

HOME-BUILDERS

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"They two went on, they two stood by Jordan.
They two went over on dry ground." II Kgs. 2: 6, 7, and 8.

All eyes are turning to the homes and home life of the world to-day and putting their gaze on those homes the people behind those eyes are placing their fingers down on the dearest institutions of the land and saying, "If we have crime waves among our young people and if they are becoming atheists after going off to school the cause is right here."

Now to-day we are taking a text in relation to Elisha and Elisha, and it fits well in a message to home builders. "They two went on." I take this text because it suggests unity and harmony, without which we can have no home. How important it is for husband and wife to go on in their home life with unity of purpose of thought of ideals and of endeavor. The home that lacks these elements is but a hot bed for criminals. If the home is responsible for great men it is also responsible for great criminals. The agents playing a large part in the development of criminals are a godless father and mother.

There is more than harmony suggested by the text. There is progress. "They two went on." It is possible to foster a unity, demand of real life and wholesome activity. Be real good toward each other but lazy and indifferent toward every body else. A healthy home is going to give of itself to others and not receive all to itself. Its children will be taught unselfishness.

I am not speaking of the progress - as called - that turns the children and the mother so that the social life of the parents will not be hindered. The first duty of parents is to be with the children enough that they be known and loved by their own children. The words of Jean Paul Richter, in another century are good. The words were these: "The most essential sermon one could preach to our century is a sermon on the duty of staying at home."

Progress in home building means growth in 1. Tenderness. 2. Gentleness. 3. Considerateness. They can do for the heart what the broom stone, broom, carpet and the art collector can not do.

St. Porges beautiful home in Joxo in the afternoon and Lady remarked that the man and wife of that home were separated.

Home Builders (Can) (2)

Home is a training school preparing every member of the family for the battles of life.
Ill. Pasteur French Scientist's said, speaking of his parents, "I thank you for what you were."

Secret of home builders is not - mental culture, wealth, or social ability but Jesus.

II

"They two stood by Jordan. Ill. young husband and wife lost little child. "Spring will hang its green beauty over the river - the mt. side but the rock is still there."

III

"They two crossed over a dry ground"

Illustrations

1. Gibbon. "when I look back I see they have been fleeing. when I look forward all is dark and doubtful."
2. Old Artist. His masterpiece was called "The valley of shadows" He had associated the passing of a soul with darkness and gloom. He later came to know the Good Shepherd. when he was passing through the best valley he called for his painting and brush and paints. "I have made a mistake and must change my picture for the valley is flooded with glory. "They passed over a dry ground!"



"Low under snow of apple blossoms is beautiful but under the frost of year divine."