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Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman, D. D.
Secretary Presbyterian Evangelistic Committee



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Unspoken Faith

BY BREWER MATTOCKS

One asked a sage why he in public spoke
So rarely of his faith in God. He said:
"I have no faith the public will receive,
Nor in my faith will it with me believe.

"I have scant faith myself in my belief,
Nor full believe where I do have most faith.
You cannot understand me? Then, forsooth,
Think you the public can get at my truth?

A wise philosopher's great piety
Let him but seldom speak of faith in God.
When, for his unbelief, his tongue was slit,
And he left starving in a noisome pit.

"Two weeks he languished, when there came by chance—
By chance they came not—some barbarians who
With milk and wine revived him. Then asked why,
Astonished at the brightness of his eye.

"And his great courage, that he had not died?
"What did sustain you in this desert pit?"
He touched his lips. Then with a meaning nod
While looking upward, wrote "My faith in God!"
St. Paul, Minn.

Times of Religious Awakening

THEY ARE NEAR AT HAND

SIDE by side in our great country there is to-day as never before, a development of good and evil. Sin has always been in the land, and the sons of God have always sought its overthrow, but never has the conflict been more earnest. The Spirit of God is now moving upon individuals and communities with daily and definite results. The people of God, and the ministers who lead them, are full of new purpose and enthusiasm for the salvation of souls, for the regeneration of the dead and the recovery of the lost. Reports from churches, colleges, schools and homes indicate a new and encouraging religious condition. At the same time there is an amount of temptation to materialism which has never been equalled. The desire for money and the effort to attain wealth, the struggle for things rather than thoughts, is fierce and widespread. And the things which are sought have a subtle and almost irresistible charm. They appeal to all the senses in a seductive and fascinating way. They enter into realms which have hitherto been closed to them, and so the materialism of the day allies itself with much that is beautiful, beneficent and desirable, ensnaring men and women before they realize that they have yielded to a tempter.

Every young man is now met upon the threshold of his career, with the question, Shall I be a son of God and live a life that honors Him and blesses my fellow men: or shall I serve self and seek riches, honors and the material rather than the spiritual? There are persons who try to avoid a decision, but they are not successful. God and mammon are on opposite sides, selfishness and goodwill to men cannot harmonize; there is an irreconcilable conflict between good and evil, and no neutral or impartial position can be held in the sphere of morals or of religion. It is as true to-day as it was in the time of Christ, that he who is not for Him is against Him, and though society

lines, church membership, and religious lives are not so outwardly marked and easily discerned as they sometimes have been, yet careful observation and acquaintance reveal the different aims and character of those who are serving God with pure and sincere hearts, and of those who love pleasure more than God, and sell better than the fellowmen whom their Heavenly Father has given them to serve and love as brethren.

The churches are endeavoring to meet the new demands made upon them, not by sensational and extraordinary methods, so much as by a deeper consecration and more thorough use of the regular means of grace. The Evangelistic Committee of the Presbyterian Church has organized its work with great care, and placed it under the supervision of the Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman, D. D., the late pastor of the Fourth Church in this city. Mr. William R. Moody is responding to the many calls for help in Christian evangelism to the best of his ability, but the harvest seems to be too great for the reapers.

Not every preacher is fitted to do the work of an evangelist, and many who are competent cannot be spared from their own parishes for general or union undertakings. Five hundred first class, trained and sanctified men could be employed this winter, not in "getting up revivals," but in following the leading of the Holy Spirit in places where He has begun to revive Christians to their duty and to awaken sinners to repentance. We hear of such instances as these: A young man goes home from college to spend Sunday. He finds an interest in religion at his home, and before he returns he has decided to become a disciple of Christ. His roommate during his absence has been led to make a profession of faith in Jesus by the reading of the Bible and the direct teaching of the Holy Spirit. They parted indifferent to religion, and met after a few days to kneel together and thank God for redeeming grace. A pastor spoke to a prominent business man, asking his attendance upon a special Sabbath service. This was so unusual that the man was inclined to be offended, but yet he went to the service. His attention was arrested by the word preached, and he has entered the kingdom of God. A Christian who had never spoken to his neighbors in church upon religious matters was surprised to find that they were all expecting him to do so, ready to respond and eager to be led to Christ, and beginning with one, he did not rest until seventeen had been added to the church.

