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MANY FEELING AFTER THE GOD OF LOVE

"Darkness Covers the Earth." "Lead, Kindly Light, Amid the Encircling Gloom."

Pastor Russell Thrills Believers and Skeptics by His Picture of the True God—The Pastor's Early Teaching of Hell—He Became a Skeptic—His Recovery of More Faith in the Bible Than He Had Lost—God's Wisdom, Justice, Love and Power—Soul Satisfaction in None Other.



London, August 24.—Pastor Russell addressed the London Tabernacle congregation today, from the text, "God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him might not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

The Pastor declared that the doctrine of total depravity is totally wrong. The likeness of God, which was perfect in Adam, still persists in Adam's children, sadly fallen though they be. Apparently none is so fallen as not to have some conception of his own debasement, and to feel worthy of punishment. In every human breast there is also a sentiment of pity, and an appreciation of pity from others, and a feeling of the need of Divine pity. Many Christians are benevolent, sympathetic, ready to help the unfortunate, to sing them songs of God's love, and to place before them texts telling of God's sympathy and pity. But these helps are discounted by the great central thought—supported by all creeds—that God is angry with humanity, and busily engaged in sending nearly every member of our race to an eternity of torture—ninety thousand per day being the present schedule.

Creeds Drive Away From God. Then the Pastor showed that while the Christian forgets the atrocious misrepresentations given by the creeds, and remembers chiefly the loving words given by the Bible, the sinner's thoughts revert to the teaching that eternal torment is his doom. Anxious to forget God and the future, he escapes best from all religious thought in the bar-room, at the gaming table, and in general surrender to sin. He is miserable in the presence of the pure, and fears the Bible.

After quoting St. Paul's words, "The god of this world hath blinded the minds of those who believe not," the Pastor declared that Satan had introduced atrocious misrepresentations of God's character into the creeds of Christian people during the Dark Ages, and that the blindness resulting from these "doctrines of demons" is found everywhere, even among believers. Few see anything respecting God and the everlasting future clearly; few can give a reason for their hope.

Let us not forget, said Pastor Russell, that Satan has used Christian tongues and pens to blind the world. We owe it to ourselves, our families and the world in general to destroy these blasphemous misrepresentations of the Divine character and plan. Since our eyes are opening to see the situation, how can we be otherwise than indignant, and jealous for the honor of our God and for the influence of His Truth amongst our fellowmen!

The Pastor's Personal Experience. The Pastor then related his personal experience in learning to know God. The child of believing parents, he was indoctrinated along Calvinistic lines to believe that only the Elect would reach glory, and that the non-elect would be eternally tormented. He was accustomed to think of himself as one of the Elect, and to appreciate the love of God in providing for their salvation.

As a boy of seventeen, a member of the Y. M. C. A., he engaged in what was called Gospel preaching. Like the others, he pictured Hell and shook his hearers over it. Finally reason asserted itself. He stopped preaching and examined the creeds. He found the differences between them trivial; and that all taught the salvation of the few, and eternal torture for the remainder. Feeling sure that a real God could not have made such a plan, he threw away the creeds, and with them the Bible, believing it to be the basis of them all.

THINGS THAT ALMOST HAPPEN

Steamboat Captain Tells Why His Hair is Nearly White, Though He Never Had an Accident.

"It is the things that almost happen which cause gray hairs in this business rather than the things that actually occur," said a veteran captain of an excursion boat to a New York Sun man.

"When I was thirty-three years old I was running a boat to Coney Island. On one occasion, in the lower bay, fog settled down thicker than mush. I held a compass course and everything went smoothly enough until it was almost time to change the course and head from the bay toward Coney. I had heard a boat—by its whistle I knew it was a towing tug—pass me further up the bay.

"Even though I could not see the bow of my boat, I was hanging with my head out of the pilot house window and straining my eyes to see, when my quartermaster, who was standing on the very peak of the bow, called for me to reverse. I rang for full speed astern and threw the wheel hard to port.

