

Andrews Farm

No 447

(11)

A Watch's Sermon.

A great man who lived three hundred years ago said "Our life... Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, Sermons in stones and good in everything."

Now I want a watch to preach a sermon to you to day. By this I mean that I shall take a watch as something to help me in talking to you, and telling you a few great truths about yourselves.

1 A watch tells us about our Maker. Did you ever look into a watch. See all these little wheels all made to move together. they all fit into each other. Here is a big spring which you wind up to set the wheels moving: here is a little spring which will make them move faster or slower as you wish. Here is a little fine bar - about as large as a pin, on which the hand moves that tells

the seconds, another tells the minutes and another tells the hours. All these little wheels and springs and pins are so nicely made and put together that they don't take up any more room than the palm of my hand. Now I say this watch tells us about our maker. You cannot look inside of yourself, but you know something of what is there. There is something that thinks and loves; something that remembers, something that tells us what is right or wrong - was there ever a watch like that! Now what if some one should tell you that nobody made this watch, what would you say? Somebody must have made it. Yet would you believe that there are some who say that nobody made you - that there is no God, that our body + soul were made

by chance. The Bible tells us God made man. and if this watch had a maker dont you think that this little boy and girl had a maker too.

But this watch tells us our maker must be very wise. I told you how all these parts fit into each other. if one were a little longer or larger than it is, it would not do - or if it were a little shorter or smaller. it must be just as it is. The little holes in which these pins move must be very hard or they would wear out soon - and so they are made of jewels precious stones. do you not see that all this shows the wisdom of the maker. It was no fool that made it. the man who made it knew just how to do it. So David says I am fearfully and wonderfully made; curiously wrought.

Chas Bell

And is it not so? Look at this body! A man in England wrote three or four books about the hand and what it can do and how it was made. The eye the ear - was there ever anything so strange. Look inside see this silver cord going down the back. it is a telegraph. Something here says let the arm move and the message goes over this cord and the arm moves. I prick my finger and

Two sets of telegraph in body - two systems of nerves say Encke - the finger sends word to the brain: I am hurt. Here is

under Chas Bell -

the golden bowl, that holds the brain - if broken you die here is the pitcher at the fountain of life - the lungs who drink in the air - more delicate than a pitcher of china and here is the wheel at the cistern the heart pumping blood through the whole body. More wonderful

Harvey on circulation of blood -

Still is the soul as we call it, that makes all this

body live & breathe, hear and see. Well do you not think
our maker must be very wise. else how could he have
known how to frame this curious body and soul.

Yes I think a watch can tell us much about oursel-
ves. You see that here is a case and inside are works.
you do not see the works yet you know there must
be something inside to make these hands move - and
then you hear it tick. you see this body and you know
there must be a soul inside - what is it makes these
hands move and these eyes to see, these ears to hear.
Did you ever see any one who was dead. you look
into those eyes but they did not see you - you might
speak in those ears but they did not hear it, you may
put your ear to the breast: there is no tick there.

That is a case without the works, a body without a soul. Now do you not see that like this watch, you do not see all or the most of yourself when you see the body. The soul which is so precious, you do not see. It is within. Yet it is this soul that is the mainspring - it sets the works inside in motion, and this makes all the difference between a living and a dead child. Only God holds the key that winds up this spring - and when he no longer winds it up, it runs down and the works stop and that is death. The great thing, then, dear children is not the body but the soul. We are very foolish when in the body we forget the soul as foolish as though a man should take great pains to have a beautiful case for worthless works.

Now suppose this watch does not keep good time, stops now and then or will not go at all. Will it make it all right if I take a key and turn the hands to the right hour? No for in a little while it will again be wrong or stop. The trouble is not outside but inside: let us look. Here is a little hair caught in the little wheels, or a little dust - how small a thing will stop a watch or make it useless.

Now suppose a boy is idle like a watch that will not go even when wound up, or cannot be trusted like a boy that is good to-day and bad to-morrow. as a watch that sometimes runs and sometimes don't or is not truthful like a watch that always tells you wrong: he says more than is true like a watch

that is too fast or says less than the truth like a watch
that is too slow - where is the trouble? in his hands
or in his tongue? no - inside! something is wrong in
his heart. How little a thing can set a child wrong
a little bad temper - a little selfishness - a little too
much willfulness. How easily may you injure a watch
which is so delicate and fine! lay your finger too
roughly on the works and you bend or break them.
But who shall tell us how easy it is to ruin a boy
or girl forever.

But if a watch goes wrong it is worse than none.
It puts you out - you do not meet the train for you
are too late your watch has deceived you. And
do you you think that a boy can be a bad boy &

do no harm to any body else. Indeed not. He is
leading other little boys out the way and no one
can trust him. One sinner destroyeth much good.
And if a watch is wrong who can mend it. Can a car-
penter or a blacksmith or a mason. No! only a watch
maker. So only He who made us knows how - is able
to make us better. You cannot make yourself good -
you may change the outside of your life like these
hands on a watch but to be really better God your
maker must make you over. This is a change of heart
he cleans out the dust - mends what is broken and
touches the little regulator, and then we are like a
good watch that goes well inside and outside for
the heart is right and the life begins to be also.

Yes that is a good true match when the beautiful outside is only a fitting case to the precious works inside: when within all works well and the outer face only tells what is going on below.

Yes and if the works are good, when one case is worn out or broken, you can put on another more beautiful & costly still. So of the body and soul when the body dies, another more beautiful & precious will be placed about the soul. That is what we mean by the resurrection: he shall change this vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body.

Watoga Pres. ch. Extempore Jan 29. 1865. Sabb. P. M.
W. 1. Pres. ch. Extempore June 18. 1865. " P. M.
Darlings Albany " Jan 13 1867 " P. M.