Marvels of Creation (Part 2) : A Dialogue Between Dr. Walter L. Wilson and Dr. Louis T. Talbot

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MARVELS
of
CREATION
Part Two

A Dialogue Between
DR. WALTER L. WILSON
and
DR. LOUIS T. TALBOT
MARVELS OF CREATION

PART TWO

A Dialogue Between
Dr. Walter L. Wilson
and
Dr. Louis T. Talbot

Citing many proofs that evolution is false and that God created and planned all things

Published by
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FOREWORD

Walter Wilson, M.D., of Kansas City, has been greatly used of the Lord because he has the unusual ability to take the ordinary things of life and draw from them most practical and helpful spiritual lessons.

This is the second booklet in a series entitled, "The Marv-els of Creation." These questions and answers were originally given over the ABC Network. The response of the radio audience to the first booklet has been most gratifying. Many have written in telling how their faith was increased and how they had learned to recognize that the Lord was speaking to them through the common things of daily life.

It is my prayer that the information given here will be the means of establishing the faith of many others who perhaps have been doubting some of the great truths found both in God's Word and in God's handiwork. Both Dr. Wilson and I trust that these homely illustrations will serve to increase the ability of all of us to observe the ordinary things of life and apply to our own spiritual needs those practical lessons which may be derived from them. In this way we are more fully enabled to see the work of the Lord as He deals with His children.

LOUIS T. TALBOT

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, I heard you speak one time concerning the peanut. At that time you gave us some interesting information and some practical applications derived from this lowly, little nut. Perhaps you would tell us some more this morning concerning this food item that is such an essential part of circuses and ball games. Tell us first of all why peanuts are crooked.

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, peanuts are crooked because God made them that way. He evidently made them that way in order that we might draw some lessons for our own edification. Peanuts are like people. All of them have a crook in their lives somewhere. None are entirely straight and smooth from start to finish. Everyone has something wrong in his system or his disposition. The peanut is equipped with a double covering. The public sees the outside covering. It is harder and more tough than the inner one which is a thin skin covering the nut itself. Folk do not see the inner one until the outer one is broken. Human lives are like this. There is an outer life which the public sees when we leave home and enter the shop or office. The other one is revealed in the home with the wife and the children and with God. It is of a much different type. It is not at all like the outer one.

Peanuts are developed in the dark. After they appear on the plant, they are covered up with soil and grow to perfection and maturity out of sight beneath the ground. It is so in our lives. What we are, what we do, what we learn privately and when alone, largely determine what we shall be before the world. Again, the peanut has no value unless it is broken. How strange it is that the sweetest graces are usually seen emanating from the saddest of sorrows. The roses are crushed, that the perfume may delight our hearts. The animals must die, that we may have
shoes for our feet. Meats and vegetables must be cooked and have the heat applied, that we may have value for our bodies. The peanut is no exception to this rule. We can obtain the good meat of the nut only by crushing the shell. Dr. Talbot, the peanut speaks eloquently to us of many things.

Dr. Talbot: It certainly does, Dr. Wilson. You have drawn some unusual lessons for us from the lowly peanut. By the way, at one time I heard you comparing your congregation to nuts. Would you kindly tell us whether you were using slang such as our young people use today or do you have something more in mind when you speak of Christians as being nuts.

Dr. Wilson: Strangely enough, Dr. Talbot, our blessed Lord has recorded for us these words found in the Song of Solomon 6:11: "I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley." If our Lord compared His people to nuts, then the suggestion is worthy of our careful consideration. We shall surely find much profit in meditating on the comparisons and contrasts between the people of God and the nuts that grow so richly throughout the world. In the first place nuts are found everywhere, in almost every climate and in every nation. We find that Christians also may be found in every clime and among every people. They are found in greater numbers in some parts than in others, as nuts grow more profusely in some sections than in others. Again, nuts grow in high places. They grow on trees and sometimes the trees are very high. So Christians are seated in heavenly places in Christ. They dwell in the heavenlies. Their place is with God. They walk on the highways of life and should not be found in the swamps. Then, too, nuts are of many colors. Some are brown; others are black; and still others are yellow. In this respect they are quite like Christians. There are brown Christians in India, yellow Christians in China, black Christians in Africa, red Christians in the American desert and white Christians everywhere.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, these are most practical applications. The next time I am eating nuts, I am going to be thinking about you—and Christians everywhere. But tell us some more interesting facts about this particular type of food.

Dr. Wilson: Nuts always have a sweet heart. The shell covers the heart but the heart is there. All of God's people have precious hearts. Some of them have tender hearts, hearts that are a blessing to others, hearts that prove useful to others and hearts that others love. Nuts also are found in clusters and in groups. One tree may have a thousand nuts upon it. Brazil nuts, particularly, are always found in clusters, whereas walnuts grow in groups of two or three. Among believers we find this fellowship also. "Where two or three are gathered together," our Lord is present. We are told not to forsake "the assembling of ourselves together." Christians love to have fellowship with other Christians. Believers desire to be with other believers. Furthermore nuts are good for food and are profitable in commercial trade. They have great value. The sale of nuts reaches a very high figure everywhere in the markets of the world. Christians, too, are very valuable. They are the salt of the earth. They are precious in the sight of the Lord. They are the balance wheel of society. They are the stable element in all civilization. In the affairs of the civilized world, Christians hold the reins and Christian principles guide the counsels of men. Another interesting
Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, you have certainly glorified the nut for us. I did not realize that there were so many things which might be said concerning the nut by way of comparing it with Christians. Have you any further observations on this particular subject, Dr. Wilson?

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, I have. Nuts have within themselves the power of reproduction. Christians, too, should be reproductive. Each one has the power and the privilege of making known the story of redeeming love in such a way that others will believe and be brought into life, light and liberty. The Christian who does not reproduce himself in others, surely has failed of God's plan and neglected the opportunity given by his Lord. And again, nuts are durable. That is, they stand the storm; they weather the gale. They are not easily injured by adverse conditions. They are constantly exposed to the elements, but the elements only make them rich with nutrition, sweet and tasty for their owner. So the believer is exposed to the elements of life. Storms of adversity may whip him around; gales of trouble may buffet him sorely; but he still keeps his place on the blessed tree of life and flourishes under the storm to which he is subject. Furthermore, only God can make a nut. The great coconut or the little filbert alike are the products of God's hands. No human being can make a pecan, a walnut or a chestnut.

