

# PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by  
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## WHAT GOD REQUIRES OF US

Text, "What Doth Thy God Require of Thee, but to Do Justly, and to Love Mercy, and to Walk Humbly With Thy God?" (Micah vi, 8.)

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 13.—Are the words of our text true? Is it possible that the true religion of the Bible demands nothing more of us than is expressed in this text? What about the Jewish Law? What about its sin-offering, its burnt-offering, its thank-offerings? What about the ten commandments? What about the digest of those commandments approved by our Lord Jesus, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind, with all thy strength, and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"? What about Church attendance? What about our responsibilities to our families? To the Church? To the poor? What about study of the Bible to know God's will? What about our responsibility for the heathen? What about baptism and the Lord's supper?

Indirectly, dear brethren, all the matters included in our questions and many more are included incidentally in the provisions of our text. Sometimes a whole sermon is preached in a few words. No one will dispute the reasonableness of the Divine requirement as stated in our text. Our Creator could not justly or with self-respect ask less than this of his creatures who would enjoy his favor. The interests of all demand that these principles should be required of every creature permitted the enjoyment of Divine favor to the extent of eternal life. Whoever fails to come up to these conditions would thus evidence his unworthiness of life eternal; his prolonged existence would merely be a prospering of sin and a menace to the happiness and righteousness of others.

But now let us see the scope of this Divine requirement, whose justice we have already acknowledged. We note the natural division of our text into three parts:

- (1) Doing justly;
- (2) Loving mercy;
- (3) Walking humbly.

The requirement of justice in all our dealings with our fellows, commends itself to every rational mind. It includes the whole Law of God. A brief statement of that Law which had our Lord's approval reads, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and all thy mind, all thy being and all thy strength; and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two propositions hang all the Law and the Prophets. It is but just that we should recognize our Creator as first; that we should glorify the One who gave us our being and all the blessings that come therewith; that we should be obedient to his righteous requirements that make for our own happiness and that of others. It is also but right that we should recognize the rights of others, as we would have them recognize our rights. The Golden Rule is the barest of justice. Not a hair's breadth less would come within the requirements of our text. Do justly. Come, then, let us reason together. How many of us do justly in all of life's affairs—in our relationship to our God and to our neighbor?

Begin at home. Let each one criticize his words and his deeds toward his parents; toward his children; toward his brothers; toward his sisters; toward husband; toward wife. Do we in all of our relationships of life treat these who are so near and so dear to us according to the standards of justice, according to the Golden Rule? Do we do toward them as we would have them do toward us? If not, after making a beginning with the Lord, striving to render to him our homage and obedience, let us closely scrutinize every word, every act of the home life and see to what extent these can be improved upon and made more nearly just. The majority of people, we feel sure, will be surprised to know how unjust they have been toward those who are of the very nearest and dearest of fleshly relationships.

Follow the matter up and consider the justice or injustice of your words and deeds in daily life with your neighbors and daily associates. Do you invariably speak to them in the same words and with the same tone and gesture that you would approve if they were in your place and you in theirs? In matters of business do you drive a closer bargain with them than you would think just for them to make with you? Or, on the other hand, do you ask of them higher prices for the services or materials you furnish them than you would consider just and right if you were the purchaser and they the vendors? Do you watch your chickens that they do not commit depredations upon your neighbor's garden as carefully as you would wish your neighbor to watch his chickens as respects your garden, if you had one? Do you blow no more tobacco smoke in the face of your neighbor than you would like to have him blow in your face? Are you as careful about wiping your feet when entering his house as you would like him to be when entering your house? Do you treat all men, women, children and animals as kindly, as gently, as properly every way as you think would be just and right if you were in their place and they in yours? Do you speak as kind-

ly of your neighbors as you would have them speak of you? Or do you hold up their imperfections to ridicule, as you would like to have them hold up yours? Do you guard your tongue so that you speak only things you would think proper for your neighbor to speak respecting you, if you changed places?

