THE CHURCHES AND TO-DAY'S SERVICES

Jehovah's Gracious Promises to Israel

Sermon by
REV. FLOYD W. TOMKINS.

Text: Hosea 14.

We have had an interesting series of studies from the Old Testament since we began with Elijah. What an experience the Jews had through these eventful years, and how sad the errors into which they fell! It is a page of warning, to modern nations, for if we fail to recognize and obey God, trouble must inevitably come.

Hosea was the last of the prophets or preachers to the Northern Kingdom, and his words, as we read them to-day, are full of pathos as he pictures the sins of the people, and then pleads with them to return to the God Who loves them in spite of their sins. This fourteenth and closing chapter of his prophecy is one of the most beautiful messages in the Old Testament.

We have here the expression of God's loving care. When we do wrong He cares—He cared so much that He sent His own Son to die that men might live eternally. He cares now when we sin, and He cares when we do right and His care is wonderful, because of His patience and His readiness to help. What could be more tender than His cry, "O Israel, return unto the Lord Thy God!" So He calls to-day to every wandering, doubting, sinning child, for He longs for the salvation of His people. Some one once said that if a single soul is eternally lost, God has failed as a divine creator and redeemer.

GOD DOES NOT FORCE MEN INTO GOODNESS

But be it remembered that we are created with free wills, and God cannot deny the power of His creation by forcing men into goodness. If any man is lost he has only himself to blame; he goes willingly, and with his eyes open to destruction, in spite of God's mercy and help and love. We have no right or reason in placing the burden of human misery and of eternal death upon God. We ourselves are responsible. When He pleads with us and promises us peace and life if we trust and obey Him, He is fully—more than fully—doing His part. Keble sings in one of his hymns of the "souls that will not be redeemed." Alas, that there are such! But God's promises stand, and they can be relied upon. He will save to the uttermost those who turn to Him.

"Take with you words." It is the expression of the heart through the lips that God calls for. We often hear the expression, "Actions speak louder than words," and in a sense it is true. Yet we have the power of speech alone of God's creatures; speech is divine, as the Third Commandment declares, and so we are bidden to use it aright; and when any man with his voice calls upon God he is heard. We are apt to forget the blessed power of speech when directed to our Father. Prayer is called for because its very expressions prove our reliance upon the Almighty.

WORDS NOT RIGHTLY TO BE DESPISED

And while there is doubtless much empty speaking which has no heart, even as there is much empty thinking which has no soul, and much empty acting which has no inspiration, nevertheless words are not rightly to be despised. "Speak to Him, thou, for He heareth," sings Tennyson, and he echoes the message of Hosea: "Take with you words." So did our Lord long to hear Peter say, "I love Thee," and He led him to say it three times. And St. Paul bids us confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus (Rom. x. 9), even as the Master said: "He that confesseth Me before men, him will I also confess before My Father." It helps us to give the sacrifice of our lips, even as it is acceptable to God. And here let me repeat what I have often urged, that if we find our prayers cold and our hearts empty, it will help us greatly to pray aloud in our morning and evening devotions.

Could any gracious promise be found so full of cheer and so rich in its suggestion as the words (verse 5): "I will be as the dew unto Israel; he shall grow as the lily and cast forth his roots as Lebanon"? Beauty and strength like the lily and the cedar of Lebanon—do we not long for such a blessing, and is not our whole economic life spent for the attainment of it? Beauty of face, beauty of character, beauty of deed—and the artist finds here his ideal of effort; the musician seeks thus to express the deepest emotion of the human soul; the athlete strives to bring the body to balanced perfection; the parent tries to make the child's character attractive.

JOY OF AWAKENING IN GOD'S LIKENESS

Strength of body, strength of will, strength of thought—and the rules of exercise, the discipline of the volition, the education of the intellect—all unite to bring the desired result. But only as God blesses can either beauty or strength come. Like the dew falling on the Palestine lily of the field and on the mountain slopes of Lebanon, so the Spirit of God quietly comes to those who will receive, and brings to perfection the poor, weak humanity. If only we will let that Spirit work upon us as He pleases, the joy will be ours of awakening after His likeness and being satisfied therewith.

