

PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by CHARLES T. RUSSELL, Pastor Brooklyn Tabernacle.

In Every Thing Give Thanks!

"In Every Thing Give Thanks, For This Is the Will of God Concerning You in Christ Jesus" (I Thessalonians v. 18).

Sunday, November 28.—Pastor Russell of "Brooklyn Tabernacle" preached today from the above text. He said: There is a beauty and consistency in the Bible which many overlook, to their own confusion. Falling to "rightly divide the Word of Truth" (I Timothy ii. 15), failing to discriminate between the consecrated believers and nominal believers of the world, which the Bible everywhere recognizes, has led to this confusion. To the logically-minded thus confused, the Bible is an unreasonable Book, inconsistent with facts. These matters are well illustrated in our text, which was addressed, not to all mankind, nor to merely nominal Christians—but to Christians, "in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ," as the introduction shows. This word *in* means something more than is generally appreciated. Note the Savior's words, "If a man love me he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him." "I am in my Father, and ye in me and I in you" (John xiv. 20, 23). The whole testimony of the Scriptures is that those who attain to this glorious *oneness* with the Father and with the Son are in all but a "little flock" and amongst them are "not many great, not many wise, not many learned." It is to this class alone that the Scriptures are addressed—though to some extent including a justified class supposedly approaching this sanctified condition. These may well be informed by the Apostle that they should "in everything give thanks," when in full harmony with the Divine will.

But note the confusion of attempting to apply these words to the world in general. What has the world to be thankful for—from its own standpoint? It knows not what God's future purposes are, which, therefore, cannot enter into its consideration. And without that knowledge of coming blessings life is often so little appreciated that self-destruction is preferred. Undoubtedly the number of suicides would be far greater than it is, were it not for a certain fear or dread that the future might be more terrible than the present.

The average man, heathen and civilized, knows that his coming into the world was without his consent. He eats and drinks and sleeps and labors, because these are necessities. He has headaches and heartaches, and every other kind. Altogether his experience is "of few years and full of trouble." His chief pleasure is in hoping for and striving to attain pleasure. And when the "cup" of supposed happiness is in his hand, the gall of bitterness is found mingled with it, and its dregs are sorrows. Can such a man be thankful? especially if he has been taught the doctrine of the "dark ages" respecting the future—that when he shall die he will either be ushered into a Purgatory of centuries or torture indescribable, or worse still, that his lot will be to suffer endlessly—unless he should be one of the saints, which he well knows he is not, and which we all know, as the Bible declares, are but "few." Surely to call upon such people for thankfulness to God would be an absurdity. And it is to the credit of the Scriptures that they are not thus absurd, and that our text is addressed, not to those who constitute the masses, but to the "little flock"—the saints.

Groaning Creation's Hope.

Before proceeding to apply our text to the class to which it is addressed (the saints), we pause to consider the hope of the world in general, as set forth in the Scriptures. The knowledge of this hope is not granted to the world, but to the saints—that they might know, might appreciate, the gracious purposes of God toward mankind in general; and that they might understand also the Divine intention respecting their co-operation with God in the blessings he purposes to bring eventually to all the families of the earth.

The explanation of the sorrows of the world is given in the Bible; which tells us that sin lies at the door and that the mental, moral and physical blessings which cause humanity such distress are incidental to the penalty pronounced against sin; namely, death. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Because Father Adam when on trial representatively for his race sinned and came under sin's penalty, "Dying thou shalt die," therefore all his children share in his imperfections are likewise imperfect—sinners, as St. Paul explains (Romans v. 12). Thus, during sixty centuries, approximately twenty thousand millions of Adam's children have been "born in sin and shapen in iniquity," and have come into the world condemned and dying, mentally, morally and physically.

Divine sympathy exercised toward this race of sinners provided a Savior, "who for the joy that was set before him" sacrificed his life—for the world (John iii. 16). "Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death for every man." Then instead of dealing with the world, instead of saving the world, instead of setting up the promised Kingdom to bless the world, the Savior did something else. And this which has been doing from the time of his death until now the Apostle explains to us is "a mystery" (I

Corinthians xv. 51; Ephesians i. 9; Romans xi. 25). "The mystery of God" the world does not understand, because God prefers to keep the matter a mystery from them. But "the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him and he will shew them his Covenant" (Psalm xxv. 14).

