

Why I Go to Church on Rainy Sabbaths.

BY FRANCES R. HAVERGAL.

I ATTEND church on rainy Sundays because,

1. God has blessed the Lord's day and hallowed it, making no exceptions for hot or cold or stormy days.

2. I expect my minister to be there. I should be surprised if he were to stay at home for the weather.

3. If his hands fail through weakness I shall have great reason to blame myself, unless I sustain him by my prayers and presence.

4. By staying away I may lose the prayers which may bring God's blessing, and the sermon that would have done me great good.

5. My presence is more needful on Sundays when there are few than on those days when the church is crowded.

6. Whatever station I hold in the church, my example must influence others. If I stay away why may not they?

7. On any important business rainy weather does not keep me at home, and church attendance is, in God's sight, very important.

8. Among the crowds of pleasure-seekers I see that no weather keeps the delicate female from the ball, the party, or the concert.

9. Such weather will show me on what foundation my faith is built; it will prove how much I love Christ. True love rarely fails to meet an appointment.

10. Those who stay from church because it is too warm or too cold or too rainy frequently absent themselves on fair Sundays. I must not take a step in that direction.

11. Though my excuses satisfy myself, they still must undergo God's scrutiny; and they must be well grounded to do that.

12. There is a special promise that where two or three meet together in God's name he will be in the midst of them.

13. An avoidable absence from the church is an infallible evidence of spiritual decay. Disciples first follow Christ at a distance, and then, like Peter, do not know him.

14. My faith is to be shown by my self-denying Christian life, and not by the rise or fall of the thermometer.

15. Such yielding to surmountable difficulties prepares for yielding to those merely imaginary, until thousands never enter a church, and yet think they have good reason for such neglect.

16. I know not how many more Sundays God may give me, and it would be a poor preparation for my first Sunday in heaven to have slighted my last Sunday on earth.

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