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, I have. Nuts have within themselves the power of reproduction. Christians, too, should be reproductive. Each one has the power and the privilege of making known the story of redeeming love in such a way that others will believe and be brought into life, light and liberty. The Christian who does not reproduce himself in others, surely has failed of God's plan and neglected the opportunity given by his Lord. And again, nuts are durable. That is, they stand the storm; they weather the gale. They are not easily injured by adverse conditions. They are constantly exposed to the elements, but the elements only make them rich with nutrition, sweet and tasty for their owner. So the believer is exposed to the elements of life. Storms of adversity may whip him around; gales of trouble may buffet him sorely; but he still keeps his place on the blessed tree of life and flourishes under the storm to which he is subject. Furthermore, only God can make a nut. The great coconut or the little filbert alike are the products of God's hands. No human being can make a pecan, a walnut or a chestnut.
Dr. Talbot: Well, Dr. Wilson, you have indeed given us a wonderful insight into this subject with its spiritual application. When I see Christians who act like nuts, I'll just realize the fact that I am looking merely upon the outward shell; whereas, I am sure, God looks upon the heart and sees the really worthwhile part of that life. A few mornings ago, during one of these conversations you said something about the egg. I wonder if you have any more information on that fascinating subject.

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, among the many wonders in nature, eggs hold a top place. The mystery of the hatching of an egg cannot be explained by any of the great minds of the world. Eggs hatch in multiples of seven days. The eggs of the potato bug hatch in seven days; those of the canary, in fourteen days. Hen eggs hatch in twenty-one days; doves' eggs, in twenty-eight days. One variety of the mallard hatches her eggs in thirty-five days. The eggs of the parrot hatch in forty-two days. Now things like these do not happen by chance in nature. God ordains and orders all the affairs of life, whether it be in the animal kingdom or in the vegetable kingdom. Have you ever considered, Dr. Talbot, how it is that the beautiful feathers of the peacock on which are accurate markings should be brought forth out of an egg that contains only yellow yolk and colorless albumen? How did the colors get there? Why are the colors always those that belong to that particular bird? How are the figures formed on the feathers in such a way that when the tail is spread the markings are perfectly in place and beautiful in appearance. You know, only a living God can do this. But to refer again to the hen egg, let us proceed. The shell on the small end of the egg is much thicker than on the large end. The baby will emerge from the shell through the large end, therefore God has arranged and designed the shell so that the baby can easily pick its way through where the shell is thin.

At the large end of the egg there is an air chamber. This may be seen when the shell is removed from a hard boiled egg. When the baby chick is formed in the egg, it is so placed that its head is in the big end of the egg and its little bill is in the air chamber. No matter how much the mother hen may turn the egg over and over during the three weeks of the hatching period, she never disturbs the position of that baby. This is another miracle of God. Man could not arrange it so, and neither can we understand how God does it. No matter how many times the egg has been turned or played with by the child, spinning it on a plate, the contents of the egg are not disturbed. The baby will always be formed with its nose in the air chamber at the large end.

Dr. Talbot: Well, Dr. Wilson, that is certainly amazing. Tell us some more about the egg and the chick which hatches from that strange bit of God's nature.

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, perhaps you should note the formation of the yolk next. It is built like a battle ship, that is, the lowest part of the yolk is rather dense and heavy, while the upper part is light and thin. This causes the yolk to float upright at all times. In addition to this, there is a rope of albumen which is attached to the two sides of the yolk and on the other end is attached in a mysterious way to the inside of the shell. This attachment is a very slippery joint, so slippery, in fact, that no amount of spinning the egg will cause the yolk to turn over. These ropes hold it upright. It is because of these ropes that the cook must scrape out this part of the "white" of the
egg. The little bill of the baby chick is so soft that it cannot peck its way through the hard shell. For that reason God makes a special tool which is to be used only once. This is in the form of a tiny cone made of a very hard substance, which exactly fits over the bill of the baby. It is with this hard cone that it breaks through the shell. There is just enough air in the air chamber to last the little thing two days. As the baby starts to breathe and the hours go by, there comes the time when the last breath of air is taken. The air causes the little one to swell up somewhat and as the chick lunges forward to get another breath of air which is not there, the impact forces a hole through the shell and the swelling of the body cracks the shell sufficiently so the chick can emerge. Within about two days after it is born, the hard cone falls from its nose. It is of no further use. Sometimes the cone sticks to the bill and the farmer must pick it off with his fingers.

Is it not strange, Dr. Talbot, that these little baby chickens know their mother? The chick may never have seen its mother before and maybe the eggs from which they were hatched came from many miles away, laid by a different hen in a different state. What forms the bond of attachment between a baby chicken and the mother who hatched it, we do not know. No one knows. It is another of the wonderful mysteries of God that a little chick will always go to its mother.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, it is certainly most interesting to learn these marvelous facts concerning God's handiwork and the way that He has made things. By the way, I have often wondered when I have seen chickens roosting at night, I have often wondered what enabled them to stay on the roost. You know, I think that if you and I were roosting at night, we should be apt to fall off in our sleep—if we could ever get to sleep in that position.

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, that is indeed a most interesting question; and you, or any other human being, certainly would fall off the roost. You know it is very hard for you to squat on the limb of a tree without holding on even while you are awake. Just imagine how you would find yourself if you ever went to sleep perched up on a roost or the limb of a tree. This question, however, brings us to another example of God's skill and wisdom. The tendons from the four toes of the chicken form a single tendon in the ball of the foot. This tendon then winds around on to the front of the leg, passing through two deep grooves, thence up to the thigh where it spreads out into a fan-shaped muscle. While the leg is extended, the toes are spread open so the chicken can walk. When the chicken sits down, however, this tendon is put on a stretch across the joints and draws the toes shut. As long as the hen sits down on the roost, her toes automatically and tightly clutch the perch and she cannot fall off even when sound asleep. You see if God did not make provision for the hen's sleeping safely, we should have a bunch of nervous wrecks among the hens and the eggs would cease. How terrible that would be!

Dr. Talbot: Yes, indeed, Dr. Wilson. That would certainly be terrible. These are most interesting facts. What spiritual applications would you draw from these observations that you have presented to us?
Dr. Wilson: There are some very interesting spiritual applications to be drawn from these facts. The beautiful relationship that exists between the mother hen and the babies that are hatched out from her brooding is used by the Lord to illustrate His own love and care for us. In Luke 13:34, Jesus said, “How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen doth gather together her brood under her wings and ye would not.” We find that there are four times or occasions on which the mother hen calls her babies under her wings. One time is when she finds a bit of food, a crumb, or a worm, or a bug. She quickly sounds the dinner call and the babies come running for the dainty morsel. So Christ said, “He that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst” (John 6:35). Another occasion is when the experienced old mother sees an ominous black speck in the sky which circles round and round getting larger all the while. She now utters a very excited cry and calls the babies together from the menacing hawk. On another occasion she hears the thunder, sees the lightning flash, feels the cold wind blowing the leaves. Quickly she clucks her call of danger and calls the babies to shelter from the impending storm. Now at last as the shadows fall and the sun is set, she quietly calls her little treasures to sleep and rest. Oh, that we might come to Him, too, for protection, for comfort, for strength, for sustenance, that we might find in Him our perfect rest.

