

Vol. 29, No. 3

July, August, Sept., 1978

Part One

July 2

# Reaping

The Harvest Time of Life

My dear little harvesters: Today I have brought a small sheaf of grain to tell us of the harvest-time. The springtime is very pleasant, the air is fragrant. the birds are singing, and all nature seems to be rejoicing in its freshness and beauty. The world looks just as new and beautiful as it did thousands of years ago. Each spring it puts on youth anew.

When the summertime comes, when it gets along to the harvest time, along in July and August, then the weather is very warm. The color of the fields has then greatly changed, the blossoms have disappeared from the trees, and we find that everywhere the fruit is beginning to appear. The harvest fields are ripe and are waiting to be gathered.

There is just about that same difference in life. Youth is the springtime of life. It is full of hope, and full of bright prospects. As we grow older, the cares and responsibilities of life multiply, then we begin to bear the toil and labor which comes with the later years. Then we are like the farmer who enters

has to be done under a very hot and scorching sun.

A man, called a naturalist, who has devoted a large amount of time to the study of plants, tells us that there are about one hundred thousand different kinds of plants. Each kind of plant bears its own seed, and when that particular seed is sown, it always bears its own kind of fruit. Wheat never yields barley, nor do oats ever yield buckwheat. When you plant potatoes, you expect to gather potatoes and not turnips. An apple tree has never grown from an acorn, or a peach tree from a chestnut. Each seed, always and everywhere, bears its own kind. It is on this account that the Bible says, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

There are some grown persons, as well as children, who think that they can do very wrong things while they are young, and afterwards suffer no bad results. People sometimes say, "Oh, well! let us sow our wild oats while we are young." Now the Bible tells us that if we sow wild oats, we must reap wild oats. Four or five handfuls of wild oats into the harvest fields where hard work will produce a whole bag full of wild oats when gathered in the harvest of after life. Be assured, my dear friend, that "those who sow to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption," and "those who sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind." "Sow an act, and you reap a habit. Sow a habit, and you reap a character. Sow a character, and you reap a destiny."

It may seem a long period between the spring and the harvest time of life; but be assured, my dear young friends, that the early years will speedily pass. Before you are aware of it, you will be men and women with all the responsibilities of life upon you, and then you will be sure to reap the reward of what you do now while you are boys and girls. Lord Bacon said that "Nature owes us many a debt until we are old," but nature is always sure to pay its debts. The ancients had an adage that said, "Justice travels with a sore foot," but it usually overtakes a man.

It is told us by historians that, in olden times, the harvest in Egypt and Syria would return an hundred fold for one sowing, and in Babylonia oftentimes two hundred fold for one sowing. Now, if a single grain of wheat were planted in soil as fertile as that of Egypt, at the end of eight years of sowing and reaping, if we had a field large enough, the product would be sufficient to feed all the families of the earth for more than a year and a half. If we were to undertake to plant one grain of wheat in this way, after a few vears we would fill all the fields which would be suited for a wheat harvest. Down near the equator it would be too hot for the wheat to grow successfully. In the north it would be altogether too cold. On the mountain side the soil is not fertile, and oftentimes is very rocky. For these, and various other reasons, it would be impossible to cover any large portion of the earth with wheat, for not

every portion would be suited to produce a harvest. Were it not for this fact, in the course of seven or eight years, the entire earth might be made to wave as one vast field of wheat.

There is one truth which God has planted in this world. That truth is God's love manifested in the gift of His Son Jesus Christ for the salvation of all mankind. This truth is suited to every age of the world, to every nation of the earth, to all classes and all conditions of people, and to every human heart. During the past centuries men have been planting and replanting this seed of divine truth, sowing and resowing the earth with it, gathering and reaping the harvest and sowing again.

It is your privilege and my privilege, both one and all, to have some part in this glorious work of sowing and resowing, and the Scriptures assure us that "he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:6.

-With the Children on Sundays
B. S. Stall

The father of a little girl had died. At the funeral the preacher said that this father had gone to heaven. The little girl was much interested in heaven because her father had gone there. She asked her mother many questions about heaven. The mother answered her questions as best she could and told her that God would some day send for them and take them to heaven. The little girl wanted to know when God was going to send for them. The mother told her that she did not know just when, but it would be some day. The little girl after thinking a moment said. "If we do not know when He is going to send for us, don't you think we had better pack up and be ready?" Yes, we had better be ready.

