

EXCUSES THAT ARE COMMON

What People Say Who Do Not Want to Accept Salvation.

HOW MUCH MORE WILL THE LORD STAND?

Rev. S. D. Dutcher Asks This Question in Astonishment at Pre-arrangement of Those Called to Christ.

A sermon which brought a score or more of converts to the platform at the close of the service was preached yesterday morning at the First Church by Rev. S. D. Dutcher, the pastor. His theme was "Why Have You Not Been Saved?" He said, in part: "Jesus says 'And ye will not come unto Me.' I am free to confess I cannot understand why so many people are going to perdition. I cannot understand why so many have been lost, why so many are lost, why so many are being lost. If salvation were a courtesy instead of a personal matter we might understand why the great masses are so indifferent. If salvation were for the few we might understand. If the theory of heredity and predilection were true we might understand. Christ placed no limitations upon salvation. It is not a distinguished favor for the few. Neither race, condition, creed nor color is barred. 'God's love has grown as the ages have advanced. You reject it. Why? You cannot say you do not believe. God gives man no excuse for disbelief. 'I don't like some of the people in the church,' you say. 'I cannot associate with them. I am better than they and do not go to church.' It is the most absurd reason you can give.

Illustrates the Point

"Suppose two men are in prison. One criminal is pardoned by the governor. He goes out. He offers pardon to the other convict and he refuses it because the man who went out first was a bigger sinner. What would you think of such an argument for refusing a pardon? 'My child is too young to understand,' is another excuse. 'There are things in the Bible I don't understand' is another of your excuses. 'Two-thirds of my life is behind me; I would not now have the face to accept a salvation I refused earlier,' says a third. Satan saying to the stupefied and writhed, 'You have delayed it too long; it is too late now.' What shabby treatment of Jesus divine. Every excuse brought forward to justify your own shortcomings. Men and women are giving themselves up to salvation. I refused earlier,' says a third. Satan saying to the stupefied and writhed, 'You have delayed it too long; it is too late now.' What shabby treatment of Jesus divine. Every excuse brought forward to justify your own shortcomings. Men and women are giving themselves up to salvation.

AMBITIONS THAT NEVER COME

Napoleon and Moses Two Examples of Disappointed Men.

Rev. J. W. Hammond Preaches on the Theme of "Moses at Mount Pisgah, or Ambitions Unrealized."

"There are two pictures always present in my mind of ambitions unrealized," said Rev. J. W. Hammond, who preached at the First Baptist church yesterday morning on the theme of "Moses at Mount Pisgah, or Ambitions Unrealized." "There are two pictures always present in my mind of ambitions unrealized," said Rev. J. W. Hammond, who preached at the First Baptist church yesterday morning on the theme of "Moses at Mount Pisgah, or Ambitions Unrealized." "There are two pictures always present in my mind of ambitions unrealized," said Rev. J. W. Hammond, who preached at the First Baptist church yesterday morning on the theme of "Moses at Mount Pisgah, or Ambitions Unrealized."

VISION OF JOHN ON PATMOS

Dr. Burdick Preaches on Subject at Lowe Avenue Church.

Rev. Newman Hall Burdick preached at the Lowe Avenue Presbyterian church yesterday morning on the vision of John on the island of Patmos, taking his text from Psalm xxxiv, 5: "They looked unto Him and were lightened and their faces were not ashamed." A. E. C. Clarke filled Dr. Burdick's pulpit at the Second Presbyterian church. "It is a fact," said Dr. Burdick, "that we become like that of which we are especially fond. Man shows in his face his profession. It has been said that one can always tell a minister on sight, a physician looks like one, and an educator cannot look like an illiterate man. If we love the beautiful and the things that are beautiful it will be reflected in our faces and so, too, the reflection of the gross and sensual will be reflected in the face of the gross and sensual man. Moses in his conversation with God became radiant of face. The face of Jesus Christ when in conversation with God was perfectly white. John on the lonely island of Patmos saw the vision radiant and he described it to us in Revelations. John speaks of the vision and the glow of the seven candlesticks and the vision was of Christ himself. John says the vision was clothed in robes, indicating the Judge, for Christ is a Judge and He weighs the heart of many; the golden circle is the symbol of power and energy; the gristle around the breast is indicative of boundless love, for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son. His is the love that comes down from the very throne to uplift the lowest. His hair was white, representing purity and eternity. His feet were like iron or brass symbolizing progress and tried by fire as God tries us. The seven stars of the vision were the seven pastors of the churches and they were on the right hand of God, representing the resting place of security. Christ the vision of Christ and see Him in His love, His purity and His strength, and if you can, you will not fail to reflect His

Overwork Killing Us

in the Great Struggle for Wealth and Position We Are Becoming Weaker Than Our Forefathers.

