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# GOD BLESS OUR HOMES.

Mark 2:1, "It was noised that He was in the house."

God can bless our homes when Jesus is in them.

*mt. 8:14 - Peter, his wife, & mother-in-law were residents of Capernaum. This may have been their home.*

I. Jesus comes into a home only by invitation.

1. He does not force his presence on us.
2. He may gain admission by various means.

- A. A little child
- B. Influence of a Christian friend
- C. Bible or tracts

II. Christ in the Home is a Benediction

1. Benediction of pardon and peace  
Prayers and Bible reading
2. Love and kindness. -- poem "Thoughtlessness"
3. Precious memories

A. Joseph... pharaoh's gold collar, colossal pyramids, rigid lines of saluting soldiers, splendors of the palace, red sandstone columns, his gleaming golden chariot, all faded from view ---  
Instead he saw the live oak trees, black tents, and dusty flocks of Hebron.

B. In 1863 the Union and Confederate armies along the Rappahannock River near Fredericksburg. In the evening when there was a lull in the fighting both armies would sing their favorite songs. The Union men would play and sing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", and cheeks would glow up.

Confed. men would play and sing "Dixie", and cheers would glow up.

Then one played "Home Sweet Home" and both armies sent up a great cheer. They had struck a universal chord which knew no union or secession.

"Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,

Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;

A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,

Whick, seek through the world, is never met with elsewhere.

How sweet tis to sit 'neath a fond father's smile,

And the cares of a mother to soothe and beguile!



Let others delight mid new pleasures t<sup>o</sup> roam,  
But give me, Oh, give me, the pleasures o<sup>f</sup> H<sup>o</sup>me"

4. The Christian H<sup>o</sup>me is a benedicti<sup>o</sup>n t<sup>o</sup> the nati<sup>o</sup>n,  
"S<sup>o</sup> long as there are h<sup>o</sup>mes t<sup>o</sup> which men turn  
At close o<sup>f</sup> day;  
S<sup>o</sup> long as there are h<sup>o</sup>mes where children are,  
Where w<sup>o</sup>men stay ---  
If l<sup>o</sup>ve and l<sup>o</sup>yalt<sup>y</sup> and faith be f<sup>o</sup>und  
Acr<sup>o</sup>ss th<sup>o</sup>se sills ---  
A stricken nati<sup>o</sup>n can rec<sup>o</sup>ver fr<sup>o</sup>m its gravest ills"

### III. Christ in the H<sup>o</sup>use is an Attracti<sup>o</sup>n

1. "Many were gathered t<sup>o</sup>gether"
2. A place where o<sup>o</sup>thers can find Christ

"I s<sup>o</sup>ught him in a great Cathedral, dim ...  
with age, where oft-repeated prayers arise,  
But c<sup>o</sup>ught n<sup>o</sup> glimpse o<sup>f</sup> Him.

I s<sup>o</sup>ught Him then at<sup>o</sup>p a l<sup>o</sup>nely hill,  
Like M<sup>o</sup>ses o<sup>n</sup>ce, but th<sup>o</sup>ugh I scanned the skies,  
My search was fruitless still.

There was a little h<sup>o</sup>me where grief and care  
Had bred but c<sup>o</sup>urage, l<sup>o</sup>ve, and valiant will,  
I s<sup>o</sup>ught and f<sup>o</sup>und Him there."

3. The Christian H<sup>o</sup>me is an attracti<sup>o</sup>n t<sup>o</sup> th<sup>o</sup>se  
wh<sup>o</sup> have g<sup>o</sup>ne out fr<sup>o</sup>m it.

St<sup>o</sup>ry o<sup>f</sup> Henry W. Grady, o<sup>f</sup> the Atlanta C<sup>o</sup>nstitutio<sup>n</sup>  
T. De Witt Talmadge, the great preacher, had sp<sup>o</sup>ken at  
a N.Y. banquet o<sup>f</sup> the r<sup>e</sup>t<sup>u</sup>rn o<sup>f</sup> the N<sup>o</sup>rth<sup>e</sup>rn s<sup>o</sup>ldier.  
Grady ar<sup>o</sup>se and t<sup>o</sup>ld in simple path<sup>o</sup>s o<sup>f</sup> the C<sup>o</sup>nfederate  
s<sup>o</sup>ldier r<sup>e</sup>t<sup>u</sup>rn<sup>g</sup>, wasted and ragged, in his faded gray  
unif<sup>o</sup>rm, t<sup>o</sup> his ruined and des<sup>o</sup>late h<sup>o</sup>me in the  
S<sup>o</sup>uth.

nce Grady left his o<sup>f</sup>fice o<sup>f</sup> the Atl. C<sup>o</sup>nst. and  
went t<sup>o</sup> the o<sup>l</sup>d G<sup>e</sup>orgia farm and spend alm<sup>o</sup>st a week  
with his m<sup>o</sup>ther. . .



When Christ dwells in the home  
it is visible to the world that  
he dwells so.

If Christ be within the heart,  
the family, or the church —  
the fact will be known abroad.

The presence of Christ is  
the drawing power of Kty.

If we would draw the multitudes,  
we must do it,  
not so much by eccentricities  
or by advertisement,  
as by obtaining the presence  
of Christ.

Crowds that are drawn by gimmicks  
rather than by God

will be like the plants with  
no roots in rocky ground

and they wither when the sun &  
storms of testing follow.

many long for some dramatic opportunity to show their spiritual heroism and courage.

Paul says to such people, "I will ~~show~~ <sup>tell</sup> you of a place where you can show forth all that is finest in ~~your~~ character, and that place is in your own home."

I Tim. 5:4: "Let them learn first to show piety at home... Let them first learn their religious duty ~~to~~ their own family, ~~and~~ for this is acceptable in the sight of God.

vs. 8: "If any one does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his own family, he has disowned the faith, and is worse than unbeliever."

If a man does not serve God on a small scale, he never will serve him on a large one.