

Sunday Preaches Sermon on "The Incarnation of Jesus"

From the beginning of His earthly career 2,000 years ago until today, in Omaha, He has been molding and shaping the lives of men and women.

Our hearts are like a great big piano; each heart is like a key, to which He sits and upon which He plays. His brings forth sounds and notes of sorrow and sin, then great hallelujahs and triumphs over the world and the flesh and the devil.

He knows the capacity of the human heart. He knows all about it. Explain why it is men and women come down the ages and take my hand. That explains why it is.

It is the name of Jesus Christ that moves you to do great and noble deeds. That explains why it is that the name of Jesus Christ appeals to you and leads the boose fighter to cut it out, and the thief to steal no more, and the accused man He makes pray, and leads men to leave sin and iniquity.

That explains to me why it is that Jesus Christ moves men and women to do mighty deeds.

But into the scene butts the infidel. He swells out his chest, some little two by four, and he says:

"Look here, Mr. Sunday."

"What do you account for the fact that so many intelligent men and women of the world disbelieve in Christianity?"

Listen to me. It is just the opposite. There has never been a time in the history of this world when the divinity of Jesus Christ and the inspiration of that Book has been more generally accepted and firmly believed by the intelligent men and women that live in your day and mine. And for you to sneer and scoff at Jesus Christ and the Bible is a sign that you are a fool.

Disbelievers Live in Sin.

Tell me another thing: listen to me. A man or a woman becomes too progressive to be a Christian. Whenever you become too intelligent to believe in the Bible as the Word of God then your influence as a business associate and as a companion for others is at an end.

Don't you be hoodwinked, young man, into supposing that to be a doubter is evidence of a superior intelligence. It is evidence of a pigmy intellect or a black heart, one of the two, and I have never met a man in my life that disbelieved that the Bible was not the Word of God who wasn't living in sin. When I can get him to give up sin he doesn't have much trouble about believing.

Explain to me why it is that missionaries leave their homes and leave their bones bleaching on the sand hills. People don't leave their homes and go to Europe and all that for Shakespeare.

Explain to me why missionaries kiss their loved ones good-bye and go out and live in foreign fields.

Say! I am going to believe these things. I see sinners being saved, drunkards made sober men, and women being transformed. How are you going to disbelieve all you hear sweeping our land? Accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the rest will become easy. Listen. If the embassy of the Chinese dynasty sixty-five years after Christ had come had gone 1,500 miles farther south in their search, China would be Christian today instead of pagan.

I tell you it is the followers of this Christ that make the world what it is today.

"The word became flesh and dwelt among us."

And lastly, it is a prophecy not so much of a foretelling. I am prophesying His name. I am telling you that by faith the drunkard can be made sober. I am telling you that the liar can be made truthful. I am telling you that God will transform you, if you will accept Him as your Christ. Listen.

If a man starts out to live the kind of a life he knows he ought to live, sooner or later something happens to make him realize how far short he is of reaching his ideal.

Here is a man that wants to be generous, he finds himself a rasping, grasping, squeezing old skinflint.

Here is a man who concludes he wants to be truthful and he finds himself a liar.

Here is a man who wants to be a pure man and he finds himself a libertine. And here is a man that wants his hands to reach out, his mouth to be filled with words of praise and message of love and he discovers that they are frequently filled with obscenity and profanity and in his failure to reach his ideal he gets discouraged.

Here is a man who wants to be sober and he falls off the water wagon. He wants to pray and he curses; he wants to be honest and he steals. Now in his failure to reach his high ideals every man starts out to live the kind of life that he knows he ought to live. Some day something happens that will make him realize how far short he is of reaching his ideal.

No One Knows All About God.

I wish to speak of it as a mystery, as a revelation, and as a prophecy. To be convinced that it is a mystery you need only to study the teachings of the Bible about the incarnation of Jesus. The Bible always presents a subject in the simplest of language, and never attempts an explanation. The fullest, simplest accounts are found in John and Paul's epistles.