By the cares of business and social life we use up or waste away the most vital elements of the human body before we realize our weak and run-down condition. It seizes on us so quietly at first that little or no attention is paid to the symptoms, which commence with a queer, bewildering sensation in the head, later the power to concentrate the thoughts, so necessary to brain workers, is lost. Following this will come deficient sight or blurred vision, muscular weakness and a dull pain in the small of the back. There is a tendency to tire easily; the digestion becomes impaired; the temper irritable; spirits depressed, ending in complete lack of confidence and a general feeling of disgust at our own weakness. When the blood and nerve forces have been wasted by disease, overwork, worry, brain-tire, high living, dissipation or other bad habits, Dr. Chase's Blood and Nerve Food rebuilds the system by replacing the same substances that have been lost. Price 50 cents. Sold everywhere by Hyeson-Allen Drug Co., Omaha, Neb.

GIANT RAILROAD COMBINE

All Systems of Country to Be Controlled by One Vast Trust.

STANDARD OIL BEHIND COLOSSAL SCHEME

Details of Great Plan Said to Be Working Out Slowly But Surely and May Be Consummated.

If what a Chicago Sunday paper says is true a railroad combination of such magnitude that it would control all the haulers the nation is being developed by the financial giants of this country and the details already have reached a point where it is believed there is no longer a doubt of the realization of the stupendous scheme. The alleged plan has under consideration the amalgamation of all the railroad corporations of the country into one gigantic system. It is said the Standard Oil interests, headed by a dozen eastern Napoleons of finance, are backing the scheme. They expect, with their almost unlimited wealth, to control all the railroad systems of the country and prevent competition among the various lines. The plan is to divide the railroads of the country into a few groups or systems, each one of which is to own a substantial interest in the stocks and securities of every other big group or system. In other words, all the grouped or systems would be under the one central but grouped into systems for purposes of easy management. Each group would be represented on the various boards of directors. Vast Combination of Wealth. The combination is to control over 160,000 miles of railroad valued at \$5,000,000,000. It will see to it that all the roads are managed economically with the rates kept up to such a figure as the tariff will permit in order to pay good dividends on the enormous capitalization. The recouping of the systems has been going on for some time but the plans are not complete. Most of the American roads are identified by strong traffic agreements with the roads built by the same capital and fact but the Standard Oil interests are the backbone of the system. Among these are the Lackawanna, the Great Western, the Minneapolis, St. Louis & Iowa Central, the Lehigh Valley and the Moffat road. The San Pedro road which Senator W. A. Clark of Montana has been building on Salt Lake City to the Pacific coast was intended to be an independent line. He started east from the coast. The Oregon Short Line, a Harriman road, was started west to head him off. They met at California, Nev., and locked horns in a canyon in the mountains. There the two interests were changing right and left but Senator Clark finally succumbed and Harriman secured control of his road and it is being rapidly completed. The Vanderbilts control many of the New England roads. J. Pierpont Morgan controls many of the southern lines. The Illinois Central is owned by the Harriman system. The Rockefeller millions, the wealth of the Moore brothers, the Goulds, of J. J. Hill, of Harriman and the syndicate which he represents, all these moneyed interests are more or less intermingled in the various railroad interests of the country. Stickers in Consulted. It is said that A. B. Stickney, president of the Great Western, which is owned by foreign interests, was approached more than a year ago to ascertain if his road is in the market and the terms upon which the control of the road would be secured. The Santa Fe also is owned largely by foreign capital but less interested in the system could be secured and taken over. It certainly is in no position to make a long fight against the interests which would be pitted against it. It is reported that the Rockefeller and Harriman interests have vast large holdings of stock in the Standard Oil system. Harriman syndicate controls a system of railroads between the Mississippi and the Pacific coast; the Vanderbilts and the Standard Oil company, back of which are the Rockefellers, control vast systems in the east; the Moore brothers own the Northern Pacific system and he is behind the Burlington system. The Northwestern, which is now talking of building to the coast, is backed by the Vanderbilt millions. What is to prevent the plans of these financial monarchies from going through? They are already pitted in the hands of other's property. Each money power owns more or less of the securities of its competitor and rival. A combination of all these interests would permit the reduction of many expenses, would permit more economical management, besides the curbing of stock in the hands of owners which mean greater dividends. Besides the railroads, the combination would have an interest in the steamboat monopolies of the Atlantic and the steamship interests of Hill and Harriman on the Pacific. In short, if the present plans do not fail, it will give the railroad colossal a grip on two-thirds of the world and that the combination will be formed is now almost certain.