"They shall dwell under His shadow." Palestine was hot and the shadow of trees and hills was sought at midday. "As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land" (Isiah 32, ii) God promised to be to His troubled and oppressed people. So Christ is the Rock of Ages to whom we cling and in the clefts of whose mercy we hide till the storm is past. What a promise of protecting care we have here! It is not a temporary shelter, but an abiding peace. The sea of life may roar, the tempest may rage, death may threaten, but the Lord's arms are open, and come what will, nothing can disturb the peace of those who trust in Him.

THE WAYS OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT

And then here is that great saying which alone can solve all human problems, make clear all human struggles and give assurance of the measure whereby we may judge human actions: "The ways of the Lord are right." He doeth all things well. His hand is upon the helm to guide; His power is carrying His purpose out; His love so infinite is preparing joys past understanding for the children who trust in Him. Where is right to be found save in the infinite God Who, being perfect, can make no mistakes? What measure of my actions can I find save in the life of Him who cried, "Follow Me," and Who shows me what is good? When moral philosophers and teachers of ethics come back to this basal fact of God's will as the only rule of right, then their teachings will have a meaning. When I ask, "What would God have me do?" in all my daily living, then I have a guidance which cannot fail. When I know that God's ways are right, then I can wait patiently and know that at last perfect peace will come.

O, God, I thank Thee for Thy precious promises, for they will never fail. Upon them I can rely even when all earthly things tremble and fall. Speak them to me as I struggle on, that I may be cheered and strengthened. When I am in doubt, bring them to my heart that I may have faith, and when life's journey is over, dear God, bring me to see how Thy love was ever calling and caring all through the years. Amen.

SERMONS IN PARAGRAPHS, LINES AND SENTENCES

Keeping oneself reasonably happy is a duty that ought not to be shirked. Science is telling us these days that to get out of the habit of enjoyment is to get depressed in vitality and vigor, to weaken in efficiency, and to grow old before one's time. There is nothing like laughter—not empty-headed laughter, but the intelligent, wholesome, kindly hearted kind—to keep people young and fresh and fit for business and the obligations of living. Of course this is a prescription not easy to live up to always, but there is no reasonable excuse for not trying to do it. Sometimes it is just about as easy to be happy as to be miserable if one makes up his mind to it, and there is no doubt at all as to which pays the best.—Onward.

The power of God's Holy Spirit means a hopeful ministry and a joyful, peaceful life. St. Paul knew what perplexities and problems were, and when he closed that letter to the Roman Church he wrote: "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, in the power of the Holy Spirit." We need a hopeful ministry, a joy-filled life, a peace which means poise, an abundant and abounding life which expresses the power of the indwelling Spirit of God.—John Timothy Stone.

There is only One who can save to the uttermost—for life and for eternity, for material welfare as for spiritual and intellectual liberation—and he is the Christ of God. When he is born in the heart of a man and makes it his Bethlehem, his abiding place, that man's life is a new life, with a new outlook upon the world and a new comprehension of the meaning, value and purpose of life.—Lutheran Church Work.

The Holy Ghost dwells in body and soul as in a temple. Evil spirits, indeed, have power to possess sinners, but His indwelling is far more perfect; for He is all-knowing and omnipresent. He is able to search into all our thoughts, and penetrate into every motive of the heart. Therefore, He pervades us (if it may be so said) as light pervades a building, or as a sweet perfume the folds of some honorable robe; so that, in Scripture language, we are said to be in Him, and He in us.—Newman.

Dangers are no more light, if they once seem light; and more dangers have deceived men than forced them; nay, it were better to meet some dangers half way, though they come nothing near, than to keep too long a watch upon their approaches; for if a man watch too long, it is odds that he will fall asleep.—Bacon.

What if the road is dark, the way unknown?
What though my faith be weak, by footsteps slow?
It will not help to linger here alone—
The path lies there before me, I must go!
—Caroline H. Burgess.

