

PEOPLE'S



Sermon by
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Pastor Brooklyn
Tabernacle.

PULPIT...

SECRET FAULTS—PRE-SUMPTUOUS SINS.

Who Can Understand His Errors?

"Cleanse Thou Me From Secret Faults; Keep Back Thy Servant Also From Presumptuous Sins; Then Shall I Be Upright, and I Shall Be Innocent From the Great Transgression" (Psalm xix, 12, 13).

Brooklyn, Nov. 7.—Pastor Russell preached today at the Brooklyn Tabernacle from the text above. He said:—

Our text prophetically represents the attitude of mind of God's true people. Those who are aliens and strangers from God would not thus pray. Even if they were repentant their first prayer should be in the nature of a confession of sins and an acknowledgment of their acceptance of God's mercy in the forgiveness of their sins and of his accepting them to be his children through the merit of the Redeemer. But even those who have become children of God, by renouncing sin and exercising faith in Divine forgiveness in the merit of Christ, have still to acknowledge that by nature they were "children of wrath even as others." Although they are saved by grace, only their minds, their hearts, their wills, have yet been saved or fully reconciled to God and harmonized to the Divine will. Their flesh is still imperfect, fallen.

Hence, in the language of the Psalmist, it is appropriate that the Lord's people take knowledge of their own blemishes, imperfections, and that they seek the Lord's assistance in fighting the good fight against those blemishes of their flesh. Thank God, this battle of the New Creature, the new mind, the new will, against the fallen flesh and its appetites will not last forever; and the faithful, death will be the close of the conflict. The glorified Redeemer is watching over the interests of his people. He guarantees us in advance that all of our trials, our difficulties, shall work together for our spiritual welfare. He guarantees us that when he shall have sufficiently tested our new minds, our new wills, by the opposition of the cravings of the flesh, he will forthwith declare our trial ended—declare us victors and heirs of glory, honor and immortality with himself, according to the exceeding great and precious promises of his Word.

The Object of Our Testing.

The question arises, Why should not the Lord grant to us and to all mankind an easier trial than is ours? Why should there be a fallen disposition to fight against? Why should it not be as easy, or more easy, to do right than to do wrong? Why should we not have flesh which should have a good craving merely, and not an evil craving? And if we must have an evil craving, why are we not at least relieved of the outward temptations which excite these evil cravings?—temptations from the world about us, inciting to evil rather than to good; and, according to the Scriptures and our experiences, temptations also from Satan himself, and from the fallen angels, who continually endeavor to intrude upon us, to incite us to anger, malice, hatred, strife and the various works of the flesh and the devil?

These questions are not unreasonable, and God acknowledges this when he shows us that just such favorable conditions as these questions suggest will be provided for the world of mankind during the Millennium. Satan and the evil angels under his captaincy will be restrained according to the Bible and not be permitted to molest mankind in evil promptings and suggestions. We read that Satan shall be bound for a thousand years that he may deceive the people no more until the thousand years be finished (Revelations xx, 2). Relief is also promised from the injurious conduct of others, in that we are assured that during the Millennium nothing shall hurt or destroy throughout God's holy Kingdom. In that blessed time every evil deed will be restrained that it may not accomplish injury to another, while even the effort to commit sin will be promptly punished with "stripes," not an immoderate, not an unjust torturing for centuries for finite sins, but, as the Scriptures declare, a just recompense of reward will be given both to the just and to the unjust.

The Scriptures assure us that promptness in the punishment for sin, and its reasonableness, its righteousness, will be promptly recognized and quickly bear fruitage throughout the world in peace and order—righteousness. Thus we read, "When Thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness" (Isaiah xxvi, 9). The preaching of this reasonable, righteous judgment of the future surely bears much better fruitage than the preaching of the "dark ages," now fortunately disappearing—that the wage of a trifling sin might be either a century of roasting or an eternity of torment. The exaggeration of the error is so great that the human mind instinctively resists and rejects it.

The next query we shall answer is, Are God's ways unequal? And if not, why should he provide at the present time for the trial and testing of the Church under conditions so much more severe than those which shall prevail by and by, during the Millennium? Why must we battle against the Adversary and his minions as well as against our fallen flesh? Why must we contend with sinful oppositions in our neighborhoods and our homes? Why should not evil in every sense of the word be restrained for us as well

as for the world during the Millennium and our way be made smooth also?