"The fog lifted for an instant and dead ahead of me I saw a scow with 'Dynamite' written on its side and a red flag floating above it. I kept the wheel hard over and it seemed to me the engineer was an eternity in getting the engine reversed. We just grazed the scow. I learned afterward that it had been in tow of a tug and that the hawser broke and the tug crew had lost sight of the scow in the fog.

"When I got home that night my wife pointed out a gray hair—the first I had ever had.

"In all my experience I've never had a serious accident, but as you see I have a head full of gray hairs caused by things that almost happened."

MCCOY KNEW HUMAN NATURE

Explaining How the Pugilist Was Able to Get His Car Through Jam Where Others Failed.

Kid McCoy drove down in his large, shiny motor. A friend accompanied him. Coming up the avenue was a flock of booting cars. It seemed impossible for McCoy to find a way through.

"Let's turn down a side street, Kid," said the friend. "We'll make it."

"Watch me," said McCoy. He turned his head to one side, and looked into the eyes of the alarmed friend. He drove his car right at the approaching covey. Their drivers set up a quacking like a lot of frightened ducks. McCoy drove on, without looking at the road ahead. All the other cars pulled to one side and made way for him. As he passed, all the other drivers leaned out of their cars to make injurious comment upon Mr. McCoy.

"Get your bluff in first," said McCoy. "That's the rule in life that applies to motoring as well as to fighting. If I'd dropped back and honked timidly every one of those guys would have crowded me a little farther into the curb. Because they thought I was a careless, reckless, E-flat muckhead, who'd as lief have an accident as not, they gave me the right of way."—New York Times.

Abbreviation Gone Mad.

There are people in this country who have so much respect for its government and institutions that they almost consider those guilty of treason who spell the capital of the country "W-a-s-h." It is all they can do to restrain themselves when they get a letter dated "Wash, D. C." They would just as soon see one addressed to "Bos, Mass.," although Balt., Md., or Phila., Pa., does not offend so much. Nobody but a human sloth would think of writing on his envelope "Chic., Ill.," or "Buff., N. Y.," yet the practice of unauthorized contraction has grown to such an extent that it is high time that business houses lay down the law, as found in the back part of nearly any dictionary, against the practice. And if you follow the feelings of the purists in spelling, you'd dock the man or woman a whole day's pay who is so utterly dead to patriotic instincts as to address a letter to "Wash, D. C."—Wall Street Journal.

Upstairs Backward.

Walking upstairs backward is urged by a London physician as a useful practice in cases of heart weakness and as helping in a more equal distribution of muscular wear and tear.

"Firstly and most important," he says, "walking upstairs backward would prevent any tendency to hurry. No matter how inveterate a 'stair rush' a man might be, he would have to moderate his pace if going backward. This enforced deliberation would, of course, be of great value in heart disease. The second effect would be to relieve the strain from the ordinary walking and climbing muscles (those on the front of the thigh) and to press into service those on the back of the leg, which ordinarily do no work in climbing stairs. The total result, therefore, might be a saving in muscular wear and tear through a more economical distribution of effort. This, of course, would also be of value in cases of heart weakness."

A BLOOD TREATMENT ABOUT ALCOHOL.

Recently it has been shown by experiments on animals that alcohol lowers the germicidal power of the body, and that alcohol paralyzes the white corpuscles of the blood and renders them unable to take up and destroy disease germs. Disease germs cause the death of over one-half of the human race.

A blood medicine, made entirely without alcohol, which is a pure glyceric extract of roots, such as Bloodroot, Queen's root, Golden Seal root, Mandrake and Stone root, has been extensively sold by druggists for the past forty years as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. The refreshing influence of this extract is like Nature's influence—the blood is bathed in the tonic which gives life to the blood—the vital fires of the body burn brighter and their increased activity consumes the tissue rubbish which has accumulated during the winter.

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