

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

Volume 7

June 24, 2018

Number 25

CONSIDER THE LILIES

by John Isaac Edwards

Jesus taught, “...Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these” (Mt. 6:28-29). He did not say to look at them, but to consider the lilies. How many times do we look at things, without really considering them? There is much good to be learned from what we see every day, if we would but consider. Consider that the lilies:

1) ARE GOD MADE.

As paintings and sculptures have been wrought by artists and buildings by architects, God designed and sculpted the lilies of the field. This took place on the third day of creation as God said, “Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed...And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed...” (Gen. 1:11-12). The God that brought forth the lilies of the field made man after His likeness (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7).

Paul penned, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are



made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Rom. 1:20).

2) **SHOW US BEAUTY.** One of the most beautiful things of God’s creation are the flowers that bloom. It was God who gave the lily its beauty! As a flower, our lives ought to be a thing of beauty. The beauty of Jesus may be seen in us as we follow His example-leaving steps (1 Pet.

2:21). We sing, “Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me, All His wonderful passion and purity, May His spirit divine all my

being refine, Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.”

3) EXPRESS GOD’S PROVIDENTIAL CARE.

Many are overcome with anxiety, fear, and worry. The lilies of the field teach us not to fret (Mt. 6:25-34). They are gloriously arrayed, yet do not toil or spin. They do not work or labor; spin thread or make clothing.

This is not teaching us to be negligent or careless. The virtuous woman, who “...layeth her hands to the spindle...” and “...maketh fine linen...” (Prov. 31:19, 24), was praised. We are taught, “...working with his hands the things which is good...” (Eph. 4:28). The point is: “Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field... shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?” (Mt.

6:30). God will take care of you; so why worry?

4) WHOSE SEED IS IN ITSELF. God placed within the lilies of the field the capacity to reproduce (Gen. 1:11-12). Likewise, God told Adam and Eve, "...Be fruitful, and multiply..." (Gen. 1:28). By way of application: the seed of the kingdom is the word of God (Lk. 8:11). It is our job, as Christians, to scatter the precious seed so as to produce more kingdom citizens! (Jn. 1:40-42; Acts 8:4; 2 Tim. 2:2).

5) REPRODUCE AFTER HIS KIND. Genesis 1:11-12 emphasizes, "...yielding seed after his kind..." This is why you do not sow a lily and reap a tomato. Though there is the capacity for variation of the same species within limits, there is no yielding other kinds. Thus, no evolution at work here! Though some people act like apes, man did not evolve from Bubbles the Chimp or his ancestors!

6) REQUIRE THE PROPER ENVIRONMENT TO GROW. Lilies do not live everywhere. There are places unsuitable for human habitation. As Christians,

we must watch our environment, spiritually. "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Prov. 13:20).

7) ARE SHORT LIVED. Our days, at best, are as grass. "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away" (1 Pet. 1:24). The book of Job shows us this same truth: "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down..." (Job 14:1-2). The Psalmist expressed it this way: "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more" (Ps. 103:15-16). Why take thought for the morrow, what we shall put on? Perhaps, by the morrow, we will have occasion for our grave clothes! Remember the rich farmer? "... this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" (Lk. 12:20).

8) THE LILY OF THE VALLEY. Solomon's song of

songs uses this poetic language: "I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys" (Sng 2:1). We sing, "I have found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me, He's the fairest of ten-thousand to my soul; The Lily of the Valley, in Him alone I see All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole. In sorrow He's my comfort, in trouble He's my stay, He tells me every care on Him to roll, He's the Lily of the Valley, the bright and morning star, He's the fairest of ten-thousand to my soul." How fair is He to you?

It's often been said, "Take time to smell the roses." How about taking time to consider the lilies?

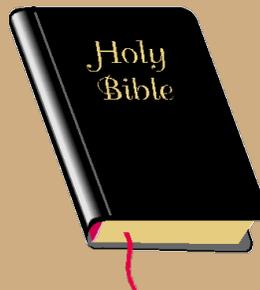


The Terre Haute **SPEAKER** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:
4017 E Margaret DR
Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

Assembling Times:
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Come be with us!



We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.

We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.

We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com