Dr. Talbot: That is certainly a beautiful illustration, Dr. Wilson. It is a real challenge for us to lean heavily upon the Lord Jesus Christ that He may protect us from every evil influence which would seek to destroy our testimony and our lives.

You know, Dr. Wilson, the other day I saw a caterpillar that was humping its way along a rail fence and at once I thought about you and wondered what you have observed concerning these little grubs. Some of them are fuzzy and some of them are slick and there are so many varieties of them. What about the caterpillar, Dr. Wilson?

Dr. Wilson: Well, you know, Dr. Talbot, a caterpillar is simply an upholstered worm. That caterpillar that you saw slowly crawling along has fourteen or more legs. It was covered with hair that is yellow, or white, or brown, or a combination of two or more of these colors. It eats green things with its tiny mouth and has no interest in beautiful flowers or in the sweet nectar that lies within the heart of those blooms. It makes no effort to fly but is content with crawling. It makes no show of gaudy colors but is content to be plain. As winter draws nigh, this peculiar little thing begins to weave a coffin around itself, beginning at the rear end and weaving forward. Finally it encloses itself completely in a casket that is waterproof, sunproof and unsinkable. Through the terrible cold of the winter it remains enclosed in its little house. When the springtime comes with its warm sunshine, in some peculiar, mysterious way, which I have not been able to understand, a ragged hole appears in one end of this casket and soon there emerges, not the worm that entered with its yellow hair and its many feet, but a beautiful butterfly with wonderful wings, brilliant color, six legs, and a long peculiar tongue with which it may draw up the nectar from the flowers. Only God could bring about such a great change. How does the butterfly get out? Does anyone know? What became of all those other legs and where did the hair go? For the butterfly has tiny scales, one million to the square inch. Dr. Talbot, the God who can accomplish this wonderful miracle is the One who can transform a life
and take it out of its condition of being colorless and drab and dreary and make it wonderful and beautiful if we but let Him have His way with us.

Dr. Talbot: That is a wonderful fact, Doctor. How beautiful are the applications that you bring out of just the ordinary things of life! Are there other forms of life that illustrate the transforming power of the Lord Jesus Christ in the lives of human beings?

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, there are many other forms of life that illustrate this wonderful power in transforming the life that is yielded to the Lord Jesus Christ. There is a little bug that is known as a grub. It is somewhat like the "June bug" but a little smaller. It crawls around in the mire and muck of a stagnant pond. Little does it care for the mud on the bottom of the swamp or the green scum on the top. Its joys and delights are in living there. It is unmindful of the glorious sunshine above, the singing birds round about, the beautiful flowers on the neighboring hills, the great trees around the bank. One day a strange feeling possesses this queer little creature. It has an itching in its back and its whole body becomes restless with a strange desire to climb to the surface. It laboriously makes its way up the stalk of some reed or weed until near the surface. There it pauses for a while to rest. Suddenly by a peculiar motion of the body, the skin or the shell bursts open and there emerges a new and beautiful flying creature, known as the dragon-fly. How thin are its wings, like gauze! How beautiful are its colors, like the rainbow! How lightly it flies, like the sunbeam flickering here and there! It scorns the scum. It despises the darkened depths of the stagnant pond. It cares nothing for its former relatives, associates and friends who are still in the muck and the mud. It lives on a higher plane and enjoys the beauties of God's creation. This is a beautiful picture of the great change brought about by the new birth of the soul. The wicked man lives in the mire of his sins and the filth of his passions until one day the wise Creator of men, Christ Jesus our Lord, finds him. The transformation is complete. Up he comes into the sunshine of God's love, to be graced with gifts of heaven. O, what a change!

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, you have made us a little homesick for that "land that is fairer than day." It is going to be a glorious experience when we receive our resurrection bodies "fashioned like unto His glorious body." But here I find myself lost in meditation about the glories of heaven, and yet we are still down here in the flesh. I must come back to earth. A few days ago you mentioned some birds. What have you further on that subject, Dr. Wilson?

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, one of the most interesting birds is the lark. It is perhaps the most beautiful of all singing birds. It is not so attractive itself, but its song baffles description. Many poems have been composed about the entrancing strains that emanate from this little throat. Many stories have been told of its wonderful song. In all of these poetic efforts, however, nothing is said about the feet of the lark. They are ugly and quite out of proportion in size. The toes are unusually long and are covered with rough unsightly growths. Did God make a mistake when He gave the lark her beautiful voice, so exquisitely rich, and yet gave her such unsightly feet? No, God always doeth all things well. The lark does not build a nest, but lays her two eggs on the ground in some small depression, perhaps at the edge of a field or pasture. If any danger should arise whereby her eggs might be destroyed, she picks up
those two eggs in her two feet and flies away with them, to deposit them in a place that would be more safe from intruders. Her toes are extra long so that they can enclose an egg without crushing it, and are made horny and rough so the egg will not slip out and fall. The God who thus cares for the little lark cares more deeply for us. It is safe for us to put our lives into His hands.

Dr. Talbot: Yes, Dr. Wilson, we surely ought to be able to let the Lord take control of our lives; He has done such a wonderful job in caring for all the rest of nature. But you said that larks do not build nests. Who taught the other birds to build their nests?

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, that is a good question. The baby birds were not around when the mother built the nest in which they were hatched. I have never seen baby birds receiving instructions on nest building. I do not know of any college professor who specializes in teaching birds to build nests. I did observe one day a sparrow trying to begin the construction of a nest under the eaves of the house near my window. The wind was blowing that day in fitful gusts. As fast as she would bring a bit of yarn, or a piece of grass up to the beam, the wind would blow it away. The little bird was not to be whipped in this manner, and I saw her do an unusual thing. She brought a bit of grass up to its place, and stood on it as a gust of wind blew. Then she quickly darted down for another piece and thus she performed between the gusts of wind, until the nest was formed and anchored. You asked the question, “Who taught the bird to build nests?” I’ll tell you. She learned this trick and all the birds learn how to build nests from the God who doeth all things well. A bird which has been hatched in an incubator and which has never seen a nest or another bird will build a perfectly good nest of the sort which is built by its kind, and will lay her eggs in that nest. No wonder Job’s pride was humbled, when God said to him, “Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom?” and “Doth the eagle mount up at thy command and make her nest on high?” (Job 39:26-27).

