



TRUTH.

By Rev. J. J. Donlan.

Wherefore, putting away lying, speak ye the truth.—Ephesians, 4:25.

The great utility, nay, the absolute necessity, of bestowing serious attention on the vice of lying is pretty positively settled among Christians, for veracity is generally considered not only a religious but also a social virtue. From a religious standpoint the virtue of truth was infused by the Creator when he made man to his "image and likeness," while as a social convention the race demands the practice of it for the conservatism of society.

Since truth is inherent in human nature, it speaks loudest in us when as children we speak as we feel and think. It is natural for the child to tell the whole truth, irrespective of consequences; to act and speak just as he feels and thinks. With this idea of childhood before us, we can better understand the emphasis of Christ in his admonition, "Unless ye become as little children ye cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven." In other words, unless ye become truthful in speech and simple in action as children ye cannot expect salvation.

Holy writ says clearly, "every man is a liar." Why, then, is lying sinful? Why do men as well as God hate a liar? I presume it is because a liar acts contrary to God-given powers. When a man becomes a glutton he is guilty of sin, for he injures the natural powers he possesses; so, too, a liar is despicable, since he abuses the innate gift of truth. Moreover, in the creative act the Maker's image was impressed on our immortal spirit. Our intelligence was essentially fashioned to correspond with the absolute intelligence which is divine truth personified; hence if we would be as perfect as our Heavenly Father we must conform to that image impressed on our souls, remembering ever that "the mouth that believeth killeth the soul."

Besides being opposed to our natural powers, lying is also opposed to the positive law of God, which declares "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor," and for those who disobey this command the Holy Scriptures hold dire punishment in threat. "A thief is better than a man that is always lying, but both of them shall inherit destruction," and again with whomers, idolaters, murderers, and unbelievers are classed liars, all of whom are to "have their portion in the lake burning with fire and brimstone."

For the sin of lying the leprosy of Naaman came upon Giezi and his posterity, while Ananias and Sapphira were punished with instant death for a slight deception.

Our rule of life in dealing with our fellow men is clearly stated in the words of Christ: "All things whatsoever you would that men should do unto you, do you also to them." This implies that we should deal honestly with one another, putting away all hypocrisy, all detraction, all scandal scattering. In a word, fraternal love, which is based on truth, should be the link that binds the world together. Hence, nothing can justify the slightest deviation from truth, not even to attain the best possible good for ourselves or our neighbors. We may at times imagine that the good of our neighbors should excuse us in a deliberate lie, but if we call to mind that love of neighbor is subordinate to our love of God we shall see at once that in deviating from truth we are drifting from him who is absolute truth.

And as, by duplicity and lying, God is offended and good faith and truth, the closest links of human society, are dissolved, so, too, honesty and truthfulness unite us to the Creator and bring honor and esteem to us from our fellow men. An honest man's "word is as good as his bond," for neither deceiving nor dissimulating men like to do business with him, and thus his truthfulness helps his honor, his negotiations and his prosperity.

He reflects God's likeness in his soul, for "he walks without blemish and works justice; he speaks the truth in his tongue," and for this he shall dwell in the tabernacle of the Lord and shall rest on his holy mountain. Let us bear in mind, then, that "liars are of their father the devil . . . who stood not in the truth because the truth was not in him . . . for he is a liar and the father thereof;" and let us follow after Christ, who said, "Let your speech be yea, yea, and nay, nay," striving always to bear in mind that "your lips are an abomination to the

Lord, but they that deal faithfully please him."

THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE.

By Rev. E. Duckworth.

Solomon declares that the essential requisite to wise house-furnishing is knowledge. In the building and furnishing of a house he names three things as necessary, and these are wisdom, understanding and knowledge.

Solomon's conception of furnishing is beyond the ordinary. He sees "the chambers filled with all pleasant and precious riches." Something more than money is needed for furnishing after that pattern. Of course, with money you can buy stuff enough to make the house look like a furniture warehouse, or you could buy so many "quaint and curious things" that your house would remind people of some "old curiosity shop." A house with poorly selected furniture would not answer the description given in this text. It would not "be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

To furnish the house wisely you will require knowledge, as well as money. In other words, you will need good taste, sound judgment and that blessed vision that perceives "the fitness of things." By this kind of knowledge you may fill your house with all "precious and pleasant riches."

Beloved, if such taste and care is necessary in ordinary house-furnishing, how much more is it necessary in the furnishing of that other house wherein we dwell? This furnishing we carry on day by day, and we are either making the chamber of the soul bright with the radiance of God's most glorious gifts of grace and beauty, or else we are making them chambers of ignorance, shame and desecration.