The Scriptures answer that the Church class, which God is now selecting or electing from the world, is a very special class, for which he has very glorious designs of joint-heirship with the Redeemer in his kingly and priestly offices for the blessing of the world during the Millennium. The greatness of the dignity to which the faithful will be exalted makes it reasonable that the terms and conditions should be exceedingly difficult in this way. Hence we read that the gate is difficult and the way a narrow one, so that few may find it. These few are the "elect," whose character-superiority will be fully evidenced to God, to angels and to men to be such as fully justifies the Lord in granting to them the high reward promised. Were their honors no greater than those the world shall experience, how could God's ways be just and equal in granting them the heavenly nature and Divine glory, while awarding the world of mankind restitution blessing and a worldwide Eden home corresponding to what was lost by Adam and redeemed for the willing and obedient by the sacrifice of the man Christ Jesus?

Who Understands His Errors?

If now we have clearly before our minds that it is the Church class who are addressed in our text, let us examine the various steps it suggests. During the Millennium the errors and secret faults and presumptuous sins of the world will all be made manifest and all be openly rebuked and punished. But not so now. Those who are now called to be of the elect Church are expected to be so zealous for God, so desirous to know and to do his will, so opposed to sin, that they will voluntarily search for their own errors, their own secret faults, and strive against presumptuous sins.

When we remember that God, for Christ's sake, has forgiven the sins of the Church, the question may arise, What then are these faults or errors? If all of our sins are forgiven freely for Christ's sake, what sins then remain to be forgiven? The answer is that through faith in Christ's blood we were fully forgiven "the sins that are past, through the forbearance of God" (Romans iii, 25). We shall never more be held responsible for sins great or small which were ours before we came to the Lord and accepted his grace, his forgiveness, and became his followers through our consecration of our little all to him. What remains of sin with us is the imperfection of the flesh and its inherited weaknesses, and these blemishes may be with us to our dying day in considerable measure. It is against these that we must fight—fight the good fight and endure hardness as valiant soldiers of righteousness.

But some one may inquire, Is not the merit of Christ sufficient, not only for the sins that are past, but for all of our unwilling blemishes of the past and of the future? In other words, Does not our Lord's satisfaction of Justice include our imperfections present and future, which are the result of Adam's sin and our inheritance of the fallen condition, as well as atone for our sins of the past prior to our acceptance of the Divine mercy? We answer, Yes, this is quite true; nevertheless the Lord requires of us that, after coming into the family of God, we shall take note of our imperfections and apply to him for specific forgiveness of all transgressions. Doubtless this is intended to assist us in keeping humble—to assist us in keeping in remembrance "the horrible pit" of sin from which we were lifted by the gracious merit of the Redeemer by which we were justified. All of these experiences will doubtless be helpful to us by drawing us the more frequently to the "throne of grace," that we may obtain mercy, and find grace (merit) to help in time of need" (Hebrews iv, 16).

The Blood of Christ Cleanseth.

The expression, "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin," refers not merely to the sins that are past and the cleansing which was ours at the moment we first accepted the Lord's favor, but rather, especially, it refers to the cleansing which is continually necessary to the maintenance of our relationship with the Lord. The forgiveness, the cleansing, is freely, promptly given, but conditionally. It must be applied for. This is the Lord's method of instructing us in the way of righteousness and of assisting us to overcome the oppositions and temptations of the world and to become at heart "overcomers." He knows our weaknesses better than we do; and he wishes us to learn of them, not with a view to discouraging us, but that we may fight a good fight against them, conquer them and, in so doing, develop the characteristics which he approves and has promised to reward with joint-heirship with the Redeemer in his Kingdom.

Hence, instead of openly rebuking his people, the Lord leaves as ours the work of searching for secret faults and putting them away. In proportion as we love him, we will be desirous of doing those things which please him, thus living in his smile, under his ap-

proval. It is quite sufficient that the light of the Lord's countenance, his smile, should be withdrawn from those who do not walk the narrow way with zeal—who do not seek for their own faults and endeavor to correct them and to thus make character. As those now being called grow in love for the Lord, every hindrance to his favor will be quickly noted. It is this class that in our text is represented as seeking Divine assistance in the searching out of their secret faults.