We must pray, and we must struggle, for a short memory in evil; for the power, not to forgive only, as men too often count forgiveness, but to forget also; the power to sponge well every night the heart's tablets, that they may preserve no mark of bad impression until the morrow.—Dr. Vaughan.

The man who is the reluctant witness is often the man whose testimony carries the most weight. If it evidently cost you a struggle to speak of your religious convictions every word will be heard with respect.—G. W. Pepper.

He is Thy best servant, who looks not so much to hear that from Thee which himself willeth, as rather to will that which from Thee he heareth.—St. Augustine.

Nothing draws down upon us the wrath and curse of God so much as the malicious pleasure with which we magnify the faults of our brethren.—Massillon.

His word seeks everywhere souls that they may receive it; and everywhere the unconquerable hardness of preoccupied hearts shut the door to it.—Savonarola.

We treat God with irreverence by banishing Him from our thoughts, not by referring to His will on slight occasions.—Ruskin.

GRENFELL WORK GOES ON

Famous Labrador Medical Mission Continues to Help Bodies, Minds and Souls of Natives.

Friends of Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell, of Labrador fame, are anxiously scanning the newspapers for reports of his trip to England and France taken in the month of December, of which they have as yet learned nothing. Letters from Dr. Charles S. Curtis, in charge of the St. Anthony Hospital, just received, tell of dog sleds already in use in making the sick rounds in case of long distance. A Canadian nurse, also one from St. Luke's Hospital, New York, and one from the Massachusetts Women's Hospital, Roxbury, are doing double duty in the near-by work, training native maids in hospital first-aid and holding evening schools, with constant calls outside the hospital. The superintendent of the home, containing children to the number of thirty-five, also holds evening classes, and her assistant, a trained nurse, treats their disorders, which are many this winter. Many of the Labrador men have acquired their schooling since Dr. Grenfell went to the settlement, in evening classes, which are a constant feature. Dr. John Grieve, of Battle Harbor, who travels north on the Labrador coast to the Moravian settlement, visits by dog team along the irregular line of 1,000 miles, and is able only to get back in the spring. They receive but one mail during the winter, and are able to send one, both by dog team.

MISSION BOARDS WILL AID LAYMEN'S MOVEMENT

Plans Laid for Series of Important Conventions Throughout South.

CONVENTION DATES ANNOUNCED

Distinguished Speakers Have Place on Program in Richmond on February 13-16—All Denominations Expect to Co-Operate in Work.

The mission boards of the churches in the Southern States are making special plans for active co-operation in the national missionary campaign, fourteen of the conventions of which are to be held in southern cities. Some of the missionary agencies regard the campaign as so important that they are throwing almost the entire strength of their organizations into it.

The total of registered delegates to the first twenty-two conventions of the campaign, held in the North between October 12 and December 12, was 34,325 men, each of whom paid his registration fee as a delegate.

The schedule of the conventions in the South is as follows:

New Orleans, La., January 23-26.
Jackson, Miss., January 26-28, 30.
Birmingham, Ala., January 30, February 2.
Atlanta, Ga., February 2-4, 6.
Columbia, S. C., February 6-9.
Greensboro, N. C., February 9-11, 13.
Richmond, February 13-16.
Lexington, Ky., February 20-23.
Nashville, Tenn., February 23-25, 27.
Memphis, Tenn., February 27, March 1.
Little Rock, Ark., March 1-5, 7.
Oklahoma, Okla., March 5-8.
Fort Worth, Texas, March 8-10, 12.
Houston, Texas, March 12-15.

METHODISTS TO TAKE EXTENSIVE PART

The Methodist Church, South, will probably have two representatives at each convention city. One will be a board secretary and the other a missionary. The conference missionary will be called on to co-operate with the representatives of the board in working up the interest of the convention. In most of the convention cities a meeting of the conference board of missions is being called and this will bring together the missionary leadership of the whole conference for the convention. An effort will be made to get Methodist laymen to register as delegates within the entire area covered by each convention, but the emphasis is being put upon the district, seeking to engage the co-operation of the presiding elder and the whole machinery of his district in delivering a large delegation in the convention area.