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

The Apostle Paul took Silas with him and they started on Paul's second missionary trip to revisit the churches that he had established on his first missionary trip. He went to his home town, Tarsus, from Antioch in Syria and then on to Derbe and Lystra. There he met Timothy, a young convert of his previous journey. His mother and grandmother Eunice and Lois, were believers, and by them Timothy had been instructed in the Holy Scriptures from his infancy.

The verses in our lesson from First and Second Timothy are parts of letters written to Timothy later by the Apostle Paul. Paul loved Timothy as his own son. He was a comfort to Paul many times. The parts from First Timothy were written to Timothy when Paul was in Laodicea and the parts from Second Timothy were written toward the end of Paul's life when he was brought before Nero in Rome the second time. Paul speaks in our lesson, in II Timothy, of the tears that Timothy had shed, no doubt over Paul's imprisonment. Without ceasing, Paul had prayed for young Timothy. He wanted him to carry the beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, gospel to those whom he could not from God the Father and Christ Jesus reach, since he was a prisoner. He loved Timothy and knew that Timothy loved God. He told Timothy to not forget that feigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt

he had been called to the ministry, and for him to be faithful. He should remember that God did not give anyone the spirit of fear. He did not need to fear people but know that God would give him power, love and a sound mind, or understanding, and clearness of the truth so he could help others to know what God would do for any person who would serve Him. He told him not to be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord. but be a partaker of sufferings for Christ's sake and for Paul's sake. In the day of Timothy and Paul, many people worshipped idols. Many also kept the law of Moses and refused to accept Jesus as the Christ. Timothy had many hard things to face. Paul told him to not let anyone despise his youth, but for him to be an example in love, conduct, in purity, and in spirit. If he would watch and take heed to himself, he could both save himself and those who heard him. -Aunt Marie

# Lesson 1, July 2, 1978 PAUL FINDS TIMOTHY

Acts 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

II Tim. 1:2 To Timothy, my dearly our Lord.

5 When I call to remembrance the un-

first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

I Tim. 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

I Tim. 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

Memory Verse: Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith,

charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. II Tim. 2:22.

## **QUESTIONS:**

 Where did Paul and Silas first go to from Antioch in Syria?

2. Whom did they meet in Lystra and of what nationalities were his mother and father?

3. What kind of a report did Timothy have from the brethren at Lystra and Iconium?

4. What did Paul do first with Timothy so there would not be any hinderance from the Jews in their work for God?

5. Before Paul's death, he wrote a letter to Timothy, while he was a prisoner of Nero. How did he begin his letter?

6. How did Paul say he had prayed for Timothy?

7. What were Timothy's mother and grandmother's names and what did they do for him?

8. What kind of a gift did Timothy have from the Lord?

9. Does God give us a spirit of fear? If not, what does He give us?

10. Should we be ashamed of the sufferings that might come to us for serving God?

11. When Paul was in Laodicea, before he went to Rome, he wrote the book of I Timothy to young Timothy. In what did he tell him to be an example? (verse 12).

12. What did Paul tell Timothy to do about reading the Word and what was he to meditate or think about?

13. If Timothy took heed to himself and to the doctrine by continuing in it, what would others see in him?

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Part Two

July 9

# The Chart

Avoiding the Dangers

My little men and women: We are all travelers. Now when a traveler starts out upon a journey he always desires to have in his possession one of these things which I hold in my hand. I know you will recognize it at once, and say that it is a map. This map tells you the name of the country; it shows you where there are mountains, where there are rivers, where there are valleys, where there are cities, and shows you the entire United States of America. In traveling through a strange country, if you do not have a map, you might be lost upon the mountains, or your journey would be obstructed by the rivers which you could not cross, and in various ways you would find it absolutely necessary to have a map.

Now, when a traveler goes out upon the sea, it is just as necessary that he should have a map, or what the sailors call a chart, as it is for the traveler upon the land. The chart which the sea captain has, shows the mountains, the north or south. valleys, and the rivers which are in the as upon the land. The rocks, against is necessary that we should have a

which ships are sometimes dashed to pieces, are simply the tops of high mountains that come very near to the surface of the sea; and the captain without a chart, not knowing where they are, is likely to run against them with his ship. The islands are simply the tops of these mountains, that rise higher above the water, and form a place of abode for man; and we call them islands, because they are very much smaller than the great continents on which you and I live.