A city pastor received more than seventy young men and women into the fellowship of the church within the past month, as the result of recent prayer and Bible meetings with his young people's societies. A minister went to call upon a sick friend at a hotel, and though he had known him for years as entirely indifferent to religious truth, before the interview was ended, the sick man was asking for guidance to Christ, and the minister was kneeling by his bedside in earnest and prevailing prayer. Cases like these could be multiplied, and names and dates given to show that the Spirit of God is near and striving with the souls of men, and that Christians are awake to their opportunity and ready to embrace it.

It needs no prophet's eye to see the other side of the picture, the rush of worldliness; the tremendous sweep of physical and æsthetic pleasure which has not a thought of God or of religion in connection with it; the vast demoralization of society by luxury, extravagance and fashion; the progress of crime and sin as it invades fam-

the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Alliance:

Whereas, The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, has now for two years conducted general evangelistic work under the direction of a committee, and

Whereas, The last General Synod of the Reformed Church in America has appointed a committee for a similar purpose, and Whereas, The general conditions on this continent favor a widespread evangelistic effort,

Therefore, Resolved, 1. That the Western or American Section of the Alliance, rejoicing in the evangelistic work already accomplished cordially commends to the General Judicatories of all our churches, the appointment of evangelistic committees, with power to cooperate each with the other in evangelistic effort, in the hope that under the divine blessing there may be a revival of religion covering the entire continent.

Resolved, 2. That we commend to all pastors, sessions and consistories of the churches in this Alliance, immediate organized effort for the salvation of souls, and earnest and united prayer to the throne of grace for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the evangelistic work of all Christian churches throughout the world.

Resolved, 3. That the preceding resolutions be made public by the secretary, and so far as feasible, communicated directly to the pastors, sessions and consistories.

The other subject considered by the Alliance, Sabbath-school and Young People's Work, was taken up on Tuesday morning, Oct. 28, and a popular meeting in its interest was held at Witherspoon Hall, on Tuesday evening. The presiding officer was the Rev. J. V. Stephens, D.D., of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. An admirable address of welcome was made by the Rev. James A. Worden, superintendent of Sabbath-school Work of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. The other speakers and their topics were as follows: The Alliance and Cooperation, the Rev. J. C. Scouller, D. D., of the United Presbyterian Church; Cooperation in Sabbath-school Work, the Rev. A. L. Phillips, D. D., secretary of Sabbath-school Work for the Presbyterian Church South; Cooperation in Work for Young People, and especially for Young Men, the Rev. Rufus W. Miller, D. D., Sabbath-school secretary of the German Reformed Church; Soul Winning in the Sabbath-school, the Rev. D. J. Burrell, D. D., of the Reformed Dutch Church, New York. The meeting was inspiring and successful.

The Alliance at its morning session adopted the following resolutions connected with Sabbath-school work:

Resolved, 1. That this section of the Alliance is profoundly moved by the evangelistic movement now in progress, and are deeply impressed with the truth that the supreme object of Sabbath-school work is the salvation of all our scholars, and affectionately urge all the officers and teachers under the direction of their pastors and sessions and consistories, to adopt such methods as by the blessing of the Holy Spirit will lead every unsaved scholar to accept and confess the Lord Jesus Christ.

Resolved, 2. That the Committee on Sabbath-school and Young People's societies, with the officers of the Section added, be instructed to select a course of Bible Lessons for advanced classes in the Sabbath-schools of the churches of this Section of the Alliance, and submit such course to the next meeting of the Western Section for consideration.

The second of these resolutions, it is to be emphasized, is not to be understood as indicating that any of the Presbyterian or Reformed churches are in any particular in opposition to the International series of Sabbath-school Lessons. The International Committee has no course of Bible Lessons for advanced classes in the Sabbath-schools. Such being the case, the Alliance felt that it was highly desirable that provision for such a course should be made. The committee appointed by the Alliance, has already had its first meeting, and has appointed a subcommittee of which the Rev. James A. Worden, D. D., is chairman, to prepare this advanced course of Bible lessons. The sympathy, cooperation and prayers of God's people are asked upon this movement which properly conducted can result only in great good. They are also asked for the Evangelistic movement, for which there is pressing and widespread need. Two thirds of the men in the United States are not in any Christian church, Protestant or Roman Catholic, not to speak of the unsaved among women and children.

Philadelphia.

Three Years in Porto Rico

BY THE REV. CHARLES L. THOMPSON, D. D.

There is no better illustration of quick harvest than will be afforded by a glimpse at our work in the beautiful island.

