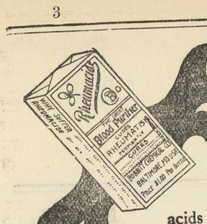

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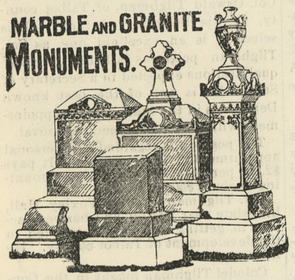

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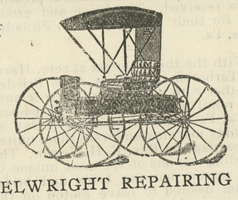

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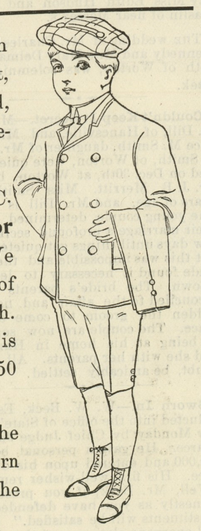

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SERMON AT ROCK HALL

Delivered Before The Seventh Day Adventists by Rev. V. Hammond Lucas.

The Young People's Society of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Rock Hall had the privilege on Sunday evening, Dec. 20th, of hearing a sermon by Pastor V. Hammond Lucas, from Wilmington, Del. His subject was: "The Power of the Word of God." He spoke from First Thes., 2:13, as follows:

I want to say a few kind words to those who are in the battle of life. All of us should realize that the battle of life is one he cannot get out of, even if he should try. There are battles to fight on every hand; there are conflicts to wage; there are victories to win; and we all may be one of the great victors.

Satan is on our track to rob us of every victory possible, but there is one glorious thing sure—that if we adopt this one principle and stick to it victory is sure. The principle is one which Paul used, "Fight the good fight of faith." In that sentence is summed up something which will help us to win every battle. Faith will fight the last battle on earth.

Now, faith has a great power. I remember not many years ago, when on the Pacific coast, of being in a large store and seeing a little damsel come running into the room where she expected to find her papa and calling "Haste, papa." She was told by one of the men that her papa was down in the basement storing away things. The child knew that her father must have went down on the elevator, and this she approached very cautiously until she came near enough to call, when her little voice was heard to call out, "Papa, oo down there? I want to come, too. The father was a man who was very cautious of his child, but instead of saying no, he said, "Come, I'll catch you." The child was afraid of that dark place, just as afraid as you would be to look down into a deep, dark place in the earth; but just as soon as that child heard those familiar words of her father she immediately has faith in them, and threw herself down into the arms of her father. She had faith in the voice.

During one of his visits to London William Prescott was riding with a gentleman friend through the streets of the city. In their ride the rein broke and the gentleman had to get out to fix it. Opposite from them was a building with high columns, at the top of which stood two little boys. Going to one of the boys the gentleman told him to jump, and he immediately fell into his arms. Going to the other little boy the gentleman told him to jump, but he would not. The gentlemen drove on, and in their drive the gentleman asked Mr. Prescott if he could tell why the little boy had jumped. Mr. Prescott asked for an explanation. The gentleman replied: "The boy who jumped was my boy, and the other one was not." Here was the secret—the boy who jumped had faith in the voice of his father.

Faith leads us to do things which nothing else will cause us to act. Notice the words of the text—"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but, as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh, also in you that believe." The Thessalonians took it as God's word. There is wonderful power in God's spoken word.

You remember when our Lord and Master went beside the ocean that he said to the sons of Zebedee—"Follow me and immediately they obeyed. I am glad to tell you that men are doing it today, and the voice which calls is the same voice which said to Lazareth "Come forth." Are we ready to hear and to heed that same voice today? I want you to see that it is the same power that worketh in you and that effectually.

What was the matter with the men who cried into Christ when they were in the storm? The men had left their faith on the shore. If we have Christ with us in this life's journey our boat will not sink. That voice that said unto the winds and the waves—"Peace be still," is speaking the same words of comfort to the troubled souls today.

I know that there are things which puzzle you even here in Rock Hall. You see the the trees, the flowers and the grass grow; but we cannot explain how they grow. And yet we know that there is a power that causes their growth; for all around us we find a carpet of green verdure. Men in their study of science and geology seek to explain to us what this power is, but let us hearker unto she word of God.

The first question which we will ask is—How was this world brought into existance? Our answer we find in Heb. 11:3. "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." But again you ask, how were the heavens made? The answer comes to us in Psalms 33:6, 9 "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth, for he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast." In Genesis the first chapter we have the record of the work of the creation and the work of six days, and you remember in this connection we find in the twenty sixth verse that it says, "Let us make man in our image." Here we find that some one was with God in the creation. Now I do not think that it is hard for us to understand that Christ was associated with the Father in the creation for we read, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." John 1:1, 14. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." Heb. 1:1, 2 Then who did the talking when it was said, "Let there be light?" I think that we have all seen that it was Christ speaking. That voice that spoke the words into existance has power to heal the palsied, the leper and the sin sick soul. That voice is still finding men by the sea-side, the rich and the poor. It is calling men and all that they are to a righteous life. That voice will clean you from sin.

Now if you can understand how Christ spoke before in time past, cannot we better understand it at the present time. If we have faith in God, "God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Friends, we must have faith. I'll tell you what the Thessalonians did, (just what the people of Rock Hall must do) they believe that it was the word of God. Are we ready to believe the word? Soon very soon we shall have to hand in our account. It will not be to what church did you belong. All we have to do is to take the word of God by faith. It does not depend upon the education to believe in the word of God. We are fast coming to the last closing conflict, the last nations are fast sinking into their desolation. God help us one and all to be faithful a little longer, until "He come who will come, and will not tarry."

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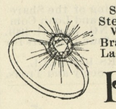

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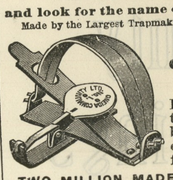

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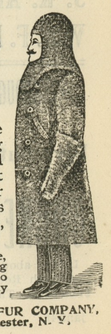

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