Let me call your attention to three of these chambers.

The chamber of the mind. What wonderfully "precious and pleasant riches" have been provided for the adornment of the mind chamber! What riches of knowledge! What treasures of truth! What wealth of grace and beauty! And all these for the enrichment of the mind. The knowledge of God, the knowledge of his will and purpose, the knowledge of the heavens above and the earth beneath, the knowledge of man and beast, of bird and fish, the knowledge of the past and of the present. Surely wide is the domain and vast the field from which we may gather the "precious and pleasant riches" that heaven has set apart for the adornment of this chamber. The eyes and the ears are the servants of the mind, and they must be kept open and alert to obtain some new treasure of knowledge of thought or experience.

A prisoner in jail declared that "time is the hardest thing to spend," and this is true—if you try to spend it wisely. Do not try to waste it. Use it. Use it well. Read. Read slowly. Read regularly. Read the best. Gather from all your reading for the beautifying of the chamber. Observe; learn from everything. Get some gem from the sights and sounds of everyday life. You can find something of heaven daily—if you look for it. The jewels of God have been sown broadcast; listen; listen well. Hear to profit. You may hear many foolish things cast them aside as chaff. You will find some grain. Listen wisely. Think—think clearly—seek to know the truth. Love the truth and live it. By a judicious use of your opportunities you will enrich the mind chamber "with precious and pleasant riches."

Now, let us visit the chamber of the memory. Blessed indeed are they who know "the pleasures of memory," whose life in "times past" has not hung upon the walls of this chamber such pictures as being only, confusion of face. Some of the features of this chamber speak of neglect, unfaithfulness and ingratitude. At times we are inclined to think that herein are no riches. But this is only a passing mood. We may have scorned life's "sacred chances," proved ourselves unworthy of the love that has been lavished on us; we may have been recreant to our trust and we may have neglected "the gift of God that is in us," and these memories may be so bitter and painful to us, but within there are some "precious and pleasant riches" within our chamber.

Short Meter Sermons.

Love is always far-sighted.

Faith is the secret of firmness.

Pleasure is but a weed, joy a fruit.

Talents are tools, not merchandise.

Meekness is simply the silence of a night.

The gain of love is lost by the love of gain.

Secrecy is the best soil for the worst sins.

Kindness is born of our sense of kinship to all.

The trifling man never attends to the great trifles.



The illuminating power of the sun at zenith is estimated by M. Charles Fabry at one hundred thousand candles.

In recent European experiments, corpses have been kept for a certain time in a bath of chloride of calcium heated to 123 degrees, then taken out and steeped for twenty-four hours in a cold solution of sulphate of sodium. The bodies are transformed into perfect mummies, to be kept indefinitely.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce, who has been studying the strange "sleeping sickness" which affects many of the inhabitants of Uganda, ascribes the spread of the infection to a species of the famous tsetse fly, whose attacks are fatal to horses and cattle in Africa. These flies are found to be infected with the parasite that causes the sleeping sickness by entering the blood and the cerebro-spinal fluid, and the well-defined areas of country to which the flies are confined correspond absolutely with the distribution of the disease. Where this species of tsetse fly is not found sleeping sickness is unknown.

A second blossoming of trees late in the season, after the usual forming of buds for the next year, may result from some injury, such as removal of the leaves, if the inference of M. E. Apert is correct. In October, 1900, this observer saw a white lilac in full bloom, the bush having small green leaves and beautiful clusters of white flowers, while some hundreds of feet away was another bush of the usual autumnal appearance. Investigation showed that worms had eaten off the leaves of the first bush several months before. A return of the worms in July, 1903, was followed by a partial reproduction of the phenomenon, and M. Apert believes that a second flowering of a fire-injured tree, reported by M. Jolly as a result of the action of heat, was really due to destruction of the leaves. It is proposed to test the theory by removing the leaves of apple trees, pear trees, etc., in July or August.

It is an old question, "Are the 70 odd chemical elements really elementary, or are they compounded of something still more elementary?" In the light of the recent discoveries about radium Prof. F. W. Clarke recurs to a theory, advocated by him many years ago, that as the planets were evolved out of the original nebula which gave birth to the solar system, the chemical elements themselves were also evolved out of something far less complex than themselves. The fact that existing nebulae are very simple in composition, while stars in various stages of evolution exhibit more and more complexity, until, in solidified bodies, like the earth, a great number of chemical elements with a myriad of compounds are found, is regarded as strongly supporting this theory. The phenomena of radium lead to the additional suggestion that as in the development of the heavenly bodies we seem to see the growth of the elements, so in radio-activity we witness their decay.

FIND HIDDEN WEALTH.