Charts of the sea always locate the dangerous places. They show where other ships have been foundered, and oftentimes where hundreds and thousands of lives have been lost. It also shows what are really rivers in the sea. or great currents, one of which we call the Gulf Stream. When a ship is crossing the Gulf Stream the motion or current of this water might carry it many hundreds of miles out of its course, and if the captain had no chart he would not be able to allow for this distance. which the ship is being carried, either

You and I are travelers in this world. sea; for these exist in the sea, as well We are out upon a great voyage, and it chart, and therefore God has given us reach his desired port in safety. the Bible, which you and I can use greatly to our advantage. In the Bible, God has pointed out the dangers which lie like the hidden rocks under the surface of the sea. In the commandments. God marks out the great dangers which beset you and me. There is the rock of Idolatry: whole nations of the earth have been wrecked on this rock. There is another, Profanity, swearing: Oh! how many people are ruined because they do not observe how God has marked this dangerous rock, against which no one can run without danger of losing his immortal soul. Then there is reverence due to parents; and God marks another, "Thou shalt not kill"; and there are others, against stealing, against bearing false witness, against covetousness. All these dangerous rocks God has marked in the Bible, in order that you and I may not run against them, and thus be shipwrecked in our voyage to the haven of everlasting rest.

God also marks the influences with which you and I must come in contact. Every child who goes to school feels the influence of other children, some of whom are very bad. If he permits himself to be moved by these things he will go wrong, just the same as the ship that is crossing the Gulf Stream is carried out of its course. So the Bible warns us against bad company.

The chart which the sea captain has, indicates also the ports of safety. It shows the location of these different ports, and the direction the captain must take in order to reach them. The Bible shows us where you and I can find refuge in the day of storm, in the day of trial, in the day of sickness, and in the day of distress. To the sea captain, out upon the great ocean, there are ten thousand directions which are sure to end in shipwreck. There is

What would you think of a captain out upon the seas who folded up his chart and laid it carefully away, and never looked at it, never studied it, never sought to know what was on the chart? Do you not see how he would go upon the rocks? His ship would go down to the bottom of the sea, just as surely as if he had no chart on board his ship. It is important that he should have his chart in constant use. So it is important, not only that we should have the Bible, but that we should use the Bible, that we should read it. that we should study it, that we should know what it says. I trust that each and all of you not only have a Bible. but that you study it daily, and that vou seek to avoid the dangers which God has pointed out, and that you desire to know the will of God concerning you.

> -With the Children on Sundays By S. Stall

# Working for Jesus

"Wait up," yelled Billy as Robert took off down the street. Robert had some tracts in his hand. He was going to give them to the people across the tracks who were very poor. They lived in houses that needed painting.

"I'll help you," Billy said as he caught up with Robert. "I wasn't going to go with you to hand out tracts but mv mother told me a true story about a man who had been out of work for months and didn't have any money. He had not had a mouthful of food for three days. He had used his last money to buy some poison some months before. He intended to take his life as things looked so dark. Poor man was in such trouble."

"Did he drink that poison?" asked only one safe way to go, in order to Robert as they crossed the tracks.

"Well, he went out into the country that the Holy Spirit leads us to do work the bottle of poison and looked at it. As he held the bottle for a while he glanced over close to some bushes. He saw a slip of paper. He got up and picked it up. He read it through. It was a tract and it told about sin and hell. Tears ran down his cheeks as he read it. Soon he was praying to God for help. He was saved and didn't take the poison."

'Let us hurry, Billy. Maybe we can help someone too." Robert said as he took off in a run with Robert following —M. Miles him.

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Paul, Silas, and Timothy continued on their missionary trip. They went through the cities and delivered the decrees, written by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem, which is in the letter that we studied about a few Sundays ago. (Acts 15:23-29) They found that this caused them to become established in the Word of God and they grew in numbers.