### Simple Justice—Nothing More.

Do you not begin to see, dear friends, that what God requires of us is much beyond what the majority have been rendering? Do you stand appalled and tell me that it would be impossible to live fully up to that standard? I agree with you. And St. Paul agrees, saying, "We cannot do the things which we would." The Scriptures again agree and declare "There is none righteous, no, not one. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

What shall we do? Shall we say that because we are unable to live up to our own conceptions and standards of justice we will make no attempt to do so, but abandon those standards entirely? God forbid. We are weak enough and imperfect enough as it is. To ignore our best ideals of justice would be to take off all the brakes and permit the downward tendencies of our depraved natures to go rapidly from bad to worse—to carry us further and further from God and the standards of character which he approves. We can surely be content to do nothing less than our very best to live up to our own ideals and to raise those ideals as nearly as possible to the Divine standard.

### What Would Be the Use?

Suppose we do our very best daily to measure up to our highest conceptions of our God-given ideals and standards, would God accept of this and count us worthy of his favor and of eternal life? Surely not. The Law of the Lord is perfect. Justice is Justice. Not the bearer of a law, not the well-wisher, receives the reward, but the doer, the obedient! Here, then, we find ourselves in difficulty. With our hearts, our minds, we approve God's Law and desire to be obedient to him, but find, as St. Paul says, that many things we wish to do we fail to accomplish; and many of the things we do not wish to do we cannot avoid. "We cannot do the things that we would." We approve the excellent demands of God's Law. We disapprove the imperfections of our own flesh. Like St. Paul, we cry out, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this dead body?"—this body that is imperfect through inherited sin and weaknesses. With our minds we serve God's Law and approve it; but with our bodies we come short. What is our hope? How shall we be delivered? Can we prevail upon God to change the reasonable requirement of our text so that it shall read, "What doth God require of me but to live justly and do imperfectly? We cannot hope for such a change in the Divine Law. Are we then hopeless as respects Divine approval and eternal life?" (Romans vii, 17-24.)

### The Gift of God is Eternal Life.

In our moment of perplexity we hear God's message "speaking peace through Jesus Christ our Lord." The message of peace is that what we could not do for ourselves in the way of lifting ourselves up to Divine approval God has provided shall be done for us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our failure to keep the Law marks us as unworthy of eternal life, and worthy of the wages of sin—not eternal torment, but death. God in mercy concluded to offer us eternal life as a gift—because of our not actually meriting it under his legal requirements. Thus we read, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans vi, 23). What we could not obtain legally under the Divine requirements God proffers to us as a gift. But the gift is a conditional one as expressed in the words, "through Jesus Christ our Lord." Only those who accept Jesus Christ as "The Way, the Truth, and the Life" may have God's gift of eternal life. Hence it will be seen that it is wholly a mistake to suppose that the heathen at home or abroad can get eternal life, the gift of God, in ignorance of Christ. All the Scriptures confirm this and declare not only that we cannot save ourselves by obedience to the terms of God's Law, but that "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"—through faith in his name—through faith in his blood (Acts iv, 12).

But how is this done justly? and, why does God so limit his gift of eternal life? God's Law represents himself and cannot change. He cannot require less than perfection. To do so would be to fill the Universe to all eternity with depraved and imperfect beings. God has a higher plan than this and declares, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways" (Isaiah lv, 9). He explains that his ultimate purpose is that there shall be no imperfect creature in all his Universe. All whose hearts are loyal to him and the principles of his

government shall be perfected, and all others shall be destroyed in the Second Death. Thus, eventually, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess to the glory of God. Then every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, shall be heard saying, Blessing, and honor and glory and power be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever (Revelation v, 13).

### You Are Bought With a Price.

Possibly God could have arranged some other way of dealing with sin and sinners which would not have required the death of Jesus as the ransom price, the purchase price, the redemption price for sinners. But the fact that this method was adopted by our great Creator assures us that no other method would have been so wise, so just, so beneficial. No other method would have so fully demonstrated God's Wisdom, Justice, Love and Power.