People Discover Treasure at Unexpected Places and Times.

Hidden treasure has an irresistible attraction for the human race. On the slightest hint from seer or fortune teller some one is sure to dig where the hidden treasure is supposed to be, and disappointment does not discourage another attempt when another "tip" is received. Very few have ever come upon hidden treasure, and the few have found it unexpectedly.

Take, for instance, that romantic unearthing of 200,000 coins in the bed of the River Dove, in Staffordshire, seventy-two years ago. Some workmen were engaged in removing a mud bank which had formed in the center of the river, when one of them was amazed to find on raising his spade that it glistened with silver coins.

Attracted by the digger's exclamations of astonishment and delight, his fellow workmen hurried up, and in a moment half a dozen men were scrambling and fighting for the treasure, feverishly filling their pockets, their hats and beer cans with silver coins, which were worth their weight in gold, for they were of the time of the first two Edwards, and had lain in the river for 500 years. When the bulk of the treasure trove was ultimately claimed by the Duchy of Lancaster matters little, for its finders had already appropriated scores of thousands of precious disks.

Only two years later a few village boys were playing at marbles on Sunday afternoon in a field near Beaworth, in Hampshire, when one of them caught sight of a piece of lead projecting from a cart rut in a rough road that crossed the pasture. Tugging at the strip of metal he disclosed a hole, and through the exposed opening he saw a pile of glittering coins, bright as if fresh from the mint. To fill his pockets and those of his playmates was the work of a few moments, and

their way home they amused themselves by flinging the coins into the village pond.

Ultimately nearly seven thousand coins were recovered from this buried treasure chest, and they proved to be of the reigns of William I. and William II. and in a wonderful state of preservation.

A similar discovery was made near Wetherby, in Yorkshire, when a heavy cart, passing over a country road, stuck fast in a rut, and on being released disclosed a number of silver coins, which had escaped from the burst lid of a chest hidden under the roadway. It was assumed that the chest of coins had been buried there in the perilous days of the civil war, and that the gradual sinking of the road and the weight of the passing cart had at last brought it again to the light of day.

In the year 1846 a most valuable deposit of treasure was revealed in the strangest fashion at Cuerdale, near Preston, in Lancashire. Some laborers were digging near the banks of the River Ribble when the pickaxe of one of them struck something harder than earth and more yielding than rock. On removing his pick he found transfixed at the end of it a large ingot of silver. Plying his tool with renewed vigor he soon discovered wealth, consisting of scores of silver ingots weighing in all over 1,000 ounces.

Similar fortune befell a couple of laborers who were digging in a ditch near Gladstonbury, in Somersetshire when they unearthed an ancient chest full of coins of the days of the Stuarts. They took samples of the coins to a neighboring antiquary of wealth, who not only paid the men a large sum for their treasure, but purchased a score or more acres of land adjacent to the lucky ditch. And here the irony of fortune is well illustrated, for although the antiquary spent thousands of pounds in buying and excavating his land, not a single coin was discovered beyond those which a stroke of the spade had revealed.

This is the kind of trick fortune loves to play on designing men. Not very many years ago, when the thatched roof of an ancient cottage near Ripon was removed a rich nest of 5-guinea gold pieces was discovered hidden away under it. When the news of this treasure trove came to the ears of a neighboring land owner he was so fired by the lust of gold that he forthwith purchased a dozen similar cottages in the district and had them all pulled down, but not a solitary coin was found in exchange for the £3,000 the experiment cost him.

Grow Young as You Grow Old.

Next to air and food in the human economy comes exercise. We may have plenty of fresh air, and a proper allowance of the right kind of food, and yet, without helpful daily exercise these will not avail to keep the body in good condition. In answer to the question, "Why do we grow old?" a French writer gives these three reasons: "We do not get enough physical exercise in the open air, we are poisoned by microbes, which the phyto-glytes have not succeeded in destroying, and we are depressed by fear of death." Of the three reasons it will be noted that he gives the place of first importance to lack of exercise. There is nothing else which can take the place of physical activity as a preserver of youth and energy. "Grow young as you grow older by cultivating a moderate love of good, healthful, honest sport," is sound advice. Walking, running, jumping, rowing, playing golf, tennis or croquet, or any other mild form of exercise in the open air keeps the muscles supple and prevents the joints from stiffening, fills the lungs with life-giving oxygen and keeps the blood from becoming sluggish or the liver torpid. In short, it is exercise that keeps the body in tone and "up to concert pitch," just as exercise keeps the voice or a musical instrument in perfect tone.—Success.

Possums Show Cunning.