They continued on through Phrygia and the regions of Galatia. They wanted to go to Asia to preach the Word but the Holy Spirit forbade them to do so. When they came to Mysia they wanted to go that were ordained of the apostles and into Bithynia but the Holy Spirit elders which were at Jerusalem. stopped them. They felt it was very Boys and girls, today we want to be sure number daily.

and sat down under a tree. He took out for God. Sometimes we see others who are not obeying God's Word and we want to tell them right away, that they are wrong. But think about Ezekiel. God told him to go and warn the people that they needed to do right but when he got there, he wasn't able to talk to them because God stopped him. We read that for seven days "he sat where they sat." In other words, he put himself in their place. Boys and girls, when you can see another boy or girl from their view point, or look at the way they have to live, their home life, or their problems, then you can better understand how to help them. (Ezekiel 3:10-17). God wants us to help others, but we want to use wisdom and be sure that the Lord is leading us. Yet, we do not want to be like a mule that you have to use a bit and bridle on before it will go where you want it to go. We want to be guided by the eye of the Lord. Remember, how your mother looks at you when you have company, so you will know that what you are doing is not right? She is showing her disapproval and then you quickly quit. Let the Lord make us know how He wants us to live, act, speak, and walk.

> After they saw the vision they went straight to Philippi and at the river side they met Lydia who opened her heart to the Word of God. She and her household were baptized. Surely it pays to be led by the Spirit of God. —Aunt Marie

## Lesson 2, July 9, 1978 BEING LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 16:4 They [Paul, Silas, Timothy] delivered them the decrees for to keep.

5 And so were the churches estabimportant to be led by the Holy Spirit lished in the faith, and increased in out Phryg-i-a and the region of Gala-tia. spoken of Paul. and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

7 After they were come to Mys-i-a, they assayed to go into Bi-thyn-ia: but Lord, come into my house, and abide the Spirit suffered them not.

8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Tro-as.

- 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saving, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.
- 10 And after he had seen the vision. immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

Psa. 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which ha o no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

Acts 16:11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Sam-o-thra-ci-a, and the next day to Nea-polis:

12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down. and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that 14. Where did the gospel workers stay?

6 Now when they had gone through-|she attended unto the things which were

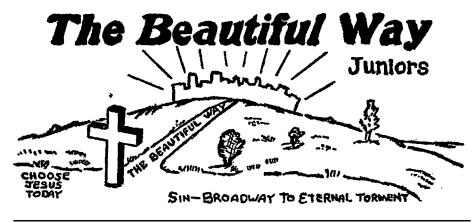
15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saving, If ve have judged me to be faithful to the there. And she constrained us.

Memory Verse: For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Romans 8:14.

## **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Who went through the cities and delivered the decrees from the elders and apostles in Jerusalem?
- 2. How were the churches getting along that Paul, Timothy, and Silas visited?
- 3. When they came to Asia and wanted to preach the gospel, who stopped them?
- 4. What happened when they got to Mysia and wanted to go into Bithvnia?
- 5. What happened when they arrived at Troas?
- 6. What did they do immediately after Paul had the vision?
- 7. What does the phrase "assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to preach" mean?
- 9. How will God teach us, instruct us and make us know where to go?
- 10. Can you lead a mule or a horse without a line, bit or bridle? Are we to be like them?
- 11. What does verse 12 tell us about Philippi?
- 12. Where did they go on the sabbath day?
- 13. Tell about Lydia and what she did for a living. Did she accept the Word of the Lord?

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Part Three

July 16

# They Took Me In

"Who is she?"

"Couldn't say. She is a stranger here,"
I think."

"Yes, she lives in that little house down by the bridge, you know, girls, that tiny bit of a house covered with that white rose."

"Where we always got so very many flowers to decorate with because no one ever lived there. Why, the house is almost tumbled down. How can anyone live there?"

"No one would if they were not very poor. Of course you can tell by the girl's clothes that she is poor."

"Come on, girls, never mind talking about her." said one of the number impatiently. "What difference does it make to us who she is? We will be late," and the group of merry girls passed on down the street.

Meantime the subject of this conversation was hurrying in another direction, her eyes blinded by the quick tears that had sprung unbidden to them when the wistful glance she had cast at the girls had been met with only those of cold curiosity.

"It is hard to be so alone," she murmured, "but I must not let Mama know."