The Jews took up stones to stone Him, and Jesus said:

"Many good works have I showed you from the Father; for which of those works do you stone Me?"

The Jews answered Him:

"For a good work we stone Thee not, but because You blaspheme God."

That familiar words these are. But why understand them? But they must be understood before you can understand the basis of the incarnation.

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

So that means that God became man and became incarnate in the flesh. Who was all about God? I know something about God and you know something about God, but no man or woman ever lived that knew all about God.

So God or a thing, or an object, or a being, is a mystery when there is about God or that object, or being, or thing, that which you cannot understand.

That which is a mystery, I can understand the time on it, but I do not understand about the wheels and all, so that becomes a mystery to me when there are things about it that I can't understand.

So anything is a mystery when there is about it that which you cannot understand. For all scholars will agree that's what it means, but on the scene comes the fool, who says, "I won't believe what I can't understand," but you do every day that you live.

You believe that you cannot understand. Take reason. What is that? Reason is that faculty of mind with which we trace the relation of causes and effects and phenomena, and that which leads up to and causes the phenomena and effect.

What is it by which you trace the cause of the effect?

It is reason. What is reason? It is the faculty by which you trace the relation of cause and effect.

So you see that you are a wheel within a wheel.

Where did reason come from and what does it consist of? Do you believe that you have reason? Yes. Reason has done many things. Reason has penetrated far into science. Reason can tell you tonight fifty years from now the minute when the eclipse will take place or when a certain comet will swing within the vision of the human eye.

What Reason Says.

Reason says, give the body drink. Reason says, give it food. I do that, therefore my life is preserved, because I care for my body according to my knowledge—certainly.

But there are a whole lot of things about myself that I don't know. But do I refuse to care for myself because there are a lot of things that I don't know?

Can you trace the circulation of the blood? No, you will get balled up in two minutes.

Do you understand how food assimilates to the body, and makes hair, and corpuscles and veins, and bones, and muscles. No? Well, will you refuse to eat because you have not sense enough to understand?

Then there are lots of things that people don't understand. Then don't you think that you can't understand. You poor fool, there are a lot of things that you can't understand that you believe. Here are mysteries on every hand. I am compelled to believe, or cease to exist, now.

Listen. We have a philosophy in our day that is omniscient. If we accept this testimony they are both wrong. The world is held in place by two forces called the centrifugal and the centrifugal, and one says: "I want to get away from the center," and the other wants to go to the center, and the operation of the two forces produces what we call the force of gravity, and prevents us from flying off on a tangent.

What is the force that produces motion? What is the motion? The motion is the result of force; and that is as far as your philosopher will go and he will snub in.

Nobody ever saw, felt, or measured force. You simply see, hear, or feel the effects. You don't see force.

You say when that arm struck this arm, and you hear when the hands come together, but you didn't see the force. You simply saw the effects of force.

I shoot a gun, you hear when the gun goes off. You see when the bullet strikes. You feel it if it hits you. But you do not see the force at all. You just simply feel the effects of force. So force is a mystery.

Now I think that that is enough to show any reasonable man—and you all look reasonable. You don't any of you look doughouse.

Plays on Hearts as on Keys.

Explain to me the influence of Jesus in moving men and women to great things, to do mighty deeds.

None was ever equal to Jesus Christ in melting the lives of men and women.

him realize how far short he is of attaining his ideal.

I want to help you, everybody. I don't care who you are. Then he says:

"Wee is to me, I am undone."

He sits up yonder and I am down here. "Now then," he says, "here is what I am, there is what I ought to be. Now how am I going to get what I am transformed into what I ought to be."

Those Who Deny Christ Are Liars

Old Mother Eddy butts in and says: "It is nothing, it is nothing."

On comes the Universalist and says: "We will be saved."

You lie.

On comes the Unitarian with his faith. You're a liar. Any man is a liar that doesn't believe in Christianity. He is a liar. Many a man lies who doesn't preach Jesus Christ from the pulpit. I don't care whether he is a Congregationalist, Baptist or what he is, he is a liar. A lot of you preachers are going to axize, too, like a burnt boot.

