

"The Christian And The Palm." Ps.92:12.

Sermon Number Seven.

1-Psalms 92:12;

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

2-The Child of God shall flourish like the palm tree:

1-To an Oriental the palm is the queen of all trees.

2-Its evergreen foliage and wealth of delicious fruit are compared with the righteous.

3-He, the child of God, shall grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

1-Why????

Did the Psalmist use this metaphor?

2-The cedars of Lebanon flourish for ages and are always green.

3-When cut down they yield a most beautiful wood.

Rev. 14:13; Christians are sometime cut down by death.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

4-The wood of the cedar is;

Solid--Durable, and in some sort incorruptable.

5-Regarding its durability history says:

1-The cedar roof of the temple of Diana in Ephesus lasted 400 years.

2-That the temple of Apollo, which was built of cedar, lasted about 1170 years.

6-He shall-

Grow like the cedars of Lebanon is an emblem of the progress of the soul.

1-By developing its forces the cedar grows from the little germ.

2-Wisely and harmoniously developing our powers, we grow.

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4-Three typical forms of growth set forth in this verse: (1-Endogen.)

1-In the botanical world the palm tree is known as the endogenous grower.

2-The inside grower:

The oldest and hardest wood is at the circumference, the newest and softest is at the center.

3-Christians appreciate:

1-The value of all outside helps, and accordingly make diligent use of them.

4-The result is unsatisfactory:

1-The deep places of the heart to often remain untouched.

2-Matthew 23:28; Jesus said,

"Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity or lawlessness.

5-The second typical form of growth:

2-Acrogen:

1-The acrogenous grower is called a top grower. Especially true of the farn family.

3-This grower:

1-Puts on a layer of new wood on the summit or apex each year.

4-This type growth suggests:

1-That our life must be upward as well as inward and outward.

2-Colossians 3:2;

Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth.

3-The Christians view and interest is concentrated on heaven:

Philippians 1:23;

For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ; which is far better.

Philippians 3:20;

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence we also look for the saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ

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6-The third typical form of growth is:

3-Exogen:

1-The exogenous grower is one that grows from the center to the circumference like most of our finest trees-----  
Oak, Elm, and especially the cedar.

1-~~This is the method of growth more especially illustrated in evangelical Christianity.~~

1-Normal Christianity begins with the heart  
Matthew 23:26;

Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

2-Religious character is a growing thing year by year:

2-Peter 1:5-8;

And beside this give all diligence, add to you faith viture; and to viture knowledge-----  
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8-For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

3-Physically we are like the exogenous growers:

1-We shall grow to maturity, and then imperceptibly we begin to decay.

2-This is the law of nature but God never intended that it should be thus with our inner life so:

4-Spiritually we ~~shall be~~ <sup>are</sup> like the endogenous growers-the palm;

1-We shall grow until death, at the mighty reaper, cuts us down.

2-Cor. 4:16; For which cause we faint not  
but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

Psalm 131: 1, 2, 3

Thou shalt be like a tree  
planted in the house of the Lord  
shall flourish in the courts of  
our God

Psalm 1: 3

and he shall be like a  
tree planted by the rivers of water,  
that bringeth forth his fruit in  
his season; his leaf also shall  
not wither; and whatsoever he  
doeth shall prosper.

Romans 6: 5

For if we have been  
planted together in the likeness of  
his death, we shall be also in  
the likeness of his resurrection.

1-We shall grow until death the mighty  
growers-the palm;

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