The girls went on their way, unconscious of the wistful look, or unthinking that they had been in any way unkind.

Nellie Ross had noticed, however, and she was thoughtful all the afternoon. How must it feel, she wondered, to be alone among strangers. As they were returning home toward night, she whispered to her particular friend:—

"Do you know, Mabel, I cannot help thinking of that girl we met this morning."

"What girl?" asked Mabel Willis, with a slightly puzzled air.

"Why, the one that Margaret said lived in the little cottage you know."

"O yes. What about her?"

"Why she looked at us so wistfully, and I never see her with anyone; she must be lonely."

"Well?"

"You know what the Bible says," she said slowly: "I was a stranger and ye took me not in.' This girl is a stranger and don't you think we might apply that?"

"Just what are you thinking of, Nellie?"

"I was thinking that we might call on her and ask her to join our Sunday school class, and that might open the way."

Mabel laughed. "You always were a regular missionary, Nellie; but I hardly believe I care to go with you," with a shrug of her shoulders.

Nellie was disappointed, but she said no more for she had learned the uselessness of arguing with Mabel, so she determined to make her call alone.

Nellie felt a little timid as she presented herself at the tiny home the next afternoon. The girl herself answered her rap, and invited her into the wee living room. In an easy chair at one side of the fireplace reclined a delicate, sweet-faced woman.

"My name is Nellie Ross, and I have noticed you and thought you were a stranger here," began Nellie in the winning way that had always won her many friends. I thought I would call and ask you to join our Sunday school class. We have such good times, and Mrs. Allen, our teacher, is so interesting."

"I would like to go," the girl faltered; "but they are all such strangers to me, and"—

"That will not matter," declared Nellie. "I will come for you and will introduce you to the rest of the girls."

"I thank you, my dear," said the woman, before the girl could answer again. "I am sure Edna will be glad to go. It has been rather a trying time for her, I fear, since we came here, although she has never complained, for fear it might worry me.

"She was always in church and Sunday school at home. My health failed and we moved, thinking a winter here might save my life.

"My husband could not come with me, for he must work at home to get money to pay our expenses, so Edna gave up her school and everything to come with me. We are compelled to live very cheaply, you see, but I am getting better, and I think I shall get quite well, if only Edna can be contented here," with a fond glance at her daughter.

"Of course, I shall be contented

Mama," replied Edna.

"I'm sure she will like the Sunday school very much," Nellie earnestly said. "I will come for you in the morning."

She did so, and Edna went with her, although she felt a little shy, but the warm welcome given her by Mrs. Allen, and the friendliness of the girls, soon made her feel at home. It was not until the school joined in singing the last song, that she so far forgot herself as to join in the singing. Then the girls were astonished. She sang alto beautifully.

"Really," cried one of them as soon as they were dismissed, "you must come to our young people's singing, will you? We

do need an alto badly."

From that time on, Edna had no cause for loneliness, for she was one of the girls, and her mother smiled and grew better.

-The King's Daughter and Other Stories

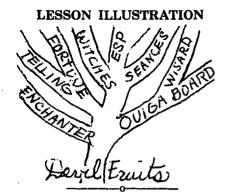
#### **His Love**

My heart is glad when I behold A field of daisies sweet, Or when I see the golden tops Of softly swaying wheat.

My heart is glad when I behold A sunset in the sky, Or see a lovely winged bird As it goes flying by.

My heart is happy at each thing
In nature that I see,
Because I know that every one
Shows God's dear love for me.

-G. K. Boller



Dear Boys and Girls:

I am sure that you have come in contact with fortune-telling or heard about it, also witchcraft of various kinds. Many today want to say that it is just a part of you that needs to be used or exercised and that you can do the same things. But boys and girls, be sure and watch that kind of thing. Yes, it does seem that at times a person can have certain feelings about things, and they do come to pass. They are possibly things that are given to us for our good. but that is a lot different than being possessed with the devil. Do not let that thing get you to dabbling with witchcraft and other spirits. Some have gone from that kind of feeling, or a few things that they had to come to pass and got into seeking spirits that were evil and they now hear voices and are disturbed. Flee from that kind of thing. All of you need to seek God for salvation so you will be fortified against evil spirits. Just being a sinner doesn't mean you are possessed with the devil. There is a great difference in being influenced by the devil and by being possessed.

