifying grace. The blessing of the priest at the end of the Mass reminds us of our Lord lifting up His hands and blessing His Apostles before He left them. The priest's blessing brings peace and consolation, yet the priestly power of benediction comes forth from the power of the Bishop as a stream flows from its fountain. In the Bishop it resides in a plenitude that is surpassed upon earth only by the still completer fullness of the Apostolic blessing. Whenever we meet our Bishop, we through about him and kneel till he has blessed us; and in the church, as he passes to and fro, he bestows his benediction around him, or still, more solemnly chants it from the altar. Our hearts are soothed and strengthened, we scarcely know how; but we should be mindful that we depart from the hallowing influence upon us of a benediction that specially dedicates all upon which it falls to the sacred service of God.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE PATENT DECISION.—The Minister of Agriculture has again decided in favor of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, and rules that its three Edison patents are valid. The petition of the Montreal parties against these patents was dismissed on 7th inst. This settles the question of patents on transmitters, and is the most important victory ever gained by the Company in this country.

A Person Unable to sleep in bed, unable to work, unable to take ordinary exercise from the effects of asthma until using Southern Asthma Cure. A sample package relieved, three packages permanently cured.

An Open Letter.

Messrs. T. Milburn & Co. I wish I had used B. B. B. sooner, which would have saved me years of suffering with erysipelas, from which I could get no relief until I tried B. B. B., which soon cleared away the itching, burning rash that had so long distressed me. Mrs. Edward Romkey, Eastern Passage, Halifax, N. S.

Fever chills, unnatural appetite, fretfulness, weakness, and convulsions, are some of the effects of worms in Children; destroy the worms with Dr. Low's Worm Syrup.

Use PROF. LOW'S SULPHUR SOAP for Prickly Heat, Nettle Rash, Scaly Eruption, Itch, and all diseased conditions of the skin.

Queen of Martyrs.

From the Messenger of the Sacred Heart. On the first day of April of this year, which is also the first Friday of the month and thus consecrated to the Wounded Heart of our Lord, falls the Feast of Our Lady of Seven Dolours.

This properly commemorates the fulfillment of the prophecy of Simeon to the Mother of the Child Jesus—"thy own soul a sword shall pierce." St. John narrates it in a few simple words: "Now these stood by the Cross of Jesus His Mother." This feast is rightly that of Our Blessed Lady, Queen of Martyrs, which title is given her in the office and in the Mass. Indeed, it was formerly called the Feast of the Compassion of Mary, and it falls within the time given up to the remembrance of the Passion of her Divine Son. It is therefore the feast of the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs and of its little Pilgrim in an especial manner. It is the same for all true lovers of the Sacred Heart.

The gentle Christ across the lands Gave on through sandy waste and forest; His bruised Feet, His pierced Hands, Hear healing where the need is sorest; And at His side, His Mother mild, Her heart with love and pity bleeding; Walks onward ever, to her Child For souls that sigh and plead; And voices cry amid the wild: "O gentle Christ! O Mother mild!"

Thoroughly cleanse the blood, which is the fountain of health, by using Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and good digestion, a fair skin, buoyant spirits, and a soundness of constitution will be established. Golden Medical Discovery cures all humors, from the common simple blotch or eruption to the worst Scrophulous, or blood-poison. Especially has it proven its efficacy in curing Self-poison or Syphilis, Fever-sore, Ulcers, Disease, Scrophulous Sores and Swellings, Enlarged Glands, and Eczema.

Golden Medical Discovery cures Consumption (which is Scrophulous of the Lungs), by pure and healthful purgation, and by its nutritive properties. For Weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Shortness of Breath, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Asthma, and kindred affections, it is a sovereign remedy. It promptly cures the severest Coughs.

For Torpid Liver, Biliousness, or "Liver Complaint," Dyspepsia, and Indigestion, it is an unequalled remedy. Sold by druggists. BOTTLED BY THE MANUFACTURER, Dr. J. C. F. B. LEYS, 25c. a vial, by druggists.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL CO., 46 East Toronto, get most Complete and Best of the Nearest. Package in America. Send 25 Cents for Samples of New No. 4, finished in Fine Black some one, I believe his Catholic daughter, had hung a scapular; and he died most assuredly in the faith. Vicar General Starrs and myself some time after performed the funeral service over his remains; and the old Vicar General preached, praising Mr. Bennett as a kind employer and a moral man, both of which he undoubtedly was. He was also a very able man who never lost his Catholic faith although it often seemed doubtful. The manner of the early bringing up of his children and his death in that faith, are the best proofs of my statement."

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