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, you have been pointing out for us the fact that the wisest of men haven’t very much knowledge to boast about, and that God alone is the One who knoweth all things and who doeth all things well. Now, you have been telling us about birds’ eggs; perhaps you would tell us something about fish eggs or just fish in general.

Dr. Wilson: Fish eggs make a very interesting subject, and perhaps we shall talk about that some day. But here is an interesting fact. The sea water is filled with salt. Most of the fish which we eat are taken from this salt water. Have you ever noticed that none of these fish are salty? All fish taken from the ocean must be salted at the table or at the cannery, before the meat is tasty and fit to eat. Why is it that a fish can live all its life in salt water and yet none of the salt gets into it? That is just another touch of God’s handiwork. The Christian is reminded by this incident that, though we live in this world, the world should not be in us. We may live many years in the very midst of the world with its pleasures, its attractions, its allurements, and yet be wholly separated unto God.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, a circus came to town not so long ago, and I saw the parade. The elephants attracted me. As I watched them, I wondered how in the world they could ever get up once they were lying down. I don’t un-
Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, I suppose the elephant has been the source of more interest than any other animal in any circus. It seems so awkward and cumbersome in its movements, and yet it may be that you did not discover the reason. The elephant, as you know, has the largest and the heaviest body of any living animal. Other animals are able to rise from the ground on two legs. The cow, whose hind legs bend backward, lifts its body first on its hind legs, and then completes its rising motion by the front legs. The horse, whose hind legs also bend backward, reverses the operation. It rises first on its front legs and then completes the job by lifting the remainder of its body with the hind legs. Why do not these two animals rise from the ground in the same way? What light does the hypothesis of Darwinian evolution shed on this peculiar characteristic?

The hind legs of the elephant are quite unlike the hind legs of other quadrupeds in that they bend forward just like the front legs. This wise provision of God was rendered necessary because of the great weight of the body. The elephant could not lift the tremendous weight alone on two legs. It must use all four of its legs to lift so many pounds to an upright position. The God who fitted the elephant to carry its burden is able to fit you to carry yours if you but put your trust in Him.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, I have heard a great deal about "'possum pie" which is a great delicacy to some of our southern Negroes. Now anything that pertains to food always interests me. Tell me, what do you know about the opossum, and what are some of its habits from which you draw lessons?

Dr. Wilson: Well, Dr. Talbot, the opossum is a most interesting little animal, and it shows the wonderful love and protecting care of our Lord. You know the mother opossum carries her babies on her back. There is very little hair on her body, and therefore the babies would have nothing to hold on to when she carries them. God has made provision for this situation by teaching the mother to curl her long, stiff tail up over her back to her head. The babies jump up on each side of her back and curl their tails around her tail. In this way there will be four or five of the babies hanging securely on each side of the mother's body. Those on one side counterbalance the weight of those on the other side. Who taught the opossum this trick? Is there a school in which opossums are trained? Did some great atheist or infidel suggest this method of transportation to the opossum family and teach them to do it? The Lord of all creation is the same One who is interested in the little things of life, and He alone has given to this little animal and to all animals the knowledge which they have.

Dr. Talbot: Well, Dr. Wilson, I surely am thankful I'm not an opossum. It would be bothersome to carry four or five children on each side of my body as I make my way to the studio each morning.

Dr. Wilson: Yes, we should be thankful for many things, Dr. Talbot. We should be thankful because we do not have universal joints at our elbows. How would mother lift the skillet from the stove if the elbow joint did not have a stopper on the back side to keep the arm from going all the way back? Have you been thankful that your knee is not a universal joint? How would you ever stand
upright or walk if you didn't have a stopper to keep the knee from bending all the way? And how thankful we should be because our teeth are made to match. You had nothing to do with it—neither did your good mother. The President never planned it in any of the progressive programs which he has instituted. It happened that way because a loving, personal God, a thinking God, a God who knew how, has ordained that people should be born that way. The teeth are arranged in exactly the right way. You could hardly chew corn from a cob with molar teeth. You certainly could not bite through some of the steaks being offered us today with wisdom teeth. Wisdom would tell you not to try it. God gave us these teeth of ours for the express purpose of doing what they are supposed to do for our greatest benefit. That is how much He loves us.

**Dr. Talbot:** And I suppose that the reason we must use store teeth some times, is because we have abused those which the Lord has given to us. But now you have gotten on the subject of these bodies of ours. After all, our bodies are about the most interesting subject that we could discuss. Perhaps you could give me a few hints as to how I could improve my figure.

**Dr. Wilson:** Dr. Talbot, did you ever stop to thank the Lord for putting your nose on your face up-side-down? If your nose were turned right side up, then when it rains you would drown, and every time you sneeze you would blow your hat off. God never intended the nose to be a dust-catcher, so He placed it in the right position. And, too, did you ever thank God for the organ of taste? By the tongue, you can tell whether the substance you place in the mouth is strawberry or pumpkin pie—whether it is a potato or a plum. The taste remains the same all through life, and in every part of the world. Strawberries always taste like strawberries, and watermelons never taste like apples. What confusion we should have if vegetables, fruits, grains and meats should change their taste every year, or should taste differently in different parts of the world! Only God who loves us could preserve this condition, and only a living, personal God who loves could or would have given us an organ of taste which can distinguish the different kinds of food. The farmer should bow his head in thanksgiving because he does not need to plant all of his seeds right side up. What a job he would have placing such grain in the ground in the proper position. He would never get the job done, nor could he hire enough people to do it in a satisfactory manner. The living Lord has placed in each seed that peculiar thing which we call "instinct" so that the seed never gets confused about directions, but always comes up. Whoever heard of a seed that grew in the wrong direction? All seeds of every kind may be placed in the ground in any direction, and they will certainly find their way up to the light. If God should fail to do this, just once, in any season, what a catastrophe it would be for the world!

**Dr. Talbot:** Dr. Wilson, we should be ashamed of ourselves for not recognizing God's handiwork in the ordinary things of life. You have certainly glorified these matter-of-fact things for us, and made us appreciate what blessings we do possess more than ever.

**Dr. Wilson:** Dr. Talbot, we are a thankless lot, indeed. We grasp after and grab every good thing that God has to offer, and usually forget to thank the One from whom we received it. He has placed our eyes in deep sockets, pro-
ected by overhanging ledges of bone and eyebrows to catch the dust; yet how many of us thank God for preserving our eyes? He has placed the heart—the most precious of all our organs—within its bony prison protected by ribs and by arms, but we take it for granted, and forget. The important blood vessels of the body and the principal nerve trunks are placed safely on the flexor, or inside places of the arms and legs, as well as in deep-seated places in the rest of the body. A wise and understanding God knew the hazards on the road of life and arranged special protection for these parts which are so essential to life.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, you mentioned the heart a moment ago. Tell me what makes it beat. How does it work, anyway?

