



TO POISON THE SOUL

So Satan Hopes By Poisoning a Man's Physical Blood.

AUTHOR OF 'ERUPTIVE DISEASE'

Rev. Dr. Talmage Says No Man is Satisfied With His Life, No Matter What its Success, Because of its Mistakes and Blunders.

Washington, July 17.—Rev. Dr. Talmage this morning preached from the text: Job ii. 4, "All that a man hath will be given for his life." He said: "That is untrue. The Lord did not say it, but Satan said it to the Lord when the evil one wanted Job still more afflicted. The record is, 'So went Satan forth and smote Job with sores.' And Satan has been the author of all eruptive diseases since then, and he hopes by poisoning the blood to poison the soul. But the result of the diabolical experiment which left Job victor proved the falsity of the 'Satanic remark.' But Satan's falsehood was built on a truth. Life is very precious, and if we would not give up all there are many things we would surrender rather than surrender it. We see how precious life is from the fact that we do everything to prolong it. Hence all sanitary regulations, all study of hygiene, all fear of drafts, all water-proofs, all doctors, all medicines, all struggle in crisis or accident. No wonder he was vindicated. Life is indeed very precious. Yes, there are those who deem life so precious they would like to repeat it. They would like to go back from 70 to 60, from 60 to 50, from 50 to 40, from 40 to 30, and from 30 to 20. I propose for a very practical and useful purpose, as will appear before I get through, to discuss the question we have asked of others and others have again and again asked of us. Would you like to live your life over again?"

Why, just look at the temptation we have all passed through and just look at the multitudes who have gone completely under! Just call over the roll of your school-mates and college mates, the clerks who were with you in the same store or bank of the operatives in the same factory with just a good prospect as you, who come to complete mishap. Some man that told you that he was going to be a millionaire, and own the fastest trotters on the turnpike, and retire by the time he was 35 years of age, you do not hear from him for many years and know nothing about him until some day he comes into your store and asks for 5 cents to get a mug of beer. You, the good mother of a household, and all your children rising up to call you blessed, can remember when you were quite jealous of the belle of the village, who was so transcendently fair and popular. But while you have these two honorable and queenly names of wife and mother she becomes a poor wail of the street and went into the blackness of darkness forever. Live life over again? Why, if many of those who are respectable were permitted to experiment, the next journey would be demotion. You get through as Job says, by the skin of your teeth. Next time you might not get through at all. You are now, let us say, 20 years or ten years or one year off from celestial conjunction. Now, suppose you went back in your yearly life 30 years or 40 years or 50 years, what a awful postponement of the time of reunion!

But hear ye, ye, while I tell you how you may practically live your life over again and be a better for it. You may put into the remaining years of your life all you have learned of wisdom in your past life. You may make the coming ten years worth the preceding 40 or 50 years. When a man says he would like to live his life over again because he would do so much better and yet goes right on living as he has always lived, do you not see he stultifies himself? He proves that if he could go back he would do almost the same as he has done. Besides that we have all these years been learning how to be useful, and in the next decade we ought to accomplish more for God and the church and the world than in any previous four decades. The best way to atone for past indolence or past transgression is by future assiduity. Yet we often find Christian men who were not converted until they 40 or 50, as old age comes on, saying, "Well my work is about done and it is time for me to rest." They gave 40 years of their life to Satan and the world, a little fragment of their life to God, and now they want rest. Weather that belongs to comedy or tragedy I say not. The man who gave one-half of his existence to the world and of the remaining two quarters one to Christian work and the other to rest would not, I suppose, get a very brilliant reception in heaven. If there are any dried