When the local Methodist leadership has hold of the situation and is planning for good denominational work, the mission board and the denominational Laymen's Missionary Movement will get in touch with their organizations for the purpose of co-operating.

BAPTISTS TO HAVE MAN IN EACH CONVENTION CITY

The mission boards of the Southern Baptist Convention are planning to have a man in each convention city before and during the convention. Rev. C. D. Graves, of Nashville, Tenn., and C. J. Thompson, of Raleigh, N. C., will have principal charge of the work of securing the attendance of Southern Baptists as delegates, and in getting the special denominational claims of the mission boards of the Southern Baptist Convention before their delegates. Rev. J. T. Henderson, of Chattanooga, general secretary of the Southern Baptist Laymen's Movement, will give considerable time to the conventions, and a number of foreign missionaries are to assist. J. F. Love, corresponding secretary of the foreign mission board of the Southern Baptist Convention, will attend several of the conventions.

The Southern Presbyterians are planning for thorough and effective co-operation. At least one of the secretaries of the foreign mission committee will attend each of the conventions and in addition there will be at each convention one or more foreign missionaries. Measures are being devised for securing as large a representation as possible from Southern Presbyterian churches in the territory of each convention. Rev. Egbert W. Smith, D. D., executive secretary of the Southern Presbyterian foreign mission committee, says "past experience has shown the very great value of the conventions in deepening and widening missionary interest."

EPISCOPALIANS ANNOUNCE CONVENTION PLANS

Owing to special conditions prevailing in the South, the plans of the board of missions of the Episcopal Church in connection with the conventions in Southern cities, will vary from those followed in other parts of the country. The provincial secretary, Rev. R. W. Patton, has developed and applied the methods advocated by the Laymen's Missionary Movement in such a striking way during the last four years, that the Episcopal Church now has in the South a group of bishops, clergymen and laymen who are especially qualified to help Episcopal congregations to get the best results from the conventions.

Mr. Patton will act as the representative of the board upon the convention team in most of the Southern cities, calling to his aid men like Bishop Nelson, of Atlanta; Bishop Bratton, of Mississippi; Bishop Guerry, of South Carolina; Bishop Cheshire, of North Carolina; the Rev. Dr. Milton, and the Rev. W. E. Cox, of Wilmington, the Rev. Louis G. Wood, of Charleston; the Rev. K. G. Finlay, of Columbia, S. C., and others. It is expected that the Southern diocese will receive from the conventions of 1916 an even greater stimulus toward adequate missionary endeavor than was the case in 1910.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST PLAN TO PARTICIPATE

The Disciples of Christ are planning to participate in the conventions in the Southern States in the area where that communion has churches. The fact that the resources of this communion are largely engaged in their own "Men and Millions" movement campaign makes it difficult for the communion's home and foreign boards to participate in the way they would like. Nearly all of these secretaries and missionaries are engaged in their own campaign, which is at its height. More than $3,000,000 of the goal of $6,000,000 has been subscribed, and other ideals of the campaign, such as 1,000 new workers for the home and foreign field within five years, and the "every member canvass" in each church, are being pushed. Both the home and foreign missionary societies of the communion, however, will do the best they can, and expect to have men present in the leading centers. By correspondence and what visitation can be managed, the communion is endeavoring to line up the churches and bring to them the interest and blessing of participation in the campaign.

Speaks to Laymen

REV. RICHARD WILKINSON, D. D.
Dr. Wilkinson will speak this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the Grace Street Baptist Church on behalf of the Laymen's Missionary Movement.

LAYMEN MEET TO-DAY AT GRACE STREET CHURCH

Rev. Richard Wilkinson, D. D., of Petersburg, Will Be Principal Speaker.

TO DISCUSS BIG MOVEMENT

Registration of Delegates Begins in Earnest in Anticipation of Missionary Convention to Be Held Here Next Month.

Rev. Richard Wilkinson, D. D., pastor of the Washington Street Methodist Church, Petersburg, will speak in behalf of the Laymen's Missionary Movement at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon at the Grace Street Baptist Church. In view of the big convention to be held here shortly, the address of Dr. Wilkinson is expected to arouse the keenest interest among both laity and clergy.

