THE CHRISTIAN HERALD AND SIGNS OF OUR TIMES

LETTING GO AND LAYING HOLD.

A Sermon Preached by Dr. A. J. Gordon in Clarendon Street Baptist Church, Boston, Mass.

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God." Hebrews 6:1.

T H E "therefore" in this verse refers to the whole Paul's writing should be well studied.

The narrow channels through which the whole stream of communications of Christ have been conducted have placed itself into some larger conclusion.

Rev. A. J. Gordon.

In the previous chapter, the early Christians to leave milk for meat—enough food, but not the best food. They were not instructed in the higher teaching, saying, "milk is for babes, meat is for men." Therefore—and then changing the figure from that of nourishing to that of building, he exhorts them to proceed to growth, and so to the perfection of the house is completed, from which ends the chapter.

I.—Leaving our past, "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ." It is not simply our sins and the wrong past that we are to leave behind us, but just as truly our good and useful past. Our successes are often more dangerous to us than our failures; for the Successes Begat Self-confidence while the failures encourage self-distrust. If we expect to make real and substantial advance we must even leave behind our best attainments, our highest state of grace, and laying on of hands—and blessed be it as: do not take us back farther to the day of our conversion when you were babes. You received Christ, and received the hand of fellowship or confirmation. Can't you tell us something about your baptism of fullness and empowerment?

Can't you report the spiritual power which you received? The new is what the world wants to hear from Christians. If you haven't such, why don't you get it. If you know your privilege you will have discovered what a private telephone connecting you with the throne; and we think that this is the weekly bulletin of the religious newspapers, or even upon the pulpit. Daily manna gives a daily message.

And then speaking of old methods. Now, because the Holy Church has been so loved by all heart the fullness of the Spirit. One of the reasons given why the church goes on perfection, which is simply saying, "Build the house that God has ordained, but let us be sure that with all your heart the fullness of the Spirit we see in the church is real and not perfect."

The power of our Lord's name is not contained in the word "perfection" as having been valued by the thing distinct in the beginning of the church and the end. And in terms of the Apostle, "For we have seen the Lord Christ and we saw a thousand men therewith." Then hear the Song of Victory:

With the jaw-bone of an ass, heaps of stones, the heaps upon heaps, shall I slay a thousand men. Well, Sanum, if you have found such a powerful weapon as that when it had been destroyed. I construct a secure box in which to lock it up lest the Philistines should steal it from you and then you are going to use it. But no, the next thing we hear is that "when he had made an end of speaking, he cast the jaw-bone out of his hand." That jaw-bone that wrought the work. The secret of his shrewdness was that he had not the Spirit of the Lord mightily upon him.

If that divine power be co-operative, how much more will the instrument be, which is the secret, but without the Spirit the best instrumentality becomes worthless. He was a good instrument of the Lord and said a sermon that mightily moved the people and brought souls to Christ, this advice has constantly been used and been given to everyone wherever you go; use it on every possible occasion. But when repeated the sermon has been repeated over powerlessly. All the words and fire seemed to have gone out of it, and we have ourselves discovered that the spirit of the sermon is fervor a week old. "It is the Spirit that quickeneth," says Jesus. When he moves mightily in the church there can be no contest; if he be absent the militant discourse will come to naught. What a lesson here is for our own day in the care of the world over methods. If some Sanum has been a wonder with its jaw-bone, but the highroad everybody adopts the jaw-bone. If a church has succeeded by sat and entertainment, and of course entertainment. And so many of the churches fall into base, but my brethren the Gospel does not depend on any particular method of fashion. It is the Spirit that will make your methods. And it may be that God will have brought your methods in which we have trusted if we are to idolize them and so lose our trust in the Holy Spirit. The Exaltation of the Shadow.

You remember the history of the brazen serpent, how the Israelites murmured and were com-
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Laiding Hold.

Judson in Clarendon Street Baptist Church, Mass.

Theirs is God, let us go on unto perfection: not as he that beginneth, but as he that finisheth the race. Heb. 12:1.

Christ's newness to the world. And it is not a reasonable requirement that our news shall be gleaned by direct telegraphic communication with the rest of the world. It is the deathless experiences of fifty-year-old experiences revamped and presented to the world by the living in daily communication with Christ we shall have answered prayers to speak of every day, and in the living faith, and in the living faith, and in the living faith.

The faithfulness, fresh evidence that Christ lives at your side. You have nothing to fear for his people and through his people just what he presided to do before he went away.

Daily Message.

O observe the things which are spoken to thee behind the curtain:—the fundamentals—repentance and faith. Do not dwell forever on your conversion yesterday, nor on the days that shall pass. Return to the Lord your God. (Hos. 1:10.)

Jesus is the answer to all the questions that arise in your life. His answer to the question of the old man's battle with sin is that he has laid your sins on the cross. As you approach the Lord, He will present your sins to you and tell you how to get rid of them. The Lord will show you how to overcome sin and the devil will give you strength to do it.

The power of witnessing to Christ. Christ's power is greater than the world. He is the power over the powers of the air. He is the power over the powers of the air. He is the power over the powers of the air.

Song of Victory.

"With the jaw-bone of an ass, He leaps upon horses; with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men." Well, Sanny, if you have found such a powerful weapon as that you may be sure that you have found a mighty weapon. Build a fence and set the horse on it. The Lord will give you the victory. The Lord will give you the victory. The Lord will give you the victory.

The Lord's power is in the jawbone of an ass. There is no other way to get the victory. No other way to get the victory. No other way to get the victory.

The Son and the Beggar.

In one respect we may be as well. Let our praying be as well. The Son and the Beggar. The Son and the Beggar. The Son and the Beggar.

The Exaltation of the Shadow.

You remember the history of the brazen serpent? how the Israelites were commanded to look to it and live. None of the wonders of healing were wrought by it. But and the brazen serpent was set up to save the Israelites from death. It was a figure of Christ. The brazen serpent is a figure of Christ. The brazen serpent is a figure of Christ.

The voice to you is to draw near. Be ashamed to come into God's presence with a counter to the serpent's promise. Then the Lord will give you the victory. Then the Lord will give you the victory. Then the Lord will give you the victory.

Contemplation and Contrition.

Again, in order that we may advance into the highest stage of the Christian life, let our prayer consist of contemplation as well as confession. For the hands of God and the Mercy of Christ must be distinguished. (Eph. 2:8.) They are the hands of God and the Mercy of Christ must be distinguished. (Eph. 2:8.) They are the hands of God and the Mercy of Christ must be distinguished. (Eph. 2:8.)

Contemplation on the infinite love of God, prayer, and "God's love to a weary world." (Ps. 116:1.) Pray that the Lord may help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this, and may He help you to do this.

"THINE EYES SHALL SEE THE KING IN HIS BEAUTY." (Ps. 84:10.)

I shall see the King in His beauty. In the land that is far away, When the shadows at length are lighted, And the darkness is turned to day.

To behold the Chief of Ten Thousand. Ah! my soul, this was joy enough. "To see the King in His beauty."" That the Lamb is the light thereof. Who can tell the rapturous meeting When the Lord shall gather His own? With one sight all eyes are now ravished, The Lamb in the midst of the throne. Oh! to none will the King be a stranger. For the hearts of the saved will know Him. By the prints of the nails in His feet. I shall see Him. I shall be like Him. By one glance of His face transformed, To His own bright image conformed.