Dr. Wilson: That is a question that has baffled doctors from the beginning. There is a time in the life of the unborn child when there is no heart beat whatever. The heart is just being formed. The parts are not complete. Then, one day, that heart, tiny as it is, gives its first beat. Why does it do it? What makes it do it? The mother has nothing to do with it, or the father. Certainly the child does not bring it about by any will power of its own. The great men of earth do not cause it to happen—no laws have been passed in any country to govern it. God starts it. And only God will stop it. The God who made it, even the God who starts it beating, the God who will stop its beating, wants us to let Him have these hearts of ours.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, during these past mornings you have been giving us some of the marvels of God's creation in the animal world. I am sure that you have equally interesting information concerning the other types of creation. God shows Himself in a wonderful way in all creation, does He not?

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, God has revealed Himself in every part of His creation. Wherever we turn we see His handiwork and His love for us manifested. Out here on the Pacific Coast you do not know much about that wonder of God's creation known as coal. You have another means of heat, and equally wonderful, in the great oil deposits found in the West. But I should like to call to your attention some interesting facts about coal. Every time I see a pile of coal, I take off my hat, bow my head and worship God for his loving kindness. Think of the potential possibilities that are hidden in a piece of black coal. From it we may obtain light, so that we may turn the night into day. By means of it steam is created for operating the dynamos in our power houses, that electricity may light the nation. By it power is obtained for driving great locomotives, propelling great ships, operating machinery of every kind. By means of coal our homes are heated; our office buildings made comfortable; our meals cooked. Coal furnishes the heat for thousands of factories. Coal makes it possible for our children to go to school in the winter time and be made comfortable in the class rooms. Coal operates farm machinery of many kinds and propels road machinery of many descriptions. Coal is the original source of coke, tar, ammonia, gas, graphite, and many other important and useful substances. Indirectly from coal and its by-products we obtain pitch for roofing purposes, sulphur, Prussian blue, benzol, carbolic acid, dyes for photography, dyes for cotton, dyes for wool and silk. Aspirin is a distant by-product of coal. So are salicylic acid, cinnamon oil, analine, lysol, phenol, and many other kinds of oil which are used for medicinal purposes. Coal must lie

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dormant and useless until the magic touch of man makes use of all these potential possibilities. It has no power whatever in itself. The ordinary person cannot develop these useful qualities of coal. A chemist must do it. Our lives, too, must be in the hands of One who is able to bring out all that is in them, the best of our possibilities. The Holy Spirit alone can do this. He knows what we are best fitted to do, and He knows how able we are to do it. God invites us to present our bodies a living sacrifice, in order that the Holy Spirit may use them as He sees fit. He will make of every such life a success in the highest sense of the word.

Dr. Talbot: Well, I have always appreciated coal before, but I have thought it to consist merely of a hard combustible substance that got our hands dirty when we handled it. I did not realize that all of these things came from coal. Is there anything more that coal is used for in our daily lives?

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, by the destruction, the alteration, the conversion of coal, we obtain potent medicines, beautiful colors, fragrant perfumes, active acids, powerful gases, valuable dyes, excellent water-proofing materials and ink for writing purposes. What a miracle it is that God should take carbon, which is a black, insoluble, tasteless, odorless, basic principle, and by His touch transform it sometimes into sweet, white sugar, sometimes into beautiful, brilliant diamonds and sometimes into black useful coal! Only a wonder-working God could make coal, which is such a wonderful asset to man, and from which may be obtained so many useful and necessary substances. Did you ever stop to realize that for the coal to impart its power to us, it must lose its own indentity? If it is to give heat, it must be burned. If it is to impart power, it must be thrown into the furnace. If it is to radiate light, it must be set on fire. Nothing can save itself and still be a blessing to others. Even Christ laid down His life, that the believer might have life. His enemies said truly, "He saved others, himself He cannot save."

Dr. Talbot: After what you have told us, Dr. Wilson, I am sure that all our listeners realize that man with all his wisdom could never have devised a piece of coal. It takes almighty God to fashion such a marvel of creation.

Dr. Wilson: Yes, Dr. Talbot, it would never have entered the mind of man to make one article here on the earth, from which there might be obtained one hundred twenty-three or more distinctly valuable materials for the daily use of men. These products are used in the factory, in the parlors of the rich, in the palace of the king and in the cottages of the poor. The by-products of coal are found in the drug store, the hospital and the doctor's office. You may find them in the beauty parlor, in the restaurant and in the laboratory. They are found on the roof of the house and on the shelves of the grocery store. Ice is made from a coal product, and the dyes in your garments are probably from the same source. We should do as the prophet said, "Declare among the people His doings."

Coal is always black wherever it is found, and men are always sinful wherever they are found. Coal is useless until man utilizes it. Sinners, likewise, need a divine touch from heaven to transform their cold lives into warm, useful, radiant lives to be a blessing to others. The perfumes which we obtain from the by-products of coal are valued highly by the queen and prized greatly by the lover. Who does not delight in perfume? Even so can God bring out of the sinner's life fragrant graces of character which will
bring joy to the hearts of many. As the chemist brings from the black coal through its by-products its most beautiful colors, green, orange, yellow, red, blue, violet, mauve, brown and indigo, so the Lord can take each life that is presented to Him and bring out of it traits of character which will beautify the life of the owner and which will enable him to glorify the God of his life.

And then, Dr. Talbot, may I just give this thought? As coal contains within itself tremendous power for producing power, so the Lord picks up man, saves him, endows him with wonderful gifts and endues him with His Spirit of power. Such men go forth from the presence of the Lord to move the hearts of many. Such a man was Spurgeon; Moody, likewise, had power over human hearts. Luther stirred the world, and the Wesleys transformed England. The potential possibilities of a saved man are wonderful. Oh, that we might let the Chief Chemist work on us to accomplish His wonderful purposes!

**Dr. Talbot:** Well, Dr. Wilson, you have certainly given us a comprehensive study during these past moments on the subject of coal. I appreciated especially your applications, because, after all, we want to know how to discover God's truth from the every day things of life. The next time I am eating some food, I shall wonder whether I am chewing on a transformed chunk of coal or not. By the way, Doctor, you mentioned the diamond. I have been interested in that precious little stone for a long time. How are diamonds made? How long are they in the process of being formed? Why are they so expensive? What makes them sparkle so in the light? These are questions about which I have wondered many times.