Some of these faults may be known to ourselves and to the Lord, but unknown to fellowmen. The heart that is truly converted to the Lord and to harmony with all the principles of righteousness which he represents must more and more desire full perfection—full victory over the weaknesses of the flesh, and must strive for this condition. Other secret faults may be secret from us but well-known to the Lord and possibly quite plainly manifest to our brethren and neighbors. How earnestly all who are truly the Lord's people should seek to see themselves as others see them, and to correct those faults which hitherto have been secret to themselves.

Assuredly the Lord's assistance is necessary in this work; but, in praying to him, in the language of our text, we should remember that his method of answering our petitions is to show us the facts of our case, and then to encourage us by his promises to fight a good fight against the weaknesses thus brought to our attention. The Bible is the Lord's lamp. The Spirit of its wonderful teachings, like a two-edged sword, is sharp and penetrating. It can discern or discriminate between the very thoughts and intents of the heart which deceive so many into thinking a wrong course justifiable. The Christian who makes continual and good use of this "sword" will soon find that with its assistance he is able to analyze his own motives lying behind his words and his acts; and sometimes find himself secreting them, and sometimes masquerading them as graces and virtues.

The difficulty with the majority of Christian people seems to be that they have never undertaken a close scrutiny of the motives lying behind their words or their deeds—yes, the motive or intention lying hidden in their own minds. The reason for this laxity, the reason for their failure to follow up with the searchlight and to "bring every thought into captivity to the will of God in Christ" is that they have not yet attained to a sufficiency of love for righteousness and a sufficiency of a hatred for iniquity. The reason for this condition of things may be that they are "babes in Christ" who have in the past fed merely upon the milk of the Word and not upon the strong meat and are, therefore, weak in the faith and weak every way along the lines of Christian character development. What they need is more love for the Lord and a greater appreciation of his Word, which will lead to more earnest study of the same.

"The entrance of thy words giveth light" (Psalm cxix, 130). As the Word of the Lord dwells richly and abundantly, it educates us respecting God's will and its standards and, if we are obedient to his will and his gracious purposes, we will endure his tests and ultimately stand approved as our Lord's joint-heirs in his Kingdom.

Keep From Presumptuous Sins.

One of the great character tests imposed upon the Church is *humility*. It is not sufficient that we love right and hate wrong and search for even our secret faults. Even after attaining perfection we might be presumptuous and, if so, be unfit for the proposed exaltation. Satan, when a holy angel called Lucifer, the Morning Star, was perfect; but the *sin of presumption* crept into his heart and blighted everything. So Satan strove to tempt our Lord, who was perfect, to commit a presumptuous sin, through which he would have made shipwreck of his career. He wished him to presume upon God's goodness and abundant care, not by starting a rival empire, as Satan himself had attempted to do, but to presume, nevertheless, upon Divine goodness to the extent of jeopardizing his life by leaping from the pinnacle of the Temple and trusting that God would suspend the laws of nature and work a miracle for his protection, when no such miracle was necessary, because no such hazard had been demanded.

Applying this matter of presumptuous sin to the Church of our day; we find some who appear to be the Lord's people presuming upon his goodness and mercy and love by jumping from financial and other pinnacles and trusting for miraculous protection from disaster. This, to our understanding, is presumptuous sin. Sometimes we see presumptuous conduct amongst elders and others in the Body of Christ, much after the manner of Moses' transgression, when presumptuously he smote the rock, while God had merely bidden him to speak to the rock. For pastors and elders of the Church to assume and to exercise an unscriptural lordship over the Church would appear to us to be a presumptuous sin—a presuming to take place and authority not bestowed by the Lord. On the contrary, sometimes a congregation of the Lord's people may be presumptuous in neglecting the Scriptural direction to take heed to those who have the rule over them and watch for their souls, as those who must give an account. In how many ways might we be presumptuous and ignore the Lord, his supervision over the Church, and his message to us in his Word!

Our text declares, "Then shall I be innocent of the great transgression"—innocent of anything which would prove me unworthy of eternal life and worthy of everlasting death—"the Second Death."

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO.—

An Ordinance Directing the Issue of General Street Improvement Bonds of the City of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, to the Amount of \$15,000, and Providing for the Payment Thereof.