MAN WHO MAKES A FRIVOLY INCOME BY IMITATING BINDINGS OF FAMOUS BOOKS.

Book-forging is my business," said an elderly man on a roof garden. He had been drinking and this made him more communicative than wise.

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"Book-forging is my business," said an elderly man on a roof garden. He had been drinking and this made him more communicative than wise. "Yes, sir, I am a book forger," he continued. "I make money at it, too. Last year I made \$7,500." "What may I ask, is book forgery?" said the man's companion. "I'll tell you. It is the binding of old books in such a way that people think old masters bound them. I can take an old book worth, say \$5, and I can put on it a Grollier binding that will make it worth \$200. This will only be about two days' work—two days' work—two days' work. I used to bind books legitimately at a bindery, and my salary was \$3 a week. "Well, one day a rich patron brought a Grollier to the shop to be repaired, and I, just for fun, copied the binding. Then I got hold of an old French pamphlet and I covered it with the forged Grollier binding I had made. Afterward I took the volume to a dealer in old books and he bought it like a shot for \$100. "Why," he said, "this is a genuine Grollier." "That started me in the business. I made a study of the finest old bindings that exist. These are the bindings that were made for the Valois kings. Grollier and Malou were the great artists of the time and their bindings in the libraries of Francis I, Henri II and Charles IX were the most splendid that the world had ever seen. "The simpler examples of Grollier and Malou are the ones I forge. I sell my forgeries to rich millionaires. In seven years I haven't had a complaint."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

DISAPPEARS FROM HOSPITAL.

John Engstrom, who has been for some time an inmate of the Methodist Episcopal hospital, was reported as missing yesterday and the police were asked to aid in finding him. He is said to have walked away yesterday morning and did not return. Engstrom is a Swede who talks broken English, 32 years of age, five feet six inches in height, of light complexion, wears a black overcoat and dark suit.

PIE AND THE DEAD LEAVES

Subjects Handled by Oldest Inhabitant, His Wife and Friend, Careful Observer.

THE OLDEST INHABITANT AND HIS WIFE HAD JUST ENGAGED IN A FEW WORDS REGARDING THE RELATIVE MERITS OF HOME MADE AND STORE BREAD, SO THE FORMER TOOK TO THE SLOTTED VEGETATION UNTIL THE STORM HAD PASSED OVER. ON HIS WAY DOWN TOWN HE MET HIS COMPANION, THE CAREFUL OBSERVER, WALKING ALONG GASS STREET. THEY CRUNCHED THE DRY LEAVES UNDER THEIR FEET AS THEY WALKED ON AND TALKED OF BETTER DAYS AND THE UNCERTAINTY OF PIE.

It is a pity that these dry leaves we are crushing beneath our feet preach a silent, though eloquent sermon," remarked the Careful Observer, as he filled his pipe and lit a match. "Last spring these leaves unfolded in their freshness to cheer an awakening world. They symbolized the hope of a better life. In the summer they cast a cooling shade on a scorching humanity. Finally they outlived their usefulness, like all things material, and after having filled their mission in the world, fell from the branches that held them, to be blown to the dust whence they came. Now they are down and out, they do not persist in making their presence felt; they do not persist in staying on the branches in their serene and yellow state. They accept the inevitable without a murmur, as it were. It is a pity that these dry leaves we are crushing beneath our feet preach a silent, though eloquent sermon," remarked the Careful Observer, as he filled his pipe and lit a match. 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