Whenever you reach the spot in your life when you will honestly say:

"Here is what I am, I am a boose fighter and I ought to be sober; here I am, I cuss and ought to pray; here I am, a libertine and I ought to be pure; here I am, I lie about my neighbors, and I ought to keep my mouth shut; here I am, in debt and I won't pay my debts and I ought to be honest.

Whenever you ask that question Jesus Christ will walk out and stand in front of you and He says:

"If you are not what you ought to be and if you want to become what you ought to be, the only way to do it is to accept Me."

The only way to dig out of what you are and get into what you ought to be is through Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells you and me that the only man who ever lived that was what He was and what He ought to be was Jesus Christ.

Christ Rocks the Cradle.

The world is a great big cradle and Christ stands by it and rocks it and rocks it, and as he rocks it He says to the world:

"I am going to make great men and women, make impure men pure, going to make drunkards sober, going to make blasphemers Christians, going to make thieves not to steal, going to take all who are obscene, vile and iniquitous and transform them."

He rocks the cradle called Christianity, and He pours out Paul, the greatest preacher and teacher and philanthropist the world has ever known.

Accept the Apostle Paul and his transformation without the Incarnation of Jesus Christ and you insult and slander Jesus Christ.

He rocks the cradle and from it comes Augustine. Account for Augustine being transformed to a St. Augustine without accepting Jesus Christ and you insult and slander God.

He rocks and rocks the cradle and forth comes Martin Luther, Germany's great monk, who blazed out the word of God

and called it on the door of the church. Account for Martin Luther and his reformation without Jesus Christ as the Son of God and you insult Martin Luther and history and slander God.

He says: "Here, men, you were not what you ought to be."

He took Paul the murderer and made him an apostle. He took Augustine and made him a saint. He took Martin Luther and transformed him into a blazing light.

He says: "I am going to take men and women who are not what they ought to be and make them into what God wants."

A Challenge to the Saloon.

Will you do it? He rocks the cradle and forth comes Wesley and Spurgeon and multitudes I can't name. He rocked the cradle.

Down the streets of New York City, one stormy night, went a missionary. He was thinly clad and he shivered with the cold. As he passed the door of a grog shop it flew open and out came a great big, hog-jawed, buttermilk-eyed, red-nosed son of perdition, shoving a poor, staggering, muttering, spewing drunkard out of a stale beer joint and says:

"To hell with you! Get out of here!"

I have been told that a saloon keeper said that if local option wins, it will be the damn drunkards that do it.

You black-hearted scoundrel, come up here and tell me that, and I will knock you down, if I have to pay a fine the next minute. You have belched forth your double distilled liquid damnation; you have ripped the carpet from the

floor; you have wrecked the homes of hapless, and blighted the lives of wives and children, and then have the nerve to stand up and make a statement like that, you miserable skunk.

Out he staggered and he lay there bleeding and groaning. The missionary helped the poor old man to his feet and talked with him. The drunkard said to him:

"Pard, if you want to help me give me your overcoat."

The missionary was thinly clad, but he pulled his overcoat off and wrapped it around the shivering form of the old drunkard and said:

"Come up to the mission and hear about Jesus."

He staggered to the front and accepted Him as his Saviour. He started out himself preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

One night he was preaching in a mission of his own when a man arose and asked permission to speak. He came to the platform and said:

"I sat and listened to that man and he moved me to tears."

He told that three years ago a petition was presented to him to pardon that man and he refused to do it because he was in the penitentiary. That man standing there making that confession was Governor John Dix of the State of New York. He told that that man has served seven terms in the Sing Sing penitentiary. There he was preaching Jesus Christ and they flocked to hear him.

(Continued on Page Seven, Col. Three.)

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Rid Stomach of Acids, Sourness, Gas, Indigestion

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Pape's Diapepsin belongs in your home anyway. Should one of the family eat something which don't agree with them, or in case of an attack of indigestion, dyspepsia, gastritis or stomach derangement at daytime or during the night, it is handy to give the quickest, surest relief known.—Advertisement

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