leaves in heaven, they would be appropriate for his garden, or if there is any thorn with a hook in its prickle, it would be appropriate for his coronation, or any thorn with a hook in its prickle, it would be appropriate for his coronation. My brother, you give nine-tenths of your life to sin a day, and then get converted and then rest a while in sanctified laziness, and then go up to get your heavenly reward, and I warrant it will not take the cashier of the royal banking house a great while to count out to you all your dues. He will look at you and say, 'You will have it in bits of large denomination or small. I would like to put one sentence of sermon in italics and have it underscored and three exclamation points at the end of the sentence, and that sentence is this: As we cannot live our lives over again, the next we can come to atone for the past is by redoubled holiness and industry in the future. My hearers, the mistakes of youth can never be corrected. Time gone is gone forever. An opportunity passed the thousandth part of a second has by one leap reached the other side of a great eternity. In the autumn when the birds migrate you look up and see the sky black with wings and the flocks stretching out into many leagues of air, and so to say all of us are seeing two large wings of the fall year. Do not say, 'I will be here now and make it up at the end.' Young men and boys, you must make it up. My observation is that those who in youth sowed wild oats to the end of their short life sowed wild oats, and that those who start sowing Genesee wheat always sow Genesee wheat. And when the reaping of the harvest is so different, there is grandfather now. He has lived to old age because his habits have been good. His eyesight for this world has got somewhat dim, but his eyesight for heaven is radiant. His hearing is not so acute as it once was, and he must bend clear over to hear what his little grandchild says when she asks what he has brought for her. But he easily catches the music raised from supernatural spheres. Men passing in the streets take off their hats in reverence and women say, 'What a good old man he is!' Seventy or 80 years all for God and for making this world happy. Splendid! Glorious! Magnificent!

Out yonder is a man very old at 40 years of age at a time when he ought to be buoyant as the morning. He got bad habits on him very early, and those habits have become worse. He is a man on fire, on fire with alcoholism, on fire with all evil habits, on fire with the world and the world out with him. Down falling deeper. His swollen hands in his threadbare pockets, and his eyes fixed on the ground he passes through the street, and the quick step of an innocent child or the strong step of a young man or the roll of a prosperous carriage maddens him, and he curses society and he curses God. Fallen sick, with no resources, he is carried to the almshouse. A loathsome spectacle, he lies all day long waiting for dissolution or in the night rises on his cot and fights apparitions of what he might have been and what he will be. He started life with as good a prospect as any man on the American continent and there he is a bled carcass, waiting for the shovels of public charity to put him five feet under. He has only reaped what he sowed. Harvest of wild oats! There is a way that seemeth right to a man, but the end thereof is death. The fact is that no intelligent and right feeling man is satisfied with his past life. However successful your life may have been, you are not satisfied with it. What is success? Ask that question of a hundred different men, and they will give a hundred different answers. One man will say, "Success is \$1,000,000." Another will say, "Success is worldwide publicity." Another will say, "Success is gaining that which you started for." But as it

(Continued on the Sixth Page.)

(From Toronto Globe.) THIS CERTIFICATE Brings Forth a Story. BOWMANVILLE, ONT. We, the undersigned, certify that the health of the Rev. R. A. Bilkey has for months been deteriorating, and that he is now suffering from severe nervous prostration, and urgently requires immediate and prolonged rest. J. W. McLaughlin, M.D., A. Beith, M.D., L. Holland Reid, M.R.C.S., etc. THIS INTERVIEW TELLS IT. A reporter called on the Rev. R. A. Bilkey, rector St. John's (Episcopal) Church, Bowmanville, Ontario, during a church function, and on congratulating him on the great change for the better in his appearance, the reverend gentleman said, "It is due entirely to Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills. "I suffered for over three years from extreme nervousness, weakness and prostration, and could not obtain relief. A few months ago it became only too apparent that extreme nervous prostration had set in, as I lost flesh and appetite rapidly. Three of our four medical men pronounced me in urgent need of immediate and prolonged rest in order to build up my nervous system, giving me a certificate to that effect. About this time, by pure accident, Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills were brought to my notice. I decided to try them, and on doing so a decided change for the better took place at once. I have since continued taking the pills, with continued and marked benefit and improvement. My appetite has returned. I am gaining in flesh steadily, and my general health is now good. Further, I am sure that these results are due to the action of Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills, and I have every confidence that they will do for others all that they have done for me." Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills are sold at 50c. per box, 3 boxes for \$1.25, at Druggists, or mailed on receipt of price by the Dr. Ward Co., 71 Victoria Street, Toronto. Book of information free.

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