**Dr. Wilson:** Well, Dr. Talbot, the diamond is probably the most fascinating stone in all the world. How strange it is that God should take black carbon, which is dark and dense, and by the transforming power of lava heat and tremendous pressure, change that substance into the beautiful gem which adorns the bride's finger! Most of the diamonds in the world have been found in South Africa. Geologists have found great deposits of lava in chimney-like formations which extend deep down in the earth where diamonds abound. All diamonds were at one time lost. They have been found by searching men. All sinners have been lost, but some have been found by the seeking Saviour, have been rescued from the depths of darkness and despair and have become the property of the King of kings. Diamonds are always found in the rough. They must be polished by the lapidary, and suitably set by a jeweler. So our Lord takes the rough sinner and begins to polish him as a gem for His crown. Only He can do the polishing. Only He knows how much the stone can stand. Only He knows the best shape the stone should finally take. Only He knows the best setting, the best circumstances in which to place His gem. The Lord will transform us, as we yield to Him, from an ugly black, to beautiful, brilliant, striking colors, if only we allow Him to have His way in our lives. And now is the ideal time to do just that.

**Dr. Talbot:** Well, Doctor, you have been telling us some of the marvels of the diamond. I wish you would continue to tell us something of the wonders of precious stones, and their spiritual applications.

**Dr. Wilson:** Yes, Dr. Talbot, I shall be glad to do so. I am sure you know what an opal is. It is one of the most beautiful of the precious stones. We are told that God takes a
handful of sand and buries it deep in the ground where the terrific heat from beneath and the tremendous weight from above will transform it into the beautiful stone we admire so much and which we call the opal. Tradition has it that the opal in some way affects the fortunes of life. This, of course, has no foundation or fact, for God rules the destinies of men, and an opal can only enhance the beauty of its owner. The opal really has no color of its own but has the unusual ability to radiate the various colors from the sunbeams causing it to flash like fire. Only God can make an opal and only God can make you reflect the beauties and the glories of Christ Jesus the Lord.

Dr. Talbot: It is wonderful indeed to realize that the beauty of the stone comes as a result of great heat and pressure. It helps us to understand a little better why the Lord allows some heat and pressure to come into our lives, in order that He might refine and purify, and make us beautiful in His sight.

Dr. Wilson: Every stone that is beautiful, Dr. Talbot, has gone through the fires or has been subjected to some kind of ordeal. That seems to be the law of nature, and since all laws of nature are simply God in action, we conclude that it is the law of God. That is true in the lives of Christians also. Those people who have gone through the greatest persecution and suffering are the ones who invariably shine out the brightest in the Lord’s work. There is another stone that illustrates this truth for us in a remarkable way. It is the sapphire. This beautiful gem seems to be a product of clay. The living God, who made the clay originally, took a handful, and deposited it deep in the bowels of the earth where it would be subject to intense heat and great pressure, so that, when men by laborious digging should find it, it would have been transformed into a beautiful gem fit for the crown of a king. There are many colors in sapphire stones. Some are a beautiful corn-flower blue and unusually valuable. Others are yellow and are known as golden sapphires. Violet sapphires have been found and others with a bright orange color. This is a very expensive variety of the stone, usually coming from Ceylon across the sea. Only God can make a sapphire and only God can transform the common sinner who is like the common clay into an uncommon Christian, prepared for the palace of glory. Let Christ have you and He will transform you, too.

Dr. Talbot: These are indeed most wonderful truths that you have been giving us. I am sure the people have been blessed in their hearts, as my own heart has been blessed. Dr. Wilson, a few mornings ago you spoke about the birds and their nests in the trees and along the marshes, and in other places. I have always been amazed when I see how a tree grows and shoots out its leaves in the spring. Then that tree is transformed from a dead looking thing into a thing of great beauty and gracefulness. What do you know about the leaves, and what lessons have you for us in connection with the leaves?

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, tree leaves have always fascinated me. There is nothing that speaks more eloquently of the love of God and the infinite care He has for His creation than the tree leaf. Leaves are common and yet quite uncommon. In Isaiah 64:6 are these words: “We all do fade as a leaf.” In this short statement, we may learn many lessons about our lives which it will be profitable to observe just now. Only God can make a leaf. Each leaf has life. Each leaf denotes the plant or bush or tree from which it
fell. Each leaf in itself tells whether it is a new leaf, young in days, or an old leaf that has withstood the storms of the season and is ready now to fall. In this respect human beings are quite like the leaf. There are young ones with their soft, tender years, their lovely trusting hearts, their sweet ways and with the buoyancy of youth. The years pass by and these begin to fade and to fail as the leaf on the tree. Leaves are not fruit. Leaves in the Bible speak of a profession and a confession which may or may not be accompanied by fruit. Our Lord found a fig tree on which there was “nothing but leaves.” He expects more than leaves in our lives. He would have us laden with fruit for His glory and blessing for our fellow-men.

Leaves are born to die. They appear in the spring and we know quite well that they shall fall in the autumn. By examining the leaf after it has fallen, we may tell something of its experiences through the summer. Some fall full sized, unmarred, beautiful in color, glorious in tints; whereas others fall curled, shrunken, sear, and yellow and even perhaps eaten by worms and other enemies. Some are split and torn by the savage winds. The condition of the leaf tells either a story of protection and progress or a story of adversity and hardship. So it is in the life of a man or a woman who reaches the end of the long summer of life. A sudden gust of wind, some disease, or some accident may quickly tear the body away from its moorings and it is blown to the grave. Some fall in the midst of the summer of life from the glorious heights of the tree-top to the gutter of the street, to become soiled and wrecked long before their time. Some hang on through all the storms of the seasons and cling throughout the winter to the limb of a tree as though they would not let go this life. These are they who live on, past the allotted three-score years and ten, past ninety, and attain even the century mark.

Dr. Talbot: These are interesting facts, but tell us just what lessons you draw from these leaves.

Dr. Wilson: Some leaves grow more beautiful as they grow old. Their colors are enhanced by the passing of time and they give out a golden brilliance that is beautiful to behold. Just so, some believers grow more beautiful as they grow older. Others give a benediction of peace to those in their presence. Some develop most beautiful traits of character when the hair becomes whitened with the wintry blast and the face becomes wrinkled with the sorrows of the summer. Others become more cruel as age creeps on. They give way to their passionate tempers; they become unruly, hard to live with, unreasonable in their demands, unsatisfied, fault-finding and critical. These are like the leaves that fall from the cottonwood and the peach tree. There is nothing attractive there, nothing beautiful. They fall in the wind, are swept away from sight and are never missed. But there are leaves which are so beautiful in the fall of the year that the school children gather them, place them in their memory books, take them to school for the teacher to see, and save them for after years. In gathering these lovely leaves, the children ignore many others because they are not attractive. They do not appeal to the child’s sense of beauty or value. There are those in life who are like this. They seem to serve only themselves. They do not care to develop those Christian graces which will make them beautiful throughout their lives and especially lovely in their last days. And then just this thought, Dr. Talbot: fig leaves proved to be only false finery for Eve. They shrivelled and shrank and left her exposed to the eyes of an offended God. So today, leaves of profession will not suffice to hide the soul from God.

