

January 21, 1940 (Sunday A.M. Radio)

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Pastor W. H. Offiler

Isa. 42:3 "A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth."

Matt. 12:20 "A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory."

In the reading of our scripture you have noticed that two personalities were brought into view. Isa. 42:1 "Behold my servant". The Father God, in the Glory, is speaking of Jesus, His only begotten Son. Would that God would give us that grace this morning to turn our hearts to a contemplation of the grace and powers and glory that there are in the Lord Jesus Christ. If I interpret my bible aright, from Genesis down to the book of Revelation, the message is always the same --- a determined effort on the part of God that through His holy Prophets He has turned the eyes and hearts of the people away from Himself that they might behold Him who has become the Saviour and "redeemer of the world."

He showed us the Glory in that sacrifice of the offering of Isaac by his father Abraham, and then again in Exodus in the slaying of the Passover lamb we catch a typical vision of that One who was to come as the Lamb that taketh away the sin of the world.

In every book of the bible the grace and power of Jesus, the Son of God, are brought to the front and emphasized by the Speakers of the Old Testament as they bring their message to the men of this world. All that wonderful testimony from the book of Isaiah, contemplating the Son of the Living God and rejoicing in all those things that shall be brought to pass in His ministry.

All this wonderful testimony was crowned by the testimony of the Father God, Himself, on that day when Jesus came down the banks of the Jordan and stepped into the waters in His turn, and was baptised in water by John the Baptist. The voice of God came from the open Heavens above and testified, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased."

I am sure that if our friends will give themselves to the meditation and contemplation of the character of our Lord Jesus Christ, of His ministry, and of His life-giving Word, brought to us through His own lips, that the darkness of their heart and understanding will be banished and their sin be blotted out, and men and women will live in the blessedness of the divine fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Always in my ministry and preaching I am reminded of a certain class of people; there are so many people who consider themselves altogether too unworthy to become partakers of the blessing and power and anointing of the Spirit of God. They feel that in themselves they are of so little use to anyone in this world, that they do not even try to make these contemplations and draw nigh unto God.

But listen to what He says, "A bruised reed shall he not break ...." As I have said, in the first verse of my scripture, two personalities are presented. One is that of the Saviour of the world and the other is your personality and mine. Thank God that He has a message for you and me in this Word this morning.

When I was a boy over home, in England, I used to go in the fields and take my knife and cut a hollow reed. I would cut a slit and then blow down that reed and it would give forth a real sweet musical sound. Then we would take a longer reed and by and by we had these reeds in our hands capable of blowing a full chord of music. Many times I used to think of David with his harp, in the mountains, as he followed the sheep. Sometimes in our carelessness we would break the reed and bruise it. Until a real restoration took place that reed was of no account,

I suppose the Writer had in view one of those reeds that put forth an unpleasant sound. Sometimes you and I fill the picture of that bruised reed. How many of my Audience have suffered sickness, affliction, sorrow, and shame, and like that bruised reed are not capable of giving forth the happy, joyous sound that comes from a blood-washed heart? "A bruised reed shall he not break." Our God, when He finds our lives just like that reed, breathes upon us His Spirit and washes us in His blood and brings forth a new creature in heart and spirit; a new reed and we are placed back again among that great choir in Heaven above and earth beneath and we are always sounding the praises of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Temple the smoking flax was taken from the lampstand. In the morning the lamp was trimmed and the vessel filled with oil. It burned all day, and toward evening, the oil being exhausted, the flax carbonized and the Priest came and with golden snuffers cut off the portion of the lamp wick that was black and he replenished the oil in that vessel and in

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a moment it was burning as bright as ever it burned.

The same thought, the same truth is once again presented to you. You might even fill the place of that smoking flax. The lamp needs trimming. The oil needs to be replenished in the vessel. Once again your Christian testimony and heart will lift itself up in praise and thanksgiving to God, that in His mercy and love He counted you worthy of a place at His own right hand. Remember this scripture in Isaian --- what marvelous characteristics and attributes are applied to our Lord Jesus Christ as we follow Him through His ministry from Jordan to the Cross.

If ever a man faced discouraging circumstances and conditions, the Lord Jesus Christ did. The people honored Him with their lips but their heart was far from Him. The Temple Had become nothing but a den of thieves -- money-changers that were cast out by the cord in the hands of the Lord. He faced those conditions but was never discouraged.

Sometimes we pray for something necessary to the peace of our hearts. We do get discouraged by the way. Let us think of Jesus. His Word shall never pass away. Heaven and earth shall pass away but His Word abides forever. He will not fail nor be discouraged until He hath brought forth judgment unto Victory...The Glory and Power in salvation, the in-filling of the Holy Spirit, and the healing of your body and minve.

What a praise and Glory and gladness and joy would go up this morning if every voice was lifted in honor and praise, instead of being cast down.

Look unto the Lord and be happy in Him for we know His redemption draws very nigh.

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WHO:mh

Stenographic notes of  
Marguerite Hood