Dr. Wilkinson is well known throughout the South as a lecturer and preacher of marked ability. He has been prominent in chautauqua work, having lectured in many Southern cities under the auspices of the National Chautauqua Bureau, and is highly recommended as a vigorous thinker and a man of great personal magnetism.

His topic to-day will be "Humanity's Kinship the Ground of Our Obligation." By those that have heard this address it is said to be one of such power as to arouse the most dormant and indifferent toward missions—to the very heights of enthusiasm and advocation. Oliver J. Sands, chairman of the convention executive committee, will preside and make a few remarks regarding the convention to be held next month.

Ministers and laymen from all churches are invited to the meeting. The registration of delegates in the various churches will be started in earnest to-day, when members of the various committees will be asked to start a systematic canvass for securing the largest possible number of registered delegates from their respective churches. Many churches have already begun this work and have a good number of men lined up. St. James has thirty-six and Holy Trinity thirty-three delegates registered at present, and members of registration committees are hard at work. The Seventh Street Christian Church is aiming for "150 men enlisted for the convention"; others are aiming for more than 100. The largest registration from any one individual church thus far in the national campaign was 148.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETS HERE ON TUESDAY

Many Prominent Men Will Take Part in Convention at Murphy's Hotel.

As the result of an invitation extended a year ago by representatives of the Presbyterian Committee of Publication of this city, a convention of unusual interest and importance will convene in Richmond on Tuesday for a three-day session. The body in question is known as the Sunday School Council of the Evangelical Churches of America. It embraces in its membership the editors and publishers of the Sunday school periodicals supplied the 17,000,000 Sunday school pupils in the United States and Canada. The educational secretaries of the Young People's departments of the various denominations are also members of this body.

A reception and banquet will be tendered the members of the conference by the Presbyterian Committee of Publication on Wednesday evening at 6:30 o'clock in their new building, and Rev. James Power Smith, D. D., chairman, together with other members of the committee, and their wives, will act as hosts for the occasion.

Murphy's Hotel will be the official headquarters, and all business sessions will be held in the assembly hall of the hotel.

UNBROKEN COMMUNION

Spirit of Worship Should Prevail in All Our Daily Life and Work, Says Preacher.

Arnold, of Rugby, said in one of his letters that he was very much dissatisfied with his religious life, because he realized such a change in spirit and attitude when he passed from his private devotions to the common affairs and business of the school, says Rev J. H. Jowett. And that is a dissatisfaction which is shared by a host of Christian believers. We leave something behind when we leave our chamber. The spirit of worship is not regnant in our work. We do not pray without ceasing. Here and there in life there is a burning bush; but the entire forest is not aflame with the glory of the Lord. We go to service occasionally; life is not a ceaseless worship.

And yet our Father seeks unbroken communion with His children. He would have us meet everything in the fellowship of the unseen Friend. In His light we are to see light. Everything is to be viewed in the light of His countenance. The unfailing sense of His presence makes life a continual consecration. We are always at worship, and the whole world becomes the temple of the Lord.

GEORGE W. WATTS OFFERS TO GIVE FUND OF $68,000

Will Contribute to Ministerial Relief Endowment if Churches Raise Twice That Sum.

WILL MAKE TOTAL $536,000

All Denominations Are Taking Steps to Care for Ministers Who Have Grown Old in Service—Dr. Sweets Issues Striking Appeal.

It was on December 29, 1915, that the announcement was made by Rev. Henry H. Sweets, D. D., of Louisville, secretary of the executive committee of Christian education and ministerial relief of the Southern Presbyterian Church, that one ruling elder of the church had offered to give $68,000 to the endowment fund for ministerial relief, on condition that the church contributes twice that amount—$136,000—to that fund within one year from the time his offer was made. Three weeks have passed since Dr. Sweets made that announcement, and he is now able to announce that during these three weeks the church has responded to this offer of one of the leading business men of the church by contributing not less than $3,000 each week.