Dr. Talbot: Dr. Wilson, I awoke the other day and when I went to my kitchen, I was amazed to find that a colony of
ants had taken over. And they had no disposition to leave, either. They were having a Democratic convention or something, right there on my kitchen sink. I wondered what good could ever come from these ants that we find everywhere, in our kitchens, at our picnics, and almost everywhere else. But I have never found any ants in church. I suppose they are like many people in this regard, are they not? But what about the ant anyway?

Dr. Wilson: The great King Solomon on two occasions has called our attention to the little ant, that we may profit thereby. In Proverbs he said, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise." Again he said in the same book, "The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer." Since this wise king has recommended that we go to school to the ant, let us do so for a while. I am sure it will be delightfully interesting. Yes, you were right when you said we find ants at all our picnics. Someone has said, "The ant is the busiest creature in the world, but she has time to attend every picnic." Have you noticed how quickly the ants find the food? Not only do they hunt up every picnic, but they seem to seek out every pantry. They like jelly and jam. They rejoice in sugar and syrup, and are not easily kept from entering. They are most assiduous and arduous in all their labors. They are diligent and vigilant in seeking out their food. They seem to be tireless in their labors. They work while it is day, and stay at home at night as all good children should do. I took Solomon's admonition quite seriously one day and journeyed out to the park with the family for a picnic, taking along a magnifying glass. After sufficient search, I found a tiny path through the grass which had been made by the ants. Lying down beside the path, I waited for Mrs. Ant to appear. You see, all the ants that go to picnics are females. It is a case of "let the woman do all the work." The male ants remain down in the ground, taking care of the babies and doing the housework. I did not have long to wait until a lovely little lady-ant came ambling along the path, seeking her supper. I quickly placed a piece of bread down at the edge of the path and my little visitor soon found it. Taking as much as she could carry, she started back along the path, going home with her precious burden. Another ant soon met her and I was delighted to observe what followed the meeting. The first ant laid down her piece of bread and with her front feet she gently touched the body of the second ant, imparting to her in some way the good news about the location of her great find. To my astonishment the second ant made no effort to seize the piece of bread which the first ant had deposited on the ground. As ant number two loaded up with bread and started back along the trail, I watched both of them. Each time the performance was repeated and each time the bit of bread on the ground was unmolested. What a lesson this is to our hearts. Chickens or dogs or pigs or people will quickly grasp any bit of food laid down by another, and will run off with it. The ant knows no such impiudence. She respects the rights of others. She admits the propriety of ownership. She disclaims all selfishness. Oh, that we as Christians would follow this example and reveal that same unselfishness which characterized our Lord.

Dr. Talbot: It must have been an amusing sight to see you lying flat on the ground, watching through your magnifying glass like Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Wilson. But it was certainly worth it to discover these great lessons which you have been giving us.

Dr. Wilson: As the ants journeyed home, bearing the precious burden, they told so many about their find that soon
a stream of ants was on the journey, and before long all the piece of bread was stored safely away in their ground homes for the winter. So it is that God's good Gospel has spread. One comes to the Bread of Life and feeds to the full and goes on his journey to tell others whom he meets of the wonderful treasure he has found. By tongue and by pen the news is spread that Christ Jesus is the Bread of Life. So thousands upon thousands have come to Him, and others are coming only to find that the half was never told.

Dr. Talbot: What are some of the interesting physical characteristics of the ant, Dr. Wilson?

Dr. Wilson: Dr. Talbot, each ant has four pairs of ears. There is one pair of ears in the two front legs; another pair in the abdomen; another pair in the thorax, and another pair in the head. God has graciously gifted this little insect with unusual hearing ability, because it is so small that it cannot see much and therefore cannot avoid danger. God shows His care for ants, as well as for elephants. He cares for you, too, no matter how small or weak or insignificant you may think you are. He cares for every moment of your life, and He wants all of your devotion and trust. The ants are very diligent and active in the summer time because they know that the winter is coming when there will be no picnics. They dare not venture out when snow and ice are on the ground. They know better than to leave their homes when the temperature is below freezing. They have learned from some source that frozen food cannot be carried or broken loose from the ground. Where did the ants learn all of these needful things? Did some atheist or infidel somewhere, sometime, establish a school for teaching ants about the future? Will any of these learned gentlemen kindly step up and tell us how the ant became so wise? Perhaps when the ant and the elephant and the alligator and the dog all parted company from the original protoplasm, they divided up among themselves the different ways of living and were self-instructed. Who knows? Let us gather together some of the professors from some of our great universities and have them expound this mystery. "God hath made foolish the wisdom of this world." All the lawmakers, the joke makers, the sports writers, the money makers, together with all the teachers and professors, with all the politicians and unbelieving preachers in the country put together, could neither give life to a dead ant nor teach a live ant how to live. We have a living God on the throne who knows all about it. He can do it, and He does do it.

Dr. Talbot: Well, you have certainly eulogized the ant for us. I suppose I must have more respect for her in the future. But I am warning all ants that, if they get in my kitchen, regardless of these lessons which they supply for us, I'm going to exterminate every one I can find. You said a moment ago that the ant prepares for the future. That is a vital lesson for us to learn, isn't it?

Dr. Wilson: Yes, it certainly is. You will recall that Moses was commended of God because he believed in future judgment and prepared for it. He knew that the avenging angel would pass through the land at midnight and would destroy all the first-born who were not under the blood. He knew that even his own house would not be exempt. As great as he was, and as good as he was, he knew that his house must be protected by the blood. He obeyed God; he shed the blood of the lamb; he applied the blood over the door; and his house was saved. Noah, too, was commended because he believed that there was coming judgment and...
he also prepared for it. He did as the ants do. He prepared for trouble ahead. He built an ark. He obeyed God's Word and entered in as he was instructed. He had learned the lesson which the ants teach. Life insurance prepares for coming death. Storm cellars prepare for future cyclones. Coal is bought in the summer for the cold that is coming in the winter. Christ Jesus is a Refuge for the coming storm of God's wrath. Let me urge each reader to be wise like the ant. Jesus Christ is the only place of safety from the storm of judgment that is surely coming upon the world. Now is the time to receive Him; when the storm breaks, it will be too late to enter the ark of safety.

