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July 2022

Box 11, Folder 53 - "...was cast out into the sea..." (E.M.S.)

Edwin Mortimer Standing

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Recommended Citation

Standing, Edwin Mortimer, "Box 11, Folder 53 - "...was cast out into the sea..." (E.M.S.)" (2022). *Manuscript Fragments, n.d., Edwin Mortimer Standing, n.d.* 23.

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was cast into the sea and enclosed fish of every kind at once. When it was full the fishermen drew it up and set down on the beach, where they stored all that were worth keeping in their buckets, and threw the useless kind away. So it will be at the end of the world: the angels will go out and separate the wicked from the just, and will cast them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping, and gnashing of teeth."

Or again he said to what shall I liken the Kingdom of Heaven. It is like leaven which a woman took and buried in three measures of flour until it was all leavened.

Again The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and cast into his own garden; and it grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the air dwelt in its branches."

And so the divine discourse flowed serenely on -without a break, as picture after brilliant picture was placed before the mind's eye. It was all so vivid so alive so near to them, so real -- the treasure hid in the field, the pearl merchant, the fisherman and his net, the woman baking for the family, and yet behind it all there was a great mystery. It made you think: it made you want to know more. You felt this man knew what he was talking about --" he spoke with authority and not as the Scribes and Pharisees. As you listened you felt yourself somehow being stirred by thoughts beyond the reaches of your soul. As you listened the you caught glimpses of new horizons and the whole world seemed to become radiant as though bathed in the splendour of a new light. You felt this man knew what he was talking about - "he spoke with authority not as the Scribes and Pharisees."

was going round that many who had done that had been cured of various ailments.

The service began with the usual opening prayers ; then followed the readings from the Scriptures appointed for the day . They were read by one of the Rabbis , who after handing the scroll back to the usher sat down to make the commentary . It was a long, dull and lifeless dissertation full of minute and recondite details calculated to impress the audience with the speaker's knowledge of the Law . Most of the audience listened to him attentively hoping to pick up scraps of information or inspiration which would help them in their daily life - but it was a case of " the hungry sheep look up and are not fed " (Wilton)

At last the sermon was finished , the speaker retired to his hid place and the usher came forward to where Jesus sat to lead him to the little raised platform that served as a sort of rostrum or pulpit . At this there was a general stir through the congregation as people changed their positions and settled down to listen with eager expectancy . They were not disappointed . Breaking the hushed silence Jesus began to speak . Who could describe that discourse as the words of Life came pouring forth in an eager torrent from His Divine Heart .

To what shall we liken the Kingdom of Heaven
The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field which a man found and hid it again , and now for the joy that it gives him , is going home to sell all that he hath to buy the field .

Again the Kingdom of Heaven is like a pearl merchant looking for pearls - a rare pearl ; and now he has found one pearl of great price , and has sold all that he had and bought it .

Again the Kingdom of Heaven is like a net that was cast