

BILLY SUNDAY REVIVAL SUPPLEMENT Of THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

TABERNACLE ON SOUTH FIFTEENTH STREET

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AFTERNOON AND EVENING SERVICES

God Works Salvation Through Human Agents to Attain End; Mankind Honored in This Work

Christ Suffered Martyrdom on Cross, Voluntarily Accepting Sins of Whole World, and Redeeming Men and Women By His Innocent Suffering and Death, Declares Rev. W. A. Sunday—Believers in Him Are Saved.

The text: "And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Luke 22d chapter, 44th verse.

Infidels have seized upon various verses of scripture and have given us their reason for not believing the Bible because of the fact that the statements therein contained are in opposition to their ideas and opinions. I think it is pitiable! When God says a thing, you can't improve on it. You might as well walk out with a brush and a pot of paint and a ladder and lean it up against a rock, the flowers all in bloom, the grass is green, all nature clapping its hands and then paint on the rock, "This is Spring!" As though you could improve over the flowers and the trees and the grass. They say, "Why, it would be a physiological impossibility for anybody to sweat blood and still live."

Yet Dr. Osler in his Modern Medicine, Volume 4 page 685, give instances where men and women have been in such mental agony that they've sweat blood and still lived.

Dr. Weitzel was located in Boston. He said he knew of a father who for eight years had heard nothing from his son and one morning he received a telegram that the boy had been arrested and tried and convicted and sentenced to be executed and they were sending this message to learn from the father what disposition he'd like to have made of the body after the execution, and the agony was so intense that the blood oozed through the pores, proving that even in our day a man or woman would be placed in such a mental condition that they would sweat blood, thus proving that that verse in the Scriptures is not an impossibility. And there are several lessons that I learn from this, this morning.

What Constitutes An American.

"And being in an agony, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

First, it must have been a new sight for the angels. They had beheld many wonderful things they had seen their brethren angels, who rebelled, hurled over the battlements of glory. Angels are angels only because they do the will of God and when they cease to do the will of God, they become devils. The devils were once angels and the reason they are not angels now is because they rebelled against the will of God. When you refuse to do the will of God because you are a sinner, you are a saint because you will do the will of God.

Submit To The Will Of The Government.

You are an American when you submit to the will of the government. When you refuse, you are a traitor. It must have been a new sight for the angels. They had seen Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed with the fire because of their transgressions; they had seen the old world destroyed with a flood because of man's iniquity and they had seen the destroying angel with drawn sword go through the camp of the Assyrians and stay 135,000 of them; they had seen God beat back the waters of the Red Sea and they had beheld the first born in every Egyptian home slain; but they had never before beheld the Son of God sweating blood.

I learn that the divine cup is a bitter cup, whether the fallen angels drink in their eternal imprisonment, or whether fallen man drinks the bitter curse of God upon him, or whether the unfallen Christ drinks it. Christ said, "There is no other way whereby we can save this sincurised world."

Churches Should Follow Example.

The Father said, "Absolutely none other way, my son. You have to go on the cross and die."

And Jesus said, "Not my will but thine be done."

When the churches say that with their lives as well as their lips they will overthrow the forces of evil that have been beating against the cause of God and his truth. God doesn't hate the sinners but he does hate their sins.

It was a terrific exhibition — Jesus Christ who had never sinned, staining his clothes with blood, not for anything He had done but because of the mental agony He was in, knowing what punishment was going to fall on those who were rejecting Him and His offer of mercy. It wasn't bodily pain that Jesus suffered. Jesus was no coward. If He had been afraid of suffering martyrdom and the pain that would have been inflicted by His death on the cross, He wouldn't have been as brave as multitudes who have gone to the cross and have burned at the stake.

Don't ever dream of entering heaven without first of all you have been regenerated by faith in Jesus Christ.

I think the universe sees God in a new light. I think the angels have too. What joy must have swept through the hearts of the angels who didn't join in that rebellion but who stood and fought against the devil! And if I ever have the least shadow of a doubt about the existence of an eternal hell, it will all vanish when I see Jesus going into the garden of Gethsemane sweating drops of blood.

Devils Knew Christ's Purpose.