John Toussaint of Chobokla declares he is the first man to discover how opossums ravage hen roosts, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. He states that for years the farmers of this county have lost their chickens and could not account for it. Mr. Toussaint says that he was sitting at his window early in the morning when he noticed a possum steal along the fence and enter his poultry house. He believed the animal would soon return and secured his shotgun. The animal did return in a second or so, and as it came in sight Toussaint fired. He killed the possum and went to secure it, finding one of his fine chickens firmly grasped in the possum's tail.

Mr. Toussaint says that the animal visits the henroost regularly, and that no chicken ever scratches, because its breath is cut off by the pressure of the animal's tail. When the tail is safely stretched around the neck of the chicken the possum starts off, dragging the fowl after him.

Good Reason.

She smiles and laughs the livelong day. Pray do not think her simple—She'll laugh at anything you say. Because she has a dimple. —288 Read.



To Boil Spinach.

Pick it clean, wash in three waters, cut it in a small saucepan without any water, so that the spinach may fill it. Sprinkle a little salt over it, cover close, set it over the fire where it is not very brisk, shake it well; it will shrink to the bottom of saucepan; let it then boil a minute in its own liquor. Strain, squeeze gently, sieve and send it to table with melted butter, but do not let any be poured over it.

Oatmeal Biscuit.

Stir together in a bowl a cupful of oatmeal and two cups of flour that has been sifted with a teaspoon of salt, one of sugar and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Chop into this mixture two tablespoonfuls of shortening. Add a pint of milk or enough to make a soft dough. Turn upon a floured board, roll out, and cut into biscuits, handling as little as possible. Bake in a steady oven.

Molasses Candy.

Boil a pint of molasses for twenty minutes, then add a scant half-teaspoonful of baking soda and boil for fifteen minutes more, or until a little dropped in cold water is brittle. Stir steadily to prevent scorching. When the cold water test proves that it is done add a teaspoonful of vinegar, pour into buttered pans or pull to a light brown.

Flannel Cakes.

Put two tablespoonfuls of butter into a quart of flour until well mixed; add a teaspoonful of salt and make into a batter with a pint and a quarter of milk, into which has been beaten smoothly the yolks of three eggs. Last, and just before baking, stir in the stiffly beaten whites. Bake on hot griddle, well greased.

To Test the Purity of Water.

Take some of the suspected water in a clean, glass-stoppered bottle; add a little pure cane sugar, expose, having well stopped the bottle, to the light in a warm room. Should the water, even after a week's exposure, become turbid, it is dangerously impure for drinking; if it remains clear, it is safe.

Angel Cake.

Whites of eleven eggs, one cup of flour measured after sifting; one teaspoonful of cream tartar, and flour sifted four times. Beat whites of eggs stiff, add 1 1/2 cups of fine granulated sugar, one teaspoonful vanilla, add flour; beat lightly and thoroughly; bake in ungreased pan forty minutes.

Creamed Peas.

Drain one can of peas, rinse, cover with boiling water, and drain again. Melt two tablespoonfuls of butter; add one tablespoonful of flour with one teaspoonful of sugar and half a teaspoonful of salt; add peas and one-third cup of milk, stir, and let cook until it begins to bubble.

Hot Chocolate Sauce for Ice Cream.

Into six tablespoonfuls of cream mix four tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate. When very smooth add a pint of boiling water and cook in a double boiler, stirring steadily for ten minutes after the boil begins. Flavor with vanilla extract, beat hard and use.

Cheese Omelet.

Mix a quarter of a cup of cream with three-quarters of a cup of grated cheese, stir quite smooth, add the well-beaten yolks of three eggs and a teaspoonful of flour; season to taste with salt and pepper, add stiffly beaten whites and cook as plain omelet.

Coffee a Purifier.

Coffee is a fairly good air purifier. A fire burnt on hot coals will purify a sick room and abolish bad smells. Many physicians think highly of the healing effects of coffee taken before they visit cases of infectious disease.

Maple Carmels.

Break two pounds of maple sugar into a quart of milk and boil steadily, stirring occasionally to prevent scorching, until a little hardens in cold water. Pour into greased pans and mark into squares.

Nut Sandwiches.

Shell and blanch the nuts and chop them fine. To each tablespoonful of minced nuts add a half-tablespoonful of cream cheese. Mix well and spread on thin slices of crustless bread.

A Good Gargle.

Salt and water makes an excellent gargle for weak throats, if used before going to bed at night. Public speakers, singers and those who have to read aloud will find it very effective.

To prevent the smell of cooking from getting into the house, sprinkle a little cedar sawdust on the top of the stove. When milk boils over on the stove or in the oven sprinkle a thick layer of salt on the burning milk; let it remain a few minutes, then brush off.