In brief, then, God's arrangement is that all of his human creatures shall have opportunity of full return to harmony with himself, provided they wish to do so, provided their hearts, their wills, are fully responsive to the letter and spirit of his Law—the requirements set forth in our text. God has provided in Jesus for the satisfaction of Divine Justice as respects all of the condemned race who desire to return to his favor.

We agree with all the orthodox creeds of Christendom that only repentance from sin and an endeavor to put it away from our thoughts and words and deeds, combined with faith in the Redeemer's sacrifice and a full consecration of heart and life to do the Father's will—nothing short of this attainment will gain the salvation which God is now holding out to mankind. To such the Apostle explains that the righteousness, the full demands of the Law of God, his full requirement, "is fulfilled in us who are walking not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans viii, 4). From the moment of our consecration and begetting of the holy Spirit God deals with this class as with sons. He trains them in the School of Christ, disciplining, chastening, proving them, testing the sincerity of their consecration Vows and the loyalty of their hearts. To those who prove faithful the great reward is promised—glory, honor, immortality, joint-heirship with the Lord Jesus Christ in his Millennial Kingdom and its work of blessing all the families of the earth (Galatians iii, 29; Revelation iii, 21).

Our disagreement with all "orthodox creeds" is in respect to what shall be done with the unsaintly—with those who do not present themselves to God and who are not begotten again of the holy Spirit. Our creeds of the dark ages misrepresented the teachings of the Bible in respect to these and told us that they are all to be consigned for hundreds or thousands of years to Purgatory or for all eternity in hell torment. Not such is the teaching of God's Word, but the very reverse, as we have previously shown. The Scriptures do not declare, "In thee and in thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be damned"; but the reverse of this—that they shall all be blessed. All the sin-blind eyes shall be opened. All the deaf ears of ignorance shall be unstopped. For the best thousands years of Christ's reign the world's uplifting or resurrection will proceed, while the knowledge of the glory of God shall fill the whole earth. The angels on the plains of Bethlehem did not declare to the shepherds, "Fear greatly! for behold, we bring you bad tidings of great misery which shall be unto all people. Their message was the reverse of this: "Fear not; behold, we bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be unto all people" (Luke ii, 10). God who had a "due time" for calling natural Israel and who had also a "due time" for calling spiritual Israel, has a "due time" for making known the riches of his grace to the non-elect world of mankind. And the "elect" of spiritual Israel and of natural Israel are to be the channels of this Divine grace and mercy, which, during the Millennial Age, will flow as a river of salvation, to which all mankind will be invited to come and drink freely.

### Love Mercy and Walk Humbly.

It may astonish some that God requires even more than justice, which is his legal standard. In his permission of sin and its wage of death he has shown the sinner his own mercy or love. And it is for the sinner's benefit and for the good of all, that God requires that all who will have the full benefit of his mercy shall be required to cultivate this mercy quality in their own hearts. As the sinner attempts to conform his life to the perfect standard and finds himself unable to keep God's Law and obliged to come for mercy to the Throne of Grace, he is informed that he can have that mercy only upon condition that he will exercise similar mercy toward those who trespass against him, his ideals and interests.

Humility is a quality very necessary to every creature. Pride is a foe which besets not merely the weak and imperfect, but which overcame the great angel of light, Lucifer, and transformed him from a faithful servant of Jehovah into Satan, the Adversary of God. We are glad, therefore, that Divine Wisdom requires humility as one of the conditions of our acceptance with him. This requirement assures us of the security of the Divine Empire against all treason in the future; for none will be admitted to the eternal life conditions either now or in the Millennial Age, except the humble. Let us hearken then to the lesson of our text and conclude with the words of the Apostle, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty and of God, that he may exalt you in due time" (1 Peter v, 6).