**Dr. Talbot:** These are certainly vital truths you are giving us, and I hope all our listeners will heed the lessons which you have been giving. When you were speaking at the Torrey Bible Conference here last January, you mentioned something about the dandelion. You know I have been picking dandelions out of my front yard ever since. I did not realize they were such persistent little things. Tell us some more about them, and the lessons you get from them.

**Dr. Wilson:** Dr. Talbot, did you plant the dandelions in your front yard? No, of course you didn't. Dandelions are no respecter of persons. They adorn the yards of the rich, and they show their yellow glory around the hovels of the poor. They delight to grow in the cemetery or in the garden of the prince. They flourish in the woods where no one can observe them, or they show their smiling faces right near your front steps, though they certainly will be dug up at the first opportunity. How persistent they are. How quickly they develop. They are up in the morning before you are. They blossom and go to seed and seed your

neighbor's lawn while you are trying to make up your mind whether to dig them out yourself or hire someone to do it. They are the first to bloom in the spring and the last to be discouraged in the fall. Let us consider the message which the dandelion gives us. We, too, should be out early with the seed of the Word of God and continue until the shadows fall, scattering the message. If the grass in your front yard is two inches high, the dandelion will grow three inches. If you should neglect to cut the lawn and the grass grows five inches long, the dandelion will grow six inches high and smile at the sun. If you should be on a vacation and the grass should grow ten inches long, then that persistent, "not to be whipped" dandelion will grow eleven inches tall and stick up its nose at the passing throng. It simply will not be downed. It rises above its circumstances. It will not be outdone by its neighbors. It has an ambition to get somewhere and it gets there. Dr. Talbot, it would be a wonderful thing if we had a church full of Christians with the same degree of persistence, wouldn't it? I mean persistence in getting above circumstances, and living above environment, and persistence in getting out the Word of life.

**Dr. Talbot:** Dr. Wilson, if I had a church like that, I should think the millennium had come.

**Dr. Wilson:** And I suppose it would be here, except that we shall not be preaching during the millennial reign of Christ, shall we? Instead we shall be reigning with Christ. You know one dandelion plant may multiply itself by several hundred. Quite a few blooms will appear from the one plant, and on each bloom there will be many seeds. Each seed is equipped with a sail to carry it on the wind. The Lord knew that no one would plant dandelions and that
men would despise them, so He gave them the means of quickly recovering from the devastating knife of man by causing them to multiply quickly and profusely. The seeds ripen very quickly and a puff of wind blows them over the entire neighborhood. So the Lord would have us be fruit-bearing children of His. It is those who turn many to righteousness, who shall shine as the stars for ever and ever. The Father is glorified if we bear much fruit.

The dandelion is not easily discouraged. It does not wilt with sorrow because it has to bloom behind the barn. It does not hide its face with shame because it cannot be on the front lawn of the courthouse. It does the bidding of its Maker happily and beautifully, whether it is in an obscure place or in a very prominent garden. Our Lord would have us serve just as well among the poor as among the rich. We should serve as gladly and as efficiently with the few as before the many. We should not care at all for those who observe us but only for the pleasure of Him who sent us.

Dr. Talbot: Well, Dr. Wilson, you certainly have rebuked all of us who get discouraged because we do not find our condition exactly according to our liking. We should more consistently emulate the dandelion which makes the very best of its surroundings and always comes out victorious. But tell us some more interesting facts concerning this garden pest.

Dr. Wilson: Just as the dandelion knows no season, so the servant of God should be, "in season, out of season." When the world thinks that the Gospel is out of season, the Christian must know that it is in season. When the world thinks the Scriptures are out of place, the believer must know that the Word of God is always in place. There is no time that is out of season for the precious Word of the living God.

The diligence of the dandelion should be a challenge to our hearts. It is often growing and doing the will of its Maker, while God's children are growing and living in disobedience. The dandelion is busy producing the flower for beauty and the seed for service, while some of God's saints are busy cultivating ugly habits and destroying the seed that others have sown. The dandelion does what its Master equipped it to do, while sometimes the Christian is busy doing the things he should not do. Dandelions always tell the same golden story. Who ever heard of a blue dandelion? They bring that golden yellow up out of a black soil. They smile at you in the cold, gray morning and bid you a golden greeting at night, when you come home weary with the work of the day. How like this we should be! Why should not the child of God show the golden glory of the Sun of Righteousness in his face constantly? We, too, should have a happy greeting for those whom we meet along life's road. They should see us and take courage. They should see our example of diligence and persistence and take new heart. Our presence and our actions should instill new hope in the hearts of those who observe us.

Dr. Talbot: A few more of those suggestions, Dr. Wilson, and you will have me regarding the dandelion so highly that I will hesitate to pull it up out of my lawn.

Dr. Wilson: No, Dr. Talbot, you keep on pulling it up just as rapidly as possible, for the dandelion does not seem to care. There will always be plenty of those little plants from which we may draw lessons. As the dandelion seeks out every nook and corner in which to grow and smile and prepare its seed, so should we constantly seek opportunities to bring the sunshine of God's love and the seed of His Word into every nook and corner in the community where
we live. What a fertile spot every place presents! Sometimes we sow the seed in the jail and sometimes in the orphan's home. It may be in the home of a neighbor where we shall sow the flowers and fruits of God's grace, or it may be in the office and the shop. Everywhere the soil is ready, waiting for the seed we are to be sowing early and late, permitting the Holy Spirit to blow our message into every heart where He would have it go. The beautiful golden yellow of the dandelion comes from the dark, damp soil. How can black dirt produce a beautiful blossom? Ah, that is one of God's mysteries. Only God can do it. Only God would do it. It is a miracle which we often see in nature and also in society. Out of the dark ground comes the white hyacinth, the yellow rose, the blue cornflower, the purple violet, the tinted lily and the golden dandelion. Out of the woe and filth of sin God has brought many a man and many a woman who adorn His doctrines and who exemplify the glories of His great grace. Men who are a curse in the home have been changed into a benediction. Men whose mouths were foul and filthy with liquor, tobacco, and oaths, have been made into vessels of glory, whose mouths were filled with His praises. Men who were a curse to society have been transformed into the greatest of blessings. Yes, our God can bring beautiful things out of horrible things if only we will trust our souls and our lives to Him.

Dandelions care for neither the smiles nor the frowns of men. Their business is to bloom and they do it. Their work is to seed the soil and they accomplish it remarkably well. Their business is to work early and late, and they never take a vacation. The Lord help us to be like the dandelion!