

Five Minute Sermon

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

The sheep is a very simple and dull animal, which, while grazing in the field, does not notice that it has left the fold. It is lost, and when lost does not know the way back to the fold. It seems, therefore, that when Christ compared the sinner to a sheep He intended to say that the sinner goes astray from the true path and from God through pure and natural ignorance; because, being dazzled and delighted by the things of the world, he follows them; he separates himself from the just without knowing it, and, is lost in the desert of this world, he does not know his misfortune and has not, humanly speaking, the means of returning again, if God in His infinite mercy does not go in search of him and rescue him.

As the shepherd immediately searches for the sheep when he knows it is lost, so God immediately recalled Adam to the right path when he had lost it by sin, by announcing to him the fruit of the woman—that is, the Saviour, Who was to crush the head of the serpent. The shepherd leaves the ninety-nine in order to seek the lost sheep; and the Divine Word, in order to save Adam and his race, left the company of the angels and the splendor of His glory, and came to dwell on earth under the likeness of a servant. The shepherd, having found the sheep, treats it kindly; and the God-man, when He was among sinners, treated them with ineffable tenderness, and out of kindness for them worked many miracles. The shepherd carried the sheep on his shoulders, and the God-man carried us on His shoulders, and alone sustained the weight of our sins. And as the shepherd called his friends to rejoice with him because he had found the lost sheep, so the Incarnate Word called all the angels to rejoice with Him when from Mount Olivet He returned triumphantly to His Father, taking with Him those of the human race whom he had rescued from hell.

Besides understanding the sense and the spirit of the parable and the object the Divine Master had in view in telling it, we are to learn to be charitable toward sinners, to be zealous for their conversion, to be anxious in working out our own conversion, if such be our need, and always to thank Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who in His infinite mercy came in search of us when we were in the state of perdition.

Weekly Church Calendar

Sunday June 24—Gospel, St. Luke, xv. 1-10—Nativity of St. John Baptist.
Monday 25—St. Julia, abbess.
Tuesday 26—St. John and Paul, martyrs
Wednesday 27—St. Ladislav, king and confessor.
Thursday 28—St. Irenaeus, bishop and martyr.
Friday 29—St. Peter and Paul, apostles.
Saturday 30—Commemoration of St. Paul.

Solving the Tramp Question.

The city of Colby, Kan., has 1,000 meal tickets printed and distributed among the housewives of the place. The tickets are good for one meal when counter-signed by the city marshal. When a hobo appears at the back door and asks for a handout he is given one of these tickets, which the marshal will redeem for two hours' work on the streets. Unless the tramp follows this procedure he goes hungry in Colby.

Sale of Asses' Milk in London.

This has been a good year for the sale of asses' milk, the consumption of which varies according to the amount of illness prevailing. Two or three asses' dairies still hold their own in London, one being within a couple of hundred yards of the Marble Arch, where "milk asses" are kept on the premises. From this establishment the milk is sent all over the country in sealed bottles, the price being 6s. per quart.

"Singing Insects" of Japan.

More than three thousand persons in Japan make a good living by breeding, training, and selling what are known as "singing insects." The insects somewhat resemble our crickets, being known in Japan by the name of kusa-hibari. The music which they make resembles that of a silver bell, and, though rather monotonous, is very clear and sweet.

Ice forming on telegraph poles.

Ice forming on telegraph poles sometimes increases their weight so much that they are broken.

Knights of St. John.

Regiment to Attend Annual Convention Parade in Buffalo.

The Knights of St. John of this city, are preparing to attend the twenty-seventh annual convention of the order in Buffalo next week. The Rochester regiment of ten companies, headed by the Fifty-fourth Regiment Band, will be in line in the great parade in Buffalo Monday afternoon. Many of the Rochester knights will be accompanied by their families, so that the whole delegation will number over 2,000, requiring two special trains.

Colonel F. J. Schwalb, through his adjutant, F. H. Biel and aide-de-camp, William Shaffer, has issued the following general order with reference to the convention:

I. The officers and six knights of this command are hereby ordered to be and appear in fatigue uniform for Buffalo convention on Monday, June 25, 1906, at 7:15 a. m. sharp.

II. The field and staff officers will report to the colonel at 7 a. m. sharp.

III. The line officers and band will report to the regimental adjutant at the place of formation and immediately on their arrival.

IV. Line will be formed in front of the New York Central station, where special train will leave at 7:15 a. m. sharp.

V. Immediately upon arrival in Buffalo, the regiment will form on Exchange street, in front of the depot, and march to headquarters, German-American Hall, corner Main and High streets.

VI. Staff officers will send their horse furnishings and uniforms to New York Central baggage room, Rochester, before 7 a. m. Captains will send their commandery uniforms to same place. All uniforms to be sent to headquarters in Buffalo, at corner Main and High streets.

VII. General parade to take place at Buffalo on June 28, 1906, at 2 p. m. sharp. The Buffalo knights are preparing all kinds of entertainments for the visiting delegates. The convention will be opened Monday and will continue through the week. Knights will be present from every city in the state, with several companies from the smaller towns.

Arrangements for the general parade will be made as soon as the regiment reaches Buffalo. Prizes aggregating \$1,000 have been offered for the best appearing companies in line, and Rochester knights hope to bring home some of this prize money. Rochester's ten companies form the First Regiment of the state of New York. The district officers are: Chaplain, Rev. M. J. Hargather; colonel, F. J. Schwalb; lieutenant-colonel, Joseph H. Weis; senior major, Charles Hohman, Sr.; junior major, Jacob Wahl; inspector, J. J. Nunnold; quarter-master, Joseph Kesselring; pay-master, Fred Kleinhans; chief of staff, Henry Wegman.

His Son Would Pass.

In the line of aides on duty at the White House receptions stands Lieut. U. S. Grant 3d, of the engineer corps, who graduated from West Point several years ago near the head of his class. Throughout his course at West Point Lieut. Grant was among the star men, and long before graduation it was certain that he would be selected for the engineer corps, whose officers are taken from the "plebe" year, about the time of the midyear examinations, his father, Major Gen., then Brig.-Gen., Frederick Dent Grant, became a little anxious about the stand his son was taking and wrote to the superintendent of the academy, a classmate of his, to ask his honest opinion as to whether his son would pass the midyear examination. The answer which came promptly was brief and to the point and said: "Your son is standing higher in all his classes than you stood in any one."

Gen. Grant has never worried himself since about his son's career.—Boston Transcript.

Origin of the Word "Tip."

It is said that the word "tip" originated a couple of centuries ago in the days of the coffee-houses. At the doors of eating rooms there hung brass-bound boxes bearing the phrase "To Insure Promptness," and into the slit in the top customers were expected to drop coins for the waiter. The initial letter of that phrase came in time to be used as a word.

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