## Shipment of Boy's Suits.

How about your little boy; does he need some wash suits for Spring? We have just received a freight shipment of little fellow's wash suits, containing some mighty pretty styles in solid white or colors, also some striped and checked effects—The prices are reasonable and it will pay you to select a few suits now, range of prices \$2.35 down to..... 50c

## Shipment of New Corsets.

Get one of those new Royal Worcester corsets, they are just the thing you will need with your spring dress—Style No. 413, for average figure, high bust, long skirt with soft back—Style No. 411, for average figure, long front and hips, long soft back—these two styles are the best ones for Spring and retail at..... \$1.00

Other styles at \$1.50, \$1.00, 69c and..... 50c

## Shipment of New Hosiery.

How about your hosiery, are you getting good wear out of them? We have just received a shipment of ladies' and children's hose—"The kind that wear well" and are all priced reasonable at 50c, 25c, 15c and..... 10c



## THE SCHOOL BOARD MET

Business of City Schools Was Transacted—Schools Are in Splendid Condition.

The school board met last evening at the Board of Trade rooms, to transact the regular business for the city schools. There were present: Trustees F. C. Eason, C. A. Sterne, C. F. McWhorter, W. M. Hamilton, Superintendent Walker King and Principal R. D. Bryan.

After the reading and approving of the minutes of the previous meeting a report was heard from the superintendent, covering a period of six weeks. The enrollment was shown to be 1,889, of whom 1,275 are white. The enrollment is about one hundred more than at the same time last session. The increase would undoubtedly be much greater but from the fact that the crowded condition of the schools has precluded the admittance of many pay pupils that were heretofore admitted. As a consequence at least three private schools have sprung up and are flourishing, on children that otherwise would be in the city schools.

Secretary Sterne made a report for the treasurer, showing the financial condition as satisfactory.

Other committee reports were heard. Bills and accounts that had been properly o. k'd were ordered paid. Communications were also read and acted upon.

Superintendent King and Principal Bryan of the Second Ward school made a report on the badly crowded condition of that school, with recommendations that additional room be provided.

The committees on buildings and grounds and supplies were instructed to make the necessary arrangements to relieve the situation. This one feature of the schools is a matter of much concern to the trustees, teachers and others interested, and relief must come soon through additional buildings. Never, perhaps, in the history of the schools was more room needed as now. Many of the rooms in the different buildings are so overcrowded that the best work cannot be accomplished, and the work of the school is carried on to great disadvantage.

The question has been brought up as to the right of the trustees to authorize the purchase of auxiliary readers, etc., for the advancement of the children. The following opinion from the attorney general of the state settles the matter, and sustains the trustees and Superintendent King in efforts to give the children additional reading matter, and thus give new interest and broader scope to the work of the schools:

"The trustees of the schools of the state have a right to adopt any text book they may see proper to adopt as supplementary books, supplementing those prescribed by the state text book board."

Adjourned.

### Y. M. C. A. ACTIVITIES.

Preliminary Games of the Bowling Club Now In Progress.

The first game of the Bowling Club was played last night on the Y. M. C. A. alleys. Each team is to play every other team one game before the regular schedule begins. The Tigers, consisting of Messrs. Ray, Fox, Car-

ter, Wiley and Norris, played the Cubs, consisting of Messrs. Heafner, Ballew, Tarbutton, Allen and Kolstad, last night. The score follows: Tigers, 544; Cubs, 507. A number of these men have never bowled before, and when we take this into consideration we can easily realize that there is a lot of good material in the club that can be developed into splendid bowlers.

The Wildcats will play the Bronchos tonight. Watch their progress. A contract was let this morning for repairs on the alleys, and they will be in good shape by tonight.

A number of the delegates to the Laymen's convention will leave for Houston tomorrow night on No. 5. The remainder will go down Friday morning.

### WEATHER FORECAST.

Published By Authority of the Secretary of Agriculture.

For Palestine and vicinity: Tonight fair, preceded by rain or snow; much colder; cold wave, with temperature 15 to 25 degrees; Thursday fair.

For East Texas: Tonight fair, preceded by rain in southeast and rain or snow in southwest and northeast portions; much colder; cold wave except in northwest portion; temperature will be 12 to 25 degrees over the interior and 26 to 32 degrees near the coast; Thursday fair; colder in south portion, brisk to high northwest winds.