"The mystery" is, that God purposed that the blessing of the world should be accomplished by our Savior alone, but in association with a select class of saints gathered out of the world and specially taught and prepared in the School of Christ during this age. Not only is this feature of the Divine Plan Scripturally called "the mystery of God," which will be finished by the close of this age, but additionally the Church herself is Scripturally termed "the mystery of God"—the Mystic Body of Christ. "For God gave Christ to be the Head over the Church, which is his Body." "Ye are members in particular of the Body of Christ," which is the Church (Ephesians i. 22, 23; I Corinthians xii. 27).

During these long centuries required for the finding of this saintly class for whom the Lord has been searching with the magnet of Truth, various false theories have sprung up and found acceptance in the world. One of these is that God does not love the world and has never purposed its salvation; but that, on the contrary, he fore-ordained and predestinated that all except the "elect saints" should suffer eternal torture, because he wished to have it so. Another wrong theory which gained acceptance was that whilst God wishes to save the world, he finds himself unable to do so, because handicapped by human self-will and by the aggressiveness of Satan, who has blinded and deceived the vast majority and has them completely in his power through ignorance and superstition. This theory tells us that God loves the world, including the heathen millions, and that he longs to have the Gospel taken to them, but cannot do so, except through human agency, and is disappointed and baffled, because those who profess to be his people fail to raise sufficient missionary donations.

To rational minds these theories which satisfied in the past are no longer satisfactory; hence many are turned to infidelity. As the Scriptures say, "My people perish for lack of knowledge" (Hosea iv. 6).

The Hope of the Resurrection.

Leaving these unsatisfactory errors of the "dark ages" and going back to the Scriptures we find their teachings consistent; namely, that as soon as the "mystery," the Church, is completed, the blessing of God will proceed through the Christ (Head and members) to the world. As it is written, "In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed." The mystery, he it known, is that the spiritual "Seed of Abraham" is not the Lord Jesus only, but includes also his members—the Church. As we read, "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's Seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians iii. 29).

According to the Scriptures the blessing of God will proceed through Spiritual Israel, a "Royal Priesthood," "after the order of Melchizedec," to natural Israel under the terms of their New Covenant (Jeremiah xxxi. 31). During the Millennial Age under the spiritual Kingdom of the Christ operating through the earthly Kingdom of Israel all nations will be instructed, enlightened, blessed. Not only so, but the merit of Christ will then be applied also on behalf of the thousands of millions who have gone down into the prison-house of death—*sheol, hades—the grave*. The Church will constitute the "First Resurrection." "His resurrection." All sharing in it will attain life on the spirit plane like unto the angels, but superior, "far above angels." Later during the Millennium the world will return from the tomb, "every man in his own order" (I Corinthians xv. 23). And the resurrecting process will continue with them, to the intent that the willing and obedient may continue to rise gradually towards perfection and finally attain it; while at the same time the earth will be rejuvenated and become the promised "Paradise regained"—restored (Acts iii. 19-21).

"Give Thanks, For He is Good."

Looking down into the future prophetically the Psalmist exclaims, in view of the Kingdom blessings promised to the world, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever!" It is the *mercy* of God toward us and toward all who need his mercy and who desire it that is the ground for thanksgiving. True, praise must come from thankful hearts, and in order to be properly thankful, one must see more than is now visible to those who have not the eye of faith and the ear of faith and the Divine revelation respecting things to come. But it is these very opportunities that the Lord's consecrated ones possess: "Blessed are your eyes, for they see and your ears, for they hear." Not only so, but to the extent that anyone's eyes see and his ears hear of the grace of God he has responsibility. To possess the knowledge of God and to disdain it is to receive the grace of

God in vain, whether more or less (I Corinthians vi. 1).

God's people not only give thanks for the blessings of the future which they receive by faith, but additionally they appreciate blessings granted to them in advance in the present life and give thanks for these. The first of these is the knowledge, the appreciation, of the goodness of God in granting us a release from sin and its penalty by faith, so that we can (without waiting for actualities) now rejoice in the mercy which has justified us freely by Divine grace through faith in the blood of Christ. The realization of the rolling away of our load of sin, a realization of our forgiveness by the Father, calls for gratitude, for thanksgiving, and this cause continuing, our thanks continue. We were lifted from the horrible pit and the miry clay of sin and condemnation and our feet were placed upon the Rock Christ Jesus. It was in consequence of this that a new song was put into our mouth, even the loving-kindness of our God. And this is the first cause for our thankfulness. All other blessings rest upon this blessing and all other thanksgivings should properly, therefore, include thanks for this blessing.