The Common Council of the city of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That the general street improvement bonds of the city of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, to the amount of \$15,000 duly authorized by Section 925-133 of the Wisconsin Statutes shall be issued in denominations of \$1,000 each except the last three bonds of this series which shall be each for \$2,000, all under date of January 1, 1910, and the interest at the rate of 4½ per cent per annum shall be evidenced by semi-annual interest coupons of \$22.50 on all \$1,000 bonds and \$45.00 on all \$2,000 bonds each payable on the first day of July, and the first day of January of each year. Both principal and interest of the said bonds shall be made payable at the office of the city treasurer in the city of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, and at the option of the holder in exchange on Milwaukee, Chicago or New York.

Section 2. The said bonds and interest coupons shall be substantially of the following form subject to the necessary variations as to numbers, maturities, etc.

STATE OF WISCONSIN.

County of Wood.

No. 1. \$1,000.
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS.
General Street Improvement Bond.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That the city of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, is justly indebted and for value received hereby promises to pay to the bearer on the first day of January, 1920, the principal sum of \$1,000 with interest thereon at the rate of four and one-half per cent per annum, payable semi-annually on the first days of July and January as evidenced by and on the presentation and surrender of the annexed interest coupons as they severally become due. Both principal and interest hereof are payable at the office of the City Treasurer in the city of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, and at the option of the holder in exchange on Milwaukee, Chicago or New York.

This bond is one of a series of twelve bonds of the same date and amounting in the aggregate to \$15,000 issued for the purpose of improving the streets of the said city of Grand Rapids.

It is hereby recited and certified that the issue hereof is duly authorized by Section 925-133 of the Wisconsin Statutes and by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Common Council elect at a regular meeting after due publication of the proposed ordinance authorizing the same in the official paper of said city; that legal provision has been made for the levy and collection of an annual tax sufficient to meet the payment of the interest and principal hereof as the same becomes due; that all acts, conditions and things required or proper to be done precedent to or in the issuance of this bond have been legally had, done and performed, and that the amount of this bond together with all the other indebtedness of said city of Grand Rapids does not exceed any statutory, constitutional, or other legal limitation thereon. For the payment of principal and interest hereof the full faith, credit and resources of the said city are hereby irrevocably pledged.

In witness whereof the said city of Grand Rapids has caused this bond to be signed by its Mayor and Clerk under its Corporate seal and the interest coupons hereto attached to be signed with the lithograph signature of said clerk as of the date of the first day of January, 1910.

Mayor.

Clerk.

COUPON NO. ONE.

No. 1. \$22.50

On July 1, 1910, the city of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, will pay to the bearer at the office of the city treasurer of said city and at the option of the holder in exchange on Milwaukee, Chicago or New York the sum of \$22.50 for interest on this general street improvement bond, dated January 1, 1910, and numbered.

Clerk.

Bond No. 1 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1920.

Bond No. 2 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1921.

Bond No. 3 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1922.

Bond No. 4 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1923.

Bond No. 5 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1924.

Bond No. 6 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1925.

Bond No. 7 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1926.

CALUMET Baking Powder

Received
Highest Award
World's Pure Food Exposition
Chicago, November, 1907
What does this mean?

It means that Calumet has set a new Standard in Baking Powder—the standard of the World.

Because this award was given to Calumet after thorough tests and experiments, over all other baking powders.

It means that Calumet is the best baking powder in every particular in the world.

And this means that Calumet produces the best, most delicious, lightest, and purest baking of all baking powders.

Doesn't that mean everything to you?

Bond No. 8 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1927.

Bond No. 9 for \$1,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1928.

Bond No. 10 for \$2,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1929.

Bond No. 11 for \$2,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1929.

Bond No. 12 for \$2,000 shall be payable on January 1, 1929.

Section 3. There is hereby authorized and directed to be levied on all the taxable property of the said city of Grand Rapids for the year of 1909 and each and every year thereafter while said bonds or any portion thereof are outstanding and unpaid a sufficient annual tax to provide for and meet the payment of the interest and principal of the said bonds as and when the same become due and payable and it is hereby made the duty of the proper officers each year to make the levy and collection of the said taxes sufficient in amount for such purposes and to apply the said taxes to the payment of the interest and principal of the said bonds in the manner authorized.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and publication.

Mayor.