Our memory verse lets us know that the devils know there is a God and they believe and tremble. You may say that you believe there is a God but that he came out the same hour. doesn't mean that you are saved from sin. Today, many sectarian churches naum; and straighway on the sabbath

teach that all you need to do to be saved is just believe, but it takes more than that. Rom. 10:9 says. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus. and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead. thou shalt be saved." It takes more than head knowledge to be saved. We must with godly sorrow confess our sins and repent, or turn away from sin, and have a change of heart, mind, and life. By faith in the shed blood of Jesus that will cover our sins, we must believe that through Jesus. God will accept us into His favor.

The girl with the evil spirit and the man with the unclean spirit were both filled with the devil and worked under his directions. We see that each had to recognize God, yet the devils didn't want to leave the house in which they were dwelling. Jesus and the man of God, Paul, had power over the devil and the girl and man were delivered.

-Aunt Marie

# Lesson 3, July 16, 1978 DELIVERANCE FOR THE DEMON-POSSESSED

Acts 16:16 And it came to pass, as we [Paul, Silas, Luke, and Timothy] went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaving:

17 The same followed Paul and us. and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And

Mark 1:21 And they went into Caper-

day he entered into the synagogue, and | QUESTIONS: taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out.

24 Saying, Let us alone: what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saving, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying. What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

Deut. 18:10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.

11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord; and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

Memory Verse: Thou believest that there is one God: thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. James 2:19.

- 1. What happened when Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke went to prayer?
- 2. What kind of an evil spirit was the damsel possessed with?
- 3. Was she valuable, money-wise to her masters?
- 4. What did she call out as she followed the men of God?
- 5. How long did Paul put up with her and how did he feel about the situation?
- 6. At what hour was she delivered from the evil spirit?
- 7. In Deuteronomy we read about what Moses gave as a command from God to the Israelites, Discuss the different kinds of evil workings of the devil.
- 8. Do we have those kinds of spirits working in the world today and what should we do about them when we hear of them or come in contact with them?
- An abomination to the Lord would mean something that was hated and disgusting. How does God feel about all the witchcraft etc., that we have in the world today?
- 10. A man with an unclean spirit came into the synagogue in Capernaum where Jesus was preaching with authority. All of a sudden, what did he do?
- 11. Discuss our memory verse-what else do we have to do to be saved beside just believing?
- 12. What did Jesus do for the man who had the unclean spirit?
- 13. What did the people think of the power that Jesus had?
- 14. Can people be delivered today who are possessed?

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Vol. 29. No. 3

July, August, Sept., 1978

Part Four

July 23

# The Stolen Orange MOTOR

"Mamma will never know," thought Flora Marshall to herself, as she took a large orange from the piled-up dish on the table, and, putting it in her pocket, went hastily up stairs.

She was expecting two or three little friends to spend the day with her, and had been busily arranging the doll her kind mother had given her; but while lingering about, waiting for them to come, she was tempted to take one of the oranges which had been placed on the table ready for dinner. She hurried from the room, but had not reached the top of the stairs before her brother's voice stopped her, calling, "Flora, Flora, make haste, I see some of your visitors coming in at the gate"; and directly after there was a knock at the door, and she could hear the voices of Kate and Effie Somers.

Flora ran quickly down stairs, but her face was flushed, and she felt miserable and ashamed as she met her young friends, and took them to the parlor to speak to her mamma.

not forget how wrong she had been; and the dish of oranges setting right before her on the table kept her fault ever in her mind. Besides this, not having been able to eat the orange she had taken, she was in constant fear lest she might draw it from her pocket with her handkerchief, and thus be covered with shame in the sight of her young friends.

Poor Flora! she had sinned against God, and against her kind mother, and had spoiled all her afternoon's pleasure for the sake of an orange. At dinner time she could not raise her head to meet her mother's glance, who saw that something was wrong with her, and who said very kindly, "Flora, dear, you are scarcely eating anything—are you not well?" This made Flora ready to cry with shame and repentance. Her conscience was too tender to allow her to be happy while her fault remained unconfessed.

