

FIFTY SHORT SERMONS

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Fifty Short Sermons by T. de Witt Talmage & May Talmage

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T. DE WITT TALMAGE & MAY TALMAGE

**FIFTY SHORT
SERMONS**

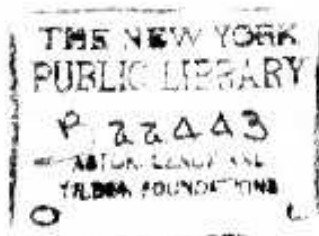
FIFTY SHORT SERMONS
BY
T. DE WITT TALMAGE

COMPILED BY HIS DAUGHTER
MAY TALMAGE

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I

The Three Crosses

Just outside of Jerusalem is a swell of ground toward which a crowd are ascending; for it is the day of execution. What a mighty assemblage! The three persons to be executed are already there. Some of the spectators are vile of lip and bloated of cheek. Some look up with revenge, hardly able to keep their hands off the sufferers. Some tear their own hair in frenzy of grief. Some stand in silent horror. Some break out into uncontrollable weeping. Some clap their hands in delight that the offenders are to be punished at last. The soldiers with drawn swords drive back the mob, which presses hard. There is fear that the proceedings may be interrupted.

Three crosses in a row. Three trees just planted, yet bearing fruit—the one at the right bearing poison, and the one at the left bitter aloes, the one in the middle apples of love. Norway pine, and tropical orange, and Lebanon cedar would not make so strange a grove as this orchard of Calvary. Stand and give a look at the three crosses.

Just look at the cross on the right. Its victim dies scoffing. More awful than his physical anguish is his scorn and hatred of him on the middle cross. This wretched man turns halfway around on the spikes to hiss