Three years ago last June, Dr. M. E. Caldwell, went to Mayaguez, on the western coast. The following November, Dr. J. Milton Greene went to San Juan. Two years ago last spring, the Rev. Judson L. Underwood went to Aguadilla on the western coast. We began holding services in poor rented quarters among a people to whom we were wholly unknown, and with little equipment other than devoted missionaries able to speak to the people in their own tongue. As time went on new places called for Gospel messengers. Additional missionaries were sent and schools were opened. We built on no other man's foundation, according to the agreement between denominations confining ourselves to places where no other evangelical work was being done—San Juan, the capital, by common consent excepted.

The situation now is as follows. We have at Santurce, a residential section of the capital, a church building that cost \$8,000, an organized church with a growing membership, and a large Sunday-school. In old San Juan we have two services on Sunday, one in English and one in Spanish, and a Sunday-school in a central location. The Rev. Robert McLean, recently of Portland, Ore., is the head of this double work with two assistants reaching into neighboring towns. There is also a mission day school with two teachers. It was early discovered that a medical mission was of utmost importance. Two years ago Dr. Grace Atkins, of New York, an experienced physician, opened a dispensary. There was such appalling need and such instant response, that funds were sought for a hospital. The money has been raised, the building is about to be erected, and another physician, Dr. Jane Harris, has gone to the help of Dr. Atkins, whose time and strength had from the first been taxed beyond limit. Thus in the capital the work is already strong addressed to the bodies, minds, and souls of the people.

At Mayaguez, Dr. Caldwell, the only American minister of any denomination in a city of 20,000, has an organized and growing church, has recently raised money for a church building, which will cost \$10,000, and has two preaching stations in the city and two Sabbath-

schools, the Rev. J. W. Jarvis, being his assistant. There are two mission schools, one of them of higher grade, with four competent and devoted teachers.

At Aguadilla, a city of 8,000 people, the Rev. Judson L. Underwood, who began his work less than three years ago has just dedicated a beautiful building costing \$8,000, has received 200 members on confession after rigid examination, and has begun and maintained Gospel work in a half dozen outlying stations. Two native helpers have been raised up in that church, one a student for the ministry, and already preaching to his own people, and the other a Bible reader, who carries the message of salvation from house to house. The services in the church are usually crowded, hundreds attending the mid-week prayer service. There is here also a flourishing mission school.

On the northwest coast of the island, we have two stations, Isabella and Quebradillas, where the Rev. Jas. M. McAllister finds large and growing interest.

Ten miles below Mayaguez is San German, a beautiful town of 5,000 people, whither the Rev. J. Greer Woods went a year and a half ago, and where he finds attentive and inquiring audiences. He also preaches at two neighboring towns. We have now ten missionaries and helpers in the newly organized Presbytery of Porto Rico, seventeen stations with three organized churches and others ready for organization. We have four mission schools with nine earnest teachers, who are missionaries as well as teachers. We have a hospital with two physicians who are physicians for souls as well as bodies. We have access to the people everywhere, and a quick and grateful response. The harvest is white.

We need at once two men like unto those now on the field, capable and consecrated, for four towns, already entered by our missionaries. Who will respond to take a hand in work than which none is more interesting, fruitful and strategic. New York.

Dr. Chapman Released

DEEP REGRET EXPRESSED BY THE PRESBYTERY IN DISSOLVING THE RELATION

At a special meeting last week the Presbytery of New York dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman, D. D., and the Fourth Church of this city, and the Rev. T. S. McWilliams, D. D., and the American Church in Montreal. Dr. Chapman resigns to give all of his time to the Presbyterian Evangelistic Committee, and Dr. McWilliams to accept a call to the Calvary Church, of Cleveland.

In behalf of the Evangelistic Committee, Dr. Howard Duffield asked that Dr. Chapman be released from his pastoral duties to accept the urgent call from the entire denomination that he take up the wider work. After four members of the Fourth Church, representing the official boards and the congregation had been heard, the request was granted, and the following resolution, prepared by a special committee—Rev. Drs. C. A. Stoddard and Howard Duffield—was unanimously adopted:

The Presbytery of New York expresses its appreciation of the spirit of self sacrifice and devotion to the larger interests of Christ's Kingdom, shown by the Fourth Church of New York, in relinquishing their pastor to the service of the Evangelistic Committee of the Presbyterian Church. The work which Dr. Chapman has done during his brief pastorate has been so important to the life and prosperity of the Church, his relation to the membership has been so intimate, and his success as preacher and pastor has been so great that the assent of his people to his removal to another, and a different