All the afternoon they had merry games, in which everybody joined. They played "Drop the Handkerchief," "Hunt the Slipper," and other games, winding up with "Blindman's Buff." Flora tried to laugh and talk as After this the little girls went home. merrily as any of them, but she could and Flora was left alone with her papa

and mamma while the younger children were getting ready for bed.

Several times she had fancied she had dropped the orange in some of the rough movements of the games, and had gone more than once quietly into a corner of the room to feel in her pocket if it was still there. Yes, it was quite safe enough. "How could I be so wicked and greedy?" thought Flora; "Mamma always gives me as much fruit as is best for me, and yet I have made myself a thief, and after all have not eaten the orange, or been able to put it back, and it has spoiled all my pleasure." She sat still, miserable and unhappy for a little longer, and then her resolution was made-she would tell her mamma before she lay down to sleep that night.

With a slow step and a beating heart she went toward the window where her mother was sitting. "Well, Flora," said Mrs. Marshall kindly, "you seem tired and out of spirits tonight; have you come to wish me goodnight?"

"O Mamma!" sobbed Flora, "I have come to tell you how wicked I have been, and how very sorry and miserable I am"; and hiding her face in the folds of her mamma's dress, she told the story.

"Here it is, Mamma," she said, drawing the orange from her pocket, "and I think I shall never see an orange again without remembering this bad afternoon."

Very gravely, but gently, her mother spoke to her about her sin, and the consequences it had brought upon her. "I shall not punish you, Flora," she said; "your own conscience has been a sufficient punishment. I have watched your pale, troubled face all the afternoon, and should have wondered what was wrong with you had I not seen you take the orange as I passed the door, which was slightly open. Knowing

what you had done, I was not surprised that you seemed unhappy."

"Will you forgive me Mamma, and believe that I will never do such a thing again?"

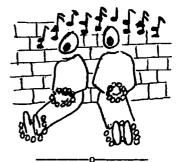
"I will forgive you, Flora, because you have told me of your fault; but remember there is One above whose forgiveness you must seek as well as mine, whose eye is always upon you, and who is very grieved when you do wrong. Go now, and before you sleep tonight ask God to pardon you, and cleanse you from this and every other sin for the sake of his Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ."

With a sorrowful, repentant heart Flora went to her room, and kneeling there asked God to forgive all her sins, and to help her for the future to resist temptation. It was a long time before she forgot the stolen orange and how miserable she had been that afternoon.

-The King's Daughter and Other Stories

God put a bow in the sky as a sign of His promise to never again destroy every living creature on the earth by water. Today we call it a "rainbow."

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Last Sunday we studied about the damsel in Philippi who was delivered

from the possession of devils, which had enabled her to bring money to her masters by her fortune telling. Our lesson toda starts with the angry masters of the girl going into the market place where no doubt, many people hung around with not much to do, and were ready to be stirred up over just any small thing. Paul and Silas were mobbed by the multitude and dragged before the rulers.

Before this, Claudius had expelled many of the Jews so this was one strike against them receiving justice and then the next accusation was that they were trouble makers. Their teaching of Jesus Christ coming as the Saviour of those who would believe on Him had not set well with these worshippers of stone or wooden gods. Without a trial, their clothes were stripped off and they were beaten with whips filled with lead. Then they were cast into the inner prison, which was probably without light and was damp. Their feet were put in stocks, which were pieces of wood drilled through with holes, into which the feet were thrust, and sometimes so far apart as to cause the stocks to become an instrument of acute torture.

This is the place where the Holy Spirit had led them to come and preach the gospel. Did they now doubt their leadings? No, they still had faith in God. Trouble should never cause us to doubt God's presence with us. We should do as they did, pray and sing praises unto the God of our soul. They did not look around them nor let the throbbing of the gashes daunt their faith. Their prison was turned into a palace as they looked to God and let the Spirit of God play on their heart strings of love for Him. When God touches a soul. He also touches those who are around that soul. The jailer was touched and when the hand of conviction seized upon him he was afraid. God had stocks.

shaken that prison and the prisoners were set free. The jailer knew if they escaped he would be held responsible. He drew out his sword to kill himself, but Paul cried, "Do thyself no harm; we are all here." The jailer gave way to the conviction of his need of salvation and fell down before them crying, "What must I do to be saved?" Right there, a soul was born into the kingdom of God. Boys and girls, singing songs in the time of trouble will help you and others around you. Have faith in God and believe that He will help you out.

