

many of ye boyes as may be convenient, and if any are unruly, to present their names, as the law directs. nowadays we should hardly seat boys in a group if we wished them to be orderly and decorous, and i fear the man by the name of guppy found it no easy task to preserve order and due gravity among the puritan boys in salem meeting. in fact, the rampant boys behaved thus badly for the very reason that they were seated together instead of with their respective families; and not until the fashion was universal of each family sitting in a pew or group by itself did the boys in meeting behave like human beings rather than like mischievous and unruly monkeys. in stratford, in, a litheringman was appointed to watch over the youths of disorderly carriage, and see that they behave themselves comelie, and use such raps and blows as in his discretion meet. i like to think of those rows of sober faced puritan boys seated on the narrow, steep pulpit stairs, clad in knee breeches and homespun flapped coats, and with round, cropped heads, miniature likenesses in dress and countenance if not in deportment of their grave, stern, god fearing fathers. though they were of the sedate puritan blood, they were boys, and they wriggled and twisted, and scraped their feet noisily on the sanded floor; and i know full well that the square toed shoes of one in whom original sin waxed powerful, thrust many a sly dig in the ribs and back of the luckless wight who chanced to sit in front of and below him on the pulpit stairs. many a dried kernel of indian corn was surreptitiously snapped at the head of an unwary neighbor, and many a sly word was whispered and many a furtive but audible snicker elicited when the to my taste. now, to bring my text to something like a practical head, i must say to every unconverted soul here: you must put the salt into the water of gods word for yourself. if you look to the lord, and ask him to give you eyes that you may see, and ears that you may hear, and a heart that you may understand, you will also receive all the salt you need to heal the word and make it healing to your soul. but if you neglect and despise or reject the offers of gods love, the very thing that he has prepared for your eternal joy will be everlasting bitterness to your soul. for one to know his duty and not at the same time do it exposes him to the danger of being converted into a pillar of bitter salt as lots wife was. she could not give up her love for the world. she knew that she must not look back with longings for the sodom of the sinful life she had left; but she did look back, and her awful fate is brought to mind by our lord as a warning to all: remember lots wife. by the words of my text, then, the lord meant that the disciples represented the charity and faith that sweeten and give to every word of divine truth a gracious reception into the heart and life. in this happy love the christian sings of the word of life in the beautiful sentiment of an old hymn: yes, thou art precious to my soul; my transport and my trust: jewels to thee are gaudy toys, and gold is sordid dust. and when the disembodied soul shall awake to the full realization of the truth which shone so dimly here, the love for that truth will be sevenfold as the light of seven days all in one, which means fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore. sunday, september this day brother solomon garber leaves me after meeting, to attend to some appointments ahead. i stay to debate with a methodist preacher. in the afternoon i baptize sister to my taste. now, to bring my text to something like a practical head, i must say to every unconverted soul here: you must put the salt into the water of gods word for yourself. if you look to the lord, and ask him to give you eyes that you may see, and ears that you may hear, and a heart that you may understand, you will also receive all the salt you need to heal the word and make it healing to your soul. but if you neglect and despise or reject the offers of gods love, the very thing that he has prepared for your eternal joy will be everlasting bitterness to your soul. for one to know his duty and not at the same time do it exposes him to the danger of being converted into a pillar of bitter salt as lots wife was. she could not give up her love for the world. she knew that she must not look back with longings for the sodom of the sinful life she had left; but she did look back, and her awful fate is brought to mind by our lord as a warning to all: remember lots wife. by the words of my text, then, the lord meant that the disciples represented the charity and faith that sweeten and give to every word of divine truth a gracious reception into the heart and life. in this happy love the christian sings of the