The ruling elder referred to in Dr. Sweet's announcement is said to be George W. Watts, of Durham, N. C., president of the board of trustees of Union Theological Seminary, and one of the largest contributors to the support of that institution.

At this rate the condition upon which the $68,000 is to become a part of the endowment fund for ministerial relief will be met in less time than one year, and the promise is that the interest in this sacred obligation of the church to provide for the retired ministers and widows and orphans of ministers will increase within the next few months to the point that before the close of the present year the contributions of the membership of the church to this endowment fund will reach far beyond the amount necessary to claim the gift of this liberal layman.

ENDOWMENT FUND IS NOW $332,000

The endowment fund of the Southern Presbyterian Church for ministerial relief had reached $332,000 before this special campaign in its interest began and with the addition of $136,000 from the church and $68,000 from one layman of the church during this year, this fund will reach $536,000, this being $36,000 in excess of the figure named by the General Assembly of the church several years ago as the total amount of the endowment fund for ministerial relief for the present. It is not to be doubted that the interest of the church in this fund will be quickened during this campaign to the point that in the near future a much larger figure will be named as the total to which this fund for the support of the beneficiaries of the church will reach; it is not improbable that within a few years this endowment fund will be not less than $1,000,000.

Other denominations also are awakening to the responsibility and duty resting upon them to provide adequately for the support of retired ministers and the widows and orphans of ministers. The Methodist Church is now raising an endowment fund of $15,000,000 for this purpose and the figure set by the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. (Northern Presbyterian) and the Protestant Episcopal Church is $10,000,000 each. More than a decade ago the Methodist Church, South, began raising an endowment fund known as the "superannuate endowment fund"; this fund has reached a little more than $300,000 and the figure named by the General Conference as the total of the fund is $5,000,000.

STRIKING APPEAL SENT OUT BY DR. SWEETS

A recent appeal which Dr. Sweets sent to Southern Presbyterians regarding the support of the beneficiaries of this Church contains these earnest and significent words under the head, "A Business Claim." "The anxiety with which a minister must look forward to the possible time of need for his wife and children and himself brings weakness, and the efforts to save destroy much of his vigor and rob him of magazines, books, conventions, travel and vacations that are sorely needed for his highest efficiency. A larger and more sure provision for our enfeebled ministers will effect a great saving of men and fields. Because of a lack of funds we permit our ministers of old age and declining health to bear the strain of heavy work too long. Scarcely any of our men come on the roll of ministerial relief until they are completely worn out—usually confined to their beds for most of the time. If relief could be given earlier and more adequately, the ripe learning and rich experience of some of our men might be used to supplement the labor of others in the presbyteries, instead of being rapidly consumed in bearing burdens too strenuous for their years. In this way neither the workers nor the work will be allowed to suffer."

Another striking sentence used in this connection is the following: "Surely our laymen—men of the market, the shop, the courthouse, the office, and the farm—need only to look at this question in its broad aspects to determine at once what a square deal calls for."

UNCONSCIOUS GOOD

Clergyman Suggests Influence of Wholesome Personality Works More Benefit Than Planned Acts.

"It may well be that the good we unconsciously do exceeds the sum of all our purposed benefactions," writes Rev. J. Frank Thompson in the Universalist Leader. "It often happens that, for one or another reason, our special projects for promoting the happiness of our associates result in failure. We do not always succeed in helping those whom we try to help. But, however this may be, it is certain that if, for thirty, or fifty, or seventy years, we have lived purely and dealt honestly; if we have bestowed such kindness as we could, if we have been brave in trial and cheerful in all vicissitudes of outward fortune, then the number of those to whom our life has been an unpurposed blessing can hardly be overestimated. There have been multitudes of weak people who have been strengthened, sad people who have been made glad, tempted people who have been saved, and people whose lost faith in the essentials of religion has been renewed, by the influence of our wholesome personality unconsciously exerted.

First Gospel Sermon.