Therefore, if the devils in hell ever had any idea that there ever would come a time when they would be emancipated from their eternal imprisonment, it all vanished when Jesus Christ went into the garden, for they know that He was there praying and sweating drops of blood because of the sins that they had brought to humanity through their

rebellion and the humanity following their example was rebelling. And God knew where the devils were that had rebelled and Jesus Christ knew where they were going. That's what brought the whole thing from Him.

Don't be a careless professor another minute. If you can do nothing more, smile on your breast and say, "God be merciful to me, a sinner."

I think there is something wrong with the religion of the average man or woman. You seldom see tears coursing down their cheeks. Did you ever weep because you saw men and women you knew would go to hell?

Did you ever weep for the sins of the church, because you knew the power of the church was being sapped by the worldliness in it? Did you ever weep because of your own sins?

Tells Her To
Weep For Children.

When they were leading Jesus out to crucify Him, the women followed Him, weeping. He turned around and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for Me, weep for your children."

If they do this in a green tree, what will they do in a dry? If they are doing this to me, the Son of God that don't deserve it, what do you suppose that God Almighty will do to them that are dry, like dry wood?"

And He said, "If they will do this to one that is innocent, what do you suppose God will do to them that are ready for the fire?"

He said, "I thank you for your sympathy and love, but please stop weeping for me, but you go weep for those that are killing me, they are the ones that need your tears. I don't want your tears, you pray for the crowd that is spurning what I am preaching. You weep for the crowd that is spurning my preaching. Weep for your children."

So, I learn another lesson. I learn the power of prayer. Every man and woman that God Almighty has ever used to light up the festering spots of this God-hating, blaspheming, old world that sneers and mocks at God, have been men and women of prayer.

From all denominations and in all ages they have been men and women of prayer. Martin Luther used to say, "This will an exceedingly busy day and I can't think of assuming its responsibilities without getting into the half-hearted, cold, indifferent way that the attitude of the church of God is taking toward the church of God.

Jesus was God manifest in flesh.

I have to know the bible to know Christ, and I have to know Christ to know God. The bible reveals Christ to me and there is no way that I can ever get the ear of God unless I go through Jesus. So Jesus Christ is the highest revelation of God through humanity, the minds of mankind can perceive.

Therefore, for a man to say he loves God and turns his back on Jesus Christ is pure folly.

Every man and woman that God Almighty has ever used to light up the festering spots of this God-hating, blaspheming, old world that sneers and mocks at God, have been men and women of prayer.

When you hear somebody knocking at the door, you can bet your life the preacher is all right and that the preacher is all right and that they are all wrong.

The spirit of concern puts to shame the half-hearted, cold, indifferent way that the attitude of the church of God is taking toward the church of God.

Two days later he came to band practice to play for the first time, to be laughed at by the leader for attempting to play without lessons.

"But I fooled them," Rodeheaver said. "I did not know how it went but I hunted around until I found a piece that I knew by heart and by experimenting found out where to run the trombone to, to really play a note, and got to learn the whole scale that way.

"In two weeks I could play right along and keep up with the rest of the band. But it was several years after I was playing with men that found out how to really play the horn."

Enlists In Army

Rodeheaver's next venture was college at Ohio Wesleyan. In the Spanish-American war broke out, and he enlisted in the 4th Tennessee Regimental band, and after two weeks at Knoxville, was entrained for Cuba, crossing on the old transport Manabata, and playing with the band all over the island.

"With the band," said Rodeheaver, "I found out for the first time that there was such a thing as a bass clef."

"I protested that I could not play in that scale but the band master said I was in the army and had to, so I went ahead. I just found a piece that I knew, and got the relative positions of the notes by comparison as I have learned to play the slide trombone."

"This time it was several years before I came to know the names of the different notes."

Sells Books

In the summer time after his return to college, Rodeheaver usually sold books, but one year a one horse circus, or really a four pony circus got stranded near the college and lost its band.

Rodeheaver was asked to organize

the trouble, it was their cussedness that was getting knocked in the head, they didn't like, and they were trying to make people believe it was the preacher instead of their own rottenness.

When you hear somebody knocking at the door you can bet your life the preacher is all right and that the preacher is all right and that they are all wrong.

What this old world needs is a little concern.

It seems to me that God's in a hurry to bless and save America.

Nothing produces joy in Heaven like the salvation of souls.