Additionally after being justified we were inducted into a still further grace or privilege, namely, the privilege of becoming members of the Body of Christ, members of the "mystery" class. The invitation to this class the Apostle expresses thus, "I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God (your justification that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service)" (Romans xii. 1). Through this grace or privilege, if accepted, we gain the opportunity of a change of nature—from human to Divine. Our human nature, justified, cleansed, made acceptable to God as a sacrifice through the merit of Christ, if sanctified by us faithfully, will be replaced by a spirit nature and glory, honor, immortality, joint-heirship, with our Lord and Head. What cause we have in this for thanksgiving? What shall we render unto the Lord our God for all his benefits towards us? "We will take the cup of salvation (this cup, the cup of self-sacrifices and call upon the name of the Lord (for assistance to drink of the Master's cup). We will pay our vows of consecration unto the Lord—publicly before all his people" (Psalm cxvi. 12-14).

"Every joy he sends me Comes a sweet and glad surprise."

The very fact that we do not know everything; the fact that we are ever learning as pupils in the School of Christ, so far from being a cause of disappointment, is a source of pleasure. The heart that has come into faith-union and communion with the Lord learns something more daily respecting the Heavenly Father's love and care, and each fresh item of knowledge is a new well-spring of pleasure. "He satisfieth the longing soul." "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." "Goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life." These are the experiences of those ripe Christians called upon by the Apostle to give thanks unto God in every matter and to know that this is God's will in respect to all those who are members of Christ—"in Christ Jesus" (Psalm cvii. 9; Matthew v. 6; Psalm xxiii. 6).

Thanks Through Tears.

Let us not overlook the fact that our text indicates that we are to give thanks for our sorrows, our trials, our disappointments, as well as for our joys and pleasures, for *everything* includes all things. Nor is this the only Scripture to this effect. Hearken to the Apostle's words which urge the members of Christ to rejoice in tribulation, not because tribulation is a joy producer, but, as he explains, "Tribulation works out additional patience and patience brings additional experience and larger experience brings larger hope, until we are not ashamed of our tribulations, because of increased love of God shed abroad in our hearts thereby" (Romans v. 3; vii. 25).

The basis of all these blessings and rejoicings both as respects the future and the present experiences is faith. First, in the fact that there is a God. Second, in the fact that he has a noble character. Third, in the fact that his Wisdom, Justice, Love and Power are perfect and thoroughly coordinated. Fourth, in the fact that all of these powers are enlisted in the salvation of the world. Fifth, in the fact that that salvation began to be worked out by our Lord at his First Advent. Sixth, in the fact that it is still working out in the selection of his Church. Seventh, in the fact that shortly it will begin to take practical shape in the establishment of Christ's Millennial Kingdom. Eighth, in the fact that through that Kingdom a blessing shall extend to every creature of our race.

So, then, let every man to the extent of his enlightenment appreciate and confess the Almighty God and give thanks unto his name, because he is good and because his mercy endureth forever. And let those who have tasted of his grace pursue on, that they may grow in grace, grow in knowledge, grow in faith and grow in character-likeness to our God. And let his saints addressed in this text more and more appreciate their wonderful privilege, their high calling of God in Christ Jesus—to be heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ our Lord—if so be that they suffer with him, that they may be also glorified together. And knowing that they have need of faith and patience and character development, let these firmly trust the Great Teacher, come what may, and give thanks for every experience of life, knowing that our Father is too wise to err and remembering the Master's words, "The Father himself loveth you" (John xvi. 27).

Dutchess make a mistake in shipping!