The whole Pentecostal sermon as reported by Luke contains only twenty-three verses, says the Sunday School Times. Eleven of these are Scripture quotations. So this was not only a Gospel sermon, the first Gospel sermon; it was a Bible sermon. It is hard to resist the temptation to give the preachers a hint about preaching. They wonder why people don't come to hear them. Perhaps if they would preach the Gospel and preach the Bible people would come.

"MODERN RELIGION" SUBJECT OF SERMONS

Dr. Maclachlan Will Discuss Various New Movements at Seventh Street Church.

MEGGINSON SPEAKS AT Y. M. C. A.

Will Address Men's Meeting This Afternoon—John Stewart Bryan Talks on "Our World War and Mission" at Railroad Association.

A series of sermons on "Modern Religious Movements" are being preached on each Sunday night by Rev. H. D. C. Maclachlan, D. D., pastor of the Seventh Street Christian Church, and the second will be delivered to-night at 8 o'clock on "The Service of Song."

Dr. Maclachlan's aim is to acquaint the people with the essential features of certain leading claimants to the spiritual leadership of the world in order that they may be prepared to estimate them at their full value. The treatment of his subjects will be sympathetic.

The next sermon in the series will be delivered on February 6, as next Sunday Dr. Maclachlan will be out of town. In place of the sermon there will be a special musical service.

Other dates and topics follow:
February 6—"Socialism."
February 13—"Ethical Culture."
February 20—"Russellism."
February 27—"Spiritualism."

This morning Dr. Maclachlan will preach on "Overcoming the World."

Rev. W. Russell Bowie, D. D., rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will begin a series of sermons this morning on "Christianity in the Light of a World of War." Dr. Bowie's hope is to answer some of the questions which arise at the present time:

Dates and subjects follow:
To-day—"Where Is the Living God?"
January 30—"Are Our Christian Ideals Overthrown?"
February 6—"The Modern World and the Meaning of Sin."
February 13—"Redemption: What Shall It Be?"

"Shall Virginia Lead or Lag Behind?" will be the subject of an address this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the men's meeting at the Central Y. M. C. A., and will be delivered by Rev. William Megginson, dean of the Assembly's Training School.

There will be an illustrated talk to boys at 2:30 o'clock.

The Associated Bible Students will worship this morning at 11 o'clock at Smithdeal Hall. The service will be led by R. L. Smith. At 8 o'clock to-night R. C. Bristow will speak.

Rev. J. R. Johnson, pastor of the Venable Street Baptist Church, will address the members of the Home Anchor Library Association this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock at the Bible Institute, 1002 East Broad Street. The meeting will be open to the public.

John Stewart Bryan will speak this afternoon at the Railroad Y. M. C. A. on "Our World War and Mission."

LOCAL CHURCH NOTICES.

EPISCOPAL.

All Saints'—The rector, Rev. J. Y. Downman, will conduct services this morning at 11 o'clock and this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

St. James—The rector, Rev. G. Freeland Peter, will conduct services this morning at 11 o'clock and to-night at 8:15 o'clock.

St. Paul's—Communion this morning at 7:45 o'clock. At 11 o'clock service the rector, Rev. W. Russell Bowie, D. D., will preach on "Where Is the Living God?" the first of a series of sermons on "Christianity in the Light of a World at War." At the evening service his subject will be "The Gospel of John."

Holy Trinity—Usual service will be conducted by the rector, Rev. J. J. Gravatt, D. D., and the assistant rector, Rev. Thomas G. Faulkner.

St. John's—The rector, Rev. Hugh W. Sublett, will conduct the usual services. Rev. G. M. Brydon will preach this morning at 11 o'clock and to-night at 8 o'clock in the Weddell Memorial Chapel.

Christ—Rev. Charles W. Sydnor, the rector, will preach this morning at 11 o'clock and to-night at 8 o'clock.

St. Mark's—The rector, Rev. S. Roger Tyler, will conduct both morning and evening services.

Monumental—The rector, Rev. James W. Morris, D. D., will preach this morning at 11 o'clock and this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

METHODIST.

Broad Street—The pastor, Rev. Fred R. Chenault, will preach this morning on "Above the Average." To-night Dr. Yokoyama, of Japan, will preach on "Why I Became a Christian."