### Weather Conditions.

The storm that was over Nebraska yesterday morning has moved eastward to the New England states. It has caused high winds in portion of the Mississippi valley and has been attended by rain or snow in the Central states, the lake region and portions of the Rocky mountain region. Intense anti-cyclonic conditions prevail over the western portion of the country, and the weather is decidedly colder in that section.

T. R. Taylor,  
Official in Charge.

### For Tax Assessor.

Mr. Chas. J. Grainger, at the solicitation of numerous business people, has determined to run for the office of assessor of taxes of Anderson county, subject to the action of the democratic party.

Mr. Grainger is a business man well qualified for the office, because he has an intimate knowledge of land values, etc., and is a careful and painstaking man, who will give the office the closest and best attention.

His announcement will be found in the proper column of the Herald.

### Opens San Antonio Studio.

The Herald has received a card from Miss Marie Cronin, announcing the opening of her art studio in San Antonio. The announcement follows: "Miss Cronin announces the opening of her studio. Oils, water-colors, and miniatures. Especial attention to portraits. Thursday, or by appointment any day after 4 p. m." Miss Cronin's many Palestine friends, while regretting that fortune did not keep her in their midst to do her life work, wish for her abundant success and fame in her new home. Miss Cronin is an artist of whom all Texas should be proud.

The Henry Davis Market on Avenue A is now open for business. The best meat in town. Telephone 1080. 5-tf

## FOURTH WARD CHILDREN

Want You to Come to Their School Tea Tomorrow Afternoon at the Home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyne.

The pupils of the Fourth Ward public school are in the contest to win the one hundred dollar prize offered by Mr. G. E. Dilley for the best kept and most attractive school grounds, and to further their work they are going to be the beneficiaries of a tea to be given at the home of Mrs. Will Lyne, on Reagan street, tomorrow afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock. All children and mothers and aunts and grown-ups are invited to come and enjoy the event and help to provide funds to beautify the school grounds. Admission 15 cents, and a good time assured. This is a worthy cause, and the friends of the school should make it a big financial success.

### PREJUDICE.

Curious to state, prejudice keeps us out of more good things than does lack of opportunity.

We often pass by an article of merit because the price is low. The same article at double the price would find us eager to try it. K C Baking Powder sells for one-third the price of the Baking Powders controlled by the "Trust."

Yet K C is guaranteed the Best Baking Powder at any price. The ladies of this city who have seen what K C Baking Powder will do prefer it to any other. They are only too glad to save their money and get a better article. It's the difference between "Trust" prices and those of fair, honest competition.

A 25 ounce can of K C Baking Powder for 25 cents,—and your money returned if you don't like it better.

### Musical Entertainment.

On Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 22, at the city hall, a musical entertainment will be given for the benefit of the High School. The sum of fifty dollars is already on hand for the purchase of a stereopticon, and the students are anxious to raise the rest of the sum necessary for this purpose. An attractive program has been arranged. Some of the best musicians of the city have kindly consented to take part, and the students hope that their friends will come out and help them. A small admission of twenty-five cents will be charged at the door.

### The Very Newest.

It is now time to see about your stationery for the coming year. The Herald has anticipated your wants, and in addition to the already splendid equipment, the very newest type faces for stationery printing have been added. If you want something modern and that will look good to you and your correspondents, let us print it.

### New Home For Sale.

The new bungalow I have just completed on corner of Kolstad and John streets, will be left open for inspection, from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m., on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. All prospective purchasers invited to examine it. Phone me at 298 or 531. 16-2t

A. C. Green.

### Read This.

Jacksonville, Texas.—This is to certify that my wife was cured of kidney and bladder trouble in 1895 by the use of one bottle of Hall's Texas Wonder, and I can cheerfully recommend it to others suffering in same manner.

A. M. Duke,  
Sold by J. R. Hearn & Co.