By an error of the shipping clerk for the Dutchess Manufacturing Co., Poughkeepsie, N. Y., we received a large case of New Fall Pants more than we ordered. It's a long ways back to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and as it's now

late in the season we sell them discounted rather than return them. So here's buy bran newers at wholesale now need or need an extra in the future we buy one or more splendid pants

DUTCHESS TROUSERS

10 Cents a Button
\$1.00 a Rip

low prices. A circumstance and an opportunity of this kind does not often occur. The wise ones will grasp it before too late. We have placed them in three lots for easy selling. Namely \$1.39, \$1.99 and \$2.49 REMEMBER THEY ARE ALL NEW PANTS JUST RECEIVED.

C. E. Wescott's Sons

THE HOME OF SATISFACTION

MANLEY.

Mrs. John Rauth was a passenger to Omaha on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sallie Keekler are preparing to move into their new home in Manley.

Misses Henrietta and Jennie Carpenter spent a few days visiting in Omaha last week.

Corn shucking was delayed for several days on account of the heavy fall of snow.

Lizzie Glauwitz, Liza O'Brien and James Heeny attended the party at Mrs. Smith's in Elmwood.

Rev. Father Higgins went to Greenwood Saturday and had services there Sunday morning.

Miss Josephine Tighe came down from Omaha Wednesday evening, returning Thursday morning.

Miss Bridget Smith returned to her home in Elmwood after having spent several days visiting relatives.

Mr. H. D. Conover, of Norfolk, Neb., visited L. A. Cowan on Thanksgiving. Mr. Conover and Mr. Cowan were old acquaintances in Dakota.

Word has been received of the death of Mr. Willis Easterday. He died at the home of his brother in Omaha, and his remains were taken back to his old home in Ohio, for burial.

Mrs. John Tighe, daughter Luby, and little grandson, John Francis Cewan, departed Tuesday evening for St. Mary's, Kansas, where Mr. Tighe's two sons, Leo and Paul are attending college.

A few from Manley went down to St. Mary's, Kansas, to witness the big foot ball game between Doane and St. Mary's college, on Thanksgiving day. Two of our Manley boys, Leo Tighe and Herman Rauth are in the St. Mary's team so we hope our boys will win out.

Slimly Attended.

The fire department held a slimly attended meeting last night at the council chamber. The principal business before the meeting was to make arrangements for the care of Nelson Jones, an honorary member of the department. It was decided to provide two members each night from the department to set up with him and give such other care and treatment as the department could.

There was a very light attendance of honorary members and Chief Koubek asks that they consider themselves as much bound to look after the sick and ill members of the department as the active members, and he would like them to do their share. Mr. Jones is a very sick man and needs every bit of aid the department can give him.

Open Next Monday.

Plattsmouth's new shirt and over-all factory will open up to the public on next Monday, November 29. This is a red letter day in local annals as it marks the commencement of the building of small factories in this city and its vicinity. All the people who have filed applications for work in the factory have been requested to be present and it is hoped to get under full headway that day. The finishing touches are being applied to the machinery and the interior of the plant and by Monday there will be something doing in the old town.

Pattons paint at Gerting's.

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ALVO.

Mrs. F. F. Brillhart was an Omaha visitor Tuesday.

Henry Snoko returned home from Clatonia last week.

George Foreman, Jr., returned home Thursday last week.

Miss Stella Sheesley is clerking in R. A. Stone's general store.

Miss Teresa Donnelly returned home from Omaha Tuesday evening.

Robert Johnson shipped a car load of hogs to South Omaha Monday.

E. D. Friend was in Lincoln on business Wednesday and Thursday.

Eber Allen of University Place, is staying with his father who is sick.

Miss Orpha Muller returned to her school at Murdock last Monday morning.

Mrs. W. E. Casey returned from Lincoln Tuesday, where she had been shopping.

Rev. Buckner, of University Place, preached in the M. E. church last Friday evening.

Miss Marie Stroemer came home Wednesday to spend Thanksgiving with her parents.

Mrs. Nerva Knott and sons spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Manners.

Vel Linch came home Wednesday from University Place to spend Thanksgiving with his folks.

Alfred Stroemer came home Tuesday from school at University Place, to spend Thanksgiving vacation.

E. D. Friend will have a public sale on December 7. He intends going to Sherman county to locate.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Kuehn are the proud parents of a girl, born Saturday, November 20, 1909. Dr. Jones of Murdock attended.

Miss Mabel Stout and John Hilderbrand returned Wednesday morning have been visiting the past ten days.