Grace—Temporary location at Soldiers' Home Chapel. Rev. J. E. Oyler will preach this morning at 11 o'clock and to-night at 8 o'clock.

Highland Park—Rev. G. H. McFaden will preach this morning at 11 o'clock. At the evening service there will be a special musical program and a short talk by the pastor, Rev. C. O. Tuttle.

Fairmount Avenue—The pastor, Rev. E. V. Carson will preach this morning on "Provoking One Another." To-night his subject will be "The Importance of Preparedness."

Park Place—The pastor, Rev. J. J. Bradford, will preach this morning on "Two Realms." Rev. J. T. Mastin will occupy the pulpit at the evening service.

Monument—The pastor, Rev. R. H. Potts, D. D., will preach at both services. His subject this morning will be "Preparedness."

Branch Memorial—Rev. W. Oliver Gordon, the pastor, will preach this morning on "The Keys of the Kingdom," the first of a series of special sermons. To-night his subject will be "God Enduring Bad Manners."

Centenary—The pastor, Rev. T. A. Smoot, D. D., will preach this morning on "Citizenship in the Kingdom of God." To-night his subject will be "The Companionship of a Good Conscience."

Union Station—The pastor, Rev. W. Asbury Christian, D. D., will preach this morning on "Alive; Faith." His subject to-night will be "A Common Man Who Heard the Voice of God and What the Voice Said."

BAPTIST.

Broadus Memorial—The pastor, Rev. W. L. Gibson, will preach this morning on "The Apstle Paul's Example in Moving His Membership from One Church to Another." His evening subject will be "A Convert That Was Easily Won."

First—The pastor, Rev. George W. McDaniel, D. D., will conduct the usual services.

Grace Street—The pastor, Rev. Lloyd T. Wilson, D. D., will preach this morning on "Christian Fidelity, or the Way to the Crown." To-night his subject will be "Achan—the Covetous Fool," the second of a series of sermons on "Fools of the Bible."

Leigh Street—The pastor, Rev. J. J. Wicker, will conduct the usual services. Baptism at the evening service.

Pine Street—The pastor, Rev. J. B. Hutson, D. D., will preach this morning on "The Price of Truth." His evening subject will be "The Sorrows and Joys of Religion."

Grove Avenue—The pastor, Rev. W. C. James, D. D., will preach at both services.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Grace Covenant—Rev. J. M. Dunn, D. D., of Toronto, will preach this morning at 11 o'clock. At 8 o'clock to-night the pastor, Rev. J. Calvin Stewart, D. D., will preach.

First—Usual services will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. F. T. McFaden, D. D.

Second—Rev. Harris E. Kirk, D. D., of the Franklin Street Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, will preach this morning at 11 o'clock. The evening services will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. Russell Cecil, D. D.

Westminster—Usual services will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. Y. Fair, D. D.

CHRISTIAN.

Hanover Avenue—The minister, Rev. George W. Kemper, will preach this morning on "A Living vs. a Life." To-night his subject will be "Only One Way."

Colonial Place—Sunday school this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, followed by preaching services.

Third—The pastor, Rev. Roger Lamar Clark, will preach this morning on "The Limitless Life." To-night his subject will be "Why, if the Death of Christ was Preordained, Were His Executioners Held Guilty of Murder?"

Cowardin Avenue—The pastor, Rev. F. Wayne Long, will preach this morning on "The Ministry of Promptitude." To-night his subject will be "The Ministry of Imagination."

UNITARIAN.

First—The minister, Rev. Frank Pratt, will preach this morning at 11 o'clock on "The Influence of Evolution Upon the Beliefs of Religion." Sunday school at 12:20 o'clock, when the minister will address the adult Bible class upon "The Book of Numbers."

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST.

First—Regular services will be held this morning. The subject will be "Truth."

LUTHERAN.

First—The pastor, Rev. J. J. Scherer, Jr., will preach this morning at 11 o'clock and to-night at 8 o'clock. His morning subject will be "Faith Commended."

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