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And before Jonathan Edwards preached that wonderful sermon of his entitled "Sinners in the hands of an angry God," for days he hadn't tasted food, for nights he hadn't slept. Surrounded by godly men and women they prayed and so marvelous was the power of God that strong, stubborn old sinners—oh! they grabbed the back of the seats in front of them. Others threw their arms around the pillars of the church while others fell on the floor and cried out, "O, Mr. Edwards, spare us! Spare us!" as he held those old sinners over the pit of hell and let them smell the sulphur fumes as it vomited from his cheeks and his arguments took wings.

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Tears Prevent
Talking.

He got into the carriage and drove back home and his wife came rushing out and said, "What result?" He said, "I made a fool out of myself." He said, "I went in there and all I could do was to say 'I'm praying for you, my wife and I prayed all night.'"

He hadn't been gone long until the infidel went in to his wife and said, "I've met a new argument in favor of religion."

She said, "What was it?"

"It wasn't in words, it was in tears. He came and stood there and told me he was praying for me. I never had anybody say that before."

He went back and tried to work the and the picture of that man's face and tears troubled him. He said, "Wife, perhaps I am wrong after all."

She said, "Well, nobody is better able to help you than the deacon, let's go and see."

He locked up his shop and they drove three miles to his home and the deacon talked with him and in a little while they had him on his knees acknowledging Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

I knew of a mother who had two ways. Godless, coquettish sort of daughters and they wouldn't come near the meeting. They didn't like the crude preaching. That wasn't

rebellion and the humanity following their example was rebelling. And God knew where the devils were that had rebelled and Jesus Christ knew where they were going. That's what brought the whole thing from Him.

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Miner, saw mill helper, boss sawyer, circus band master, and soldier. That does not sound like the life history of a revival song leader, but it is.

Homer Rodeheaver did all of those things before he finally settled down to his life's work, and since then he has done a lot of things on the side that makes almost as large a list.

The head of the Rodeheaver family was a master sawyer, and the young Homer helped his father about his mills, and finally graduated into being a master sawyer himself.

Interested in Music

But all of the time he was interested in music, and when his brothers organized a factory, he played the bass drum, mainly, he said, because he was the only one that could keep the rhythm.

He was not contented with a drum, however, and began to play up the other instruments, first a cornet then a baritone horn, and finally a valve trombone.

His brothers were then in college at Delaware, so he followed them there to enter the public schools, and play in the college band. Up to that time he had never seen a slide trombone and did not know that one existed.

Fascinated by one that was owned by D. H. Jemison, now of Cincinnati, he finally scraped together \$4.50 which was a real fortune to him and got it.

Ready to Play

Two days later he came to band practice to play for the first time, to be laughed at by the leader for attempting to play without lessons.

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To pay off the debt, he went to work in a coal mine, and finally after some effort, got the debt paid.

Just at that time his chance to enter his life's work came, and he took it up.

Dr. Biederwolf was without a musician, and some evangelist recommended Rodeheaver. Out to Springfield, Mo., he went for a two weeks engagement, in a tent meeting.

Sends For Trombone

Even that start might have ended in nothing had not Dr. Biederwolf learned that "Rody" played the trombone, and got him to send for it.

That was the beginning, the old slide trombone that had taken "Rody's" eye in college, after a trip to Cuba, became the first trombone to lead off in gospel singing revivals, and set the pace for the others.

Since that time "Rody" has played before more people than any other trombonist in the world, and has even given a concert in the air. While in France, a major interested in finding out the possibilities of an aerial band, sent Mr. Rodeheaver up in a plane, but the music could not be heard, with the engine cut off, at a greater height than 500 feet.

About twelve years ago Mr. Rodeheaver joined Mr. Sunday, and has been with the party ever since except for two meetings held while in France with the Y.M.C.A. Meetings were held at that time in Providence, R. I., and Fort Worth, Texas.

Publishes Books

Rather taken back with the prospects of making a life work of gospel singing at the salary he could receive.

"Rody" cast about for a supplement to his income and hit on the plan of publishing gospel songs.

From a small pamphlet that he published in the beginning the present Rodeheaver company, one of the largest hymn publishers in the company.

Branching out from that company, and its original purpose, the Rodeheaver interests now produce the "Rainbow" records of gospel hymns, publish a little magazine called "The Gospel Choir," and operates a practical school for Christian workers and gospel and choir singers.

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