NOTICE is hereby given that the above and foregoing proposed ordinance will be acted upon by the Common Council of the City of Grand Rapids at the next regular meeting to be held on the 7th day of December, 1909.

By order of Council:

C. E. Boles,
City Clerk.

Montana. In his letter he says that on his arrival, and for some time after the boys called him the Pilgrim. He reports his health good and that he is working hard, but that he likes the country. He says that they sell fruit there by the pound. Money is called byshillings, two bits for a quarter, and that they call a deliveryman a "Skinner" and peculiar expressions of that nature that are different from what they are in Wisconsin. He says that he enjoys himself fishing, hunting etc., but that he often thinks of Grand Rapids and aches to get into a printing office where he could feed press, etc. He says that life out there is of the frontier kind, a good deal of fighting and killing and holdups, and things of that nature are common. He wishes to be remembered to his friends in Grand Rapids.

DEER SEASON OPENS NOV. 11

Hunters Can Only Kill One Deer This Year by Law

The season for hunting deer will open on Thursday, the 11th inst., and will remain open until the last day of the month, giving hunters twenty days in which to kill one deer, the limit having been cut last winter by the state legislature to that number.

Residents may have venison of their own lawful killing in their possession after the season closes for consumption by themselves and their families but they must notify the game warden or one of his deputies on or before the last day of the hunting season of their intention to have such venison in their possession.

The sale of venison in any manner whatever is prohibited.

Deer or parts of deer must be shipped during the open season for killing deer. Formerly the law permitted three days after the season closed.

It is unlawful to hunt deer with dogs, or at night time, or to kill a deer in water or on the ice of any stream, lake or pond, or by means of any pit, pit-fall, trap or snare. It is unlawful to use salt as a means to entice deer thereto.

When hunters are sure that they understand the law thoroughly they should also be equally sure that they know when to shoot and what to shoot at, as well as the danger of carelessly handling firearms. Never point a gun at a human being under any condition whether it is loaded or not, and do not shoot a moving object until you know what the object is. If these rules are observed there will be no accidents during the approaching deer season.

ALLEN TO FACE GRAND JURY

Mineral Point Bank Wrecker Taken to La Crosse.

MADISON, Wis., Nov. 5.—Philip Allen, Jr., through whose defalcations the First National bank of Mineral Point was wrecked, was taken to La Crosse today by a deputy United States marshal.

It is rumored here he has been summoned to appear before the grand jury and testify regarding his alleged transactions which resulted in wrecking of the bank, it is believed here that possibly other officials of the bank will be indicted before the grand jury completes its sittings.

New Furs and Old Furs Repaired.

M. Nigbor, the furrier, who has a store on Second Street, opposite the First National Bank, is now ready to sell you your winter furs or make any repairs on your present garments if they need any. Please call.

BARTLETT PROBES HOLDUP

Secretary of Bankers' Association at Green Bay Believes That Bandit Changed his Clothes.

GREEN BAY, Wis., Nov. 4.—Geo. D. Bartlett of Milwaukee secretary of the Wisconsin Bankers' association, is here, investigating the hold-up of the Farmer's Exchange bank Wednesday noon, when a lone robber at the point of a revolver obtained \$2,000 from Teller Arthur H. Duchateau, Jr., and escaped.

The robber was seen to enter an unoccupied building. It is believed the robber changed clothing, and, taking a roundabout way back to the vicinity of the bank, mixed in the crowd in pursuit.

The Farmer's Exchange bank is capitalized at \$30,000. Its officers are: President, Andrew Reis, vice-presidents, Henry Osterloh and Fred A. Rahr; cashier, Arthur Cannard; teller, Arthur Duchateau, Jr.

DEATH AT DIXON HOTEL

Charles C. Sostheim, representative of the Richardson Boynton Co of Chicago, died Friday night in his room at the Dixon Hotel. He had been in the city since Tuesday, in company with his son, Will Sostheim, and on Wednesday he was taken suddenly ill in one of the clothing stores on the East side of the river. A physician was called and everything possible was done for him but after an illness of three days his death occurred, brights disease being pronounced the cause. The body was taken Saturday noon to the Sostheim home in Chicago, where the burial services took place.

LETTER FROM CECIL SMITH

S. A. Rintelman received a letter this week from Cecil Smith who was formerly employed in the Reporter Printing Office, and is now working in a store and postoffice at Armstead,