Mrs. Minnie Prouty left Saturday for Oreapolis to visit her youngest brother. She returned home Monday evening.

Elmer Anderson returned from Chicago Tuesday evening, where he had been called to the bedside of his mother.

Byron Foreman came down from Omaha Tuesday evening to spend Thanksgiving with his cousin, G. P. Foreman, Sr.

Mr. Hamel, of Nora, a former resident of this place, visited with C. C. Bucknell and other friends Thursday of last week.

H. S. Ough and son Chester, spent Sunday in South Omaha with Victor Ough. They returned home Monday morning by way of Lincoln.

James Jordan is enlarging his ice house preparatory to handling ice to the end of the season next year.

Mrs. Paul Johnson was on the sick list Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kirkpatrick returned home Tuesday evening from their Wisconsin visit. They report a fine time while away.

John and Noel Foreman gave a party to their friends last Saturday evening at their home west of town. Various games were indulged in and a sort of "guess what it is" in tiny vials brought forth much laughter, as the vials contained various tinctures and extracts, some of which were very fragrant, and some otherwise. Refreshments consisting of oysters and celery, etc., were served. Among those who attended were: Hazel Keefer, Emily Strong, Grace Bucknell, Aletha Rouse, Her-

bert Strong, Lee Prouty, George Bucknell, Alfred Stroemer, Earl Bennett, Glenn Keefer, Verl Liuch and Maurice Keefer, who report a jolly good time.

UNION.

(Ledger.) The Missouri Pacific has a force of men at work building two new water tanks at this place.

Louie Rice, the popular young bookkeeper at the bank of Union, visited over Sunday with his parents near Murray.

Miss Ollie Dye departed Monday morning for Spencer, Neb., where she will spend the winter with her brother, L. C. Dye and family.

Mrs. Isaac Pollard returned to her home at Nehawka last Saturday evening after having made a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Hattie Barnum.

Linus Reynolds, one of the efficient operators at the depot, is "off duty" on account of a serious attack of the grippe, but we are pleased to note that he is now improving.

Daniel Burris, who has been visiting with his Union relatives and friends, departed on the Monday forenoon train for Battle Mount, S. D., to spend the winter at the sanitarium provided for old soldiers.

Dr. F. L. McLeod and wife left on the Wednesday forenoon train for Lincoln, where they will make their future home, the doctor having decided to open an office there. They have many friends here who wish them success and contentment in their new home.

Mrs. O. A. Pearsley and Mrs. Ed. Midkiff, representing the Union lodge, participated in a meeting Monday night of the Royal Neighbors at Plattsmouth, and they report a very fine meeting and royal entertainment by the Plattsmouth Neighbors.

Farm for Sale.

A 102-acre farm for sale; good improvements; seven miles south of Plattsmouth and four miles northwest of Murray. W. H. RAKES, Plattsmouth, Neb., R. F. D. No. 1.

Pigs for Sale.

A pair of fine Berkshire pigs, subject to register, for sale. Wm. Gil-mour, Plattsmouth, Neb.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE MURRAY STATE BANK

Of Murray, Nebraska, Charter No. 578

Incorporated in the State of Nebraska, at the close of business November 16, 1909.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts.....\$53,226 84
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured..... 615 63
Banking house, furniture and fixtures..... 2,786 00
Current expenses and taxes paid..... 1,023 00
Due from national, state and private banks and bankers..... 7,587 18
Currency..... 1,073 00
Gold coin..... 345 00
Silver, nickels and cents..... 415 04—10,633 32

Total.....\$68,167 18

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in.....\$10,000 00
Surplus fund..... 1,000 00
Undivided profits..... 1,734 21
Individual deposits subject to check..... 41,431 30
Demand certificates of deposit..... 32 27
Time certificates of deposit..... 5,120 00—47,433 57
Notes and bills discounted..... 8,000 00

Total.....\$68,167 18

STATE OF NEBRASKA,)
County of Cass,) S. I. W. G. Boedeker,
cashier of the above named bank, do hereby
swear that the above statement is a correct
and true copy of the report made to the State
banking board, W. G. BOEDEKER, Cashier.

Attest: CHAS. C. PARMELLS, Director.
FRED L. RUTZMAN, Director.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd
day of November, 1909. D. J. PRYMAR,
(Notary Public.)