The last part of our lesson is about the king being faced with a multitude of his enemies who came to destroy them. They were more than they could face, but by singing and praise, they got the victory over them and the enemy was defeated.

—Aunt Marie

# Lesson 4, July 23, 1978 Praise and Songs Bring Victory

Acts 16:19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers.

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas QUESTIONS: prayed, and sang praises unto God; and the prisoners heard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself. supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28 But Paul cried with a loud voice. saying. Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas.

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. and thy house.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

II Chron, 20:21 And when he [King Jehoshaphatl had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever.

22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

Memory Verse: In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I Thess. 5:18.

- 1. What did the masters do when they saw that the gain of money was lost when the damsel was delivered from the spirit of divination?
- 2. What did they tell the magistrates or rulers, that Paul and Silas were doing?
- 3. When the multitude rose up together against Paul and Silas, what did the rulers do?
- 4. What did they tell the jailer to do with them?
- 5. Did they have a trial according to the Roman law?
- 6. Describe the beating and what are stocks?
- 7. What did Paul and Silas do at midnight?
- 8. Can God turn a prison into a palace if we will let Him? How can this be?
- 9. Paul and Silas were led by the Holy Spirit to Philippi. Do you think they doubted their leadings now? Should we doubt God's leadings if we are made fun of or persecuted?
- 10. What happened when God caused an earthquake to come in answer to the prayers of Paul and Silas?
- 11. Why did the jailer reach for a sword to kill himself?
- 12. What did he do next when Paul cried, "Do thyself no harm; we are all here"?
- 13. After the jailer was saved, to whom did Paul and Silas preach?
- 14. The multitude came to destroy the king and the people of Judah. Who did the king send ahead of the army?
- 15. Did God honor their songs of praise in the time of trouble? What did He do?

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Part Five

July 30

### **HUSKS**

The Disappointed Pleasure-Seeker

In the 15th chapter of Luke, we have a very beautiful parable, called the parable of the prodigal son. Jesus tells of a very kind father who had two sons, but the younger son was dissatisfied and discontented. He was a boy who wanted to have his own way. He thought that his father was an "old fogy." The son wanted lively company and bright clothing. He wanted to travel and see something of the world. He asked his father to give him the money which would come to him at his father's death, in order that he might go immediately and have his own way. and have a good time, as he supposed.

This made his father very sad. When the father could not prevail upon him, and his son would not listen to him any longer, but insisted upon having the money, the father granted his request.

When the money had been counted out, the son gathered it all up, bade his father, brother, and all his friends goodbye, telling them what a happy time he was going to have, and started out for a far country.

When this prodigal came to the far country, for a few weeks, or possibly a few months, he had plenty of money. He thought his money would always last. Bad men and women gathered around him, for they all wanted to enjoy what his money would secure for them. But it didn't take long; his money was soon spent, and when his money was gone his pretended friends were gone also. He soon found himself penniless, friendless, and hungry. He had to go out and seek for work. Perhaps he had been too much indulged at home. He had never learned a trade. and possibly had never learned to do work of any kind, and so there was nothing for him to do but to accept the humblest and meanest kind of labor. He was a Jew, and for a Jew to tend swine or hogs was one of the meanest things in all the world. Yet he was willing because of his poverty and his want, to do even this most degrading service. This boy who wanted to be his own master, now became the most menial of slaves, even to the tending of swine. He wanted merry company, but he had only pigs for his companions. He wanted wine and feasting, but now no one even offered him husks to eat.

he found only misery.

When this wayward boy was thus brought down to poverty and hunger in that far-off country, while he was tending the swine, he began to think. If he had only stopped to think before he left his home, he would never have started away. He would surely have known that he was better off at home than anywhere else. But now that misery and want had come to him, we are told that "he came to himself." That is, he came to his senses. The trouble with boys and girls, and with older people too, is that they do not stop to think. They follow their fancies and sentiments, and they are led astray in this way.

God wants us to stop and think, and He says, "Come, let us reason together." God does not ask any unreasonable thing of us. He simply wants to treat us as thoughtful beings, but we want to follow our own inclination and our own desire. God treats us very kindly. He gives us every needed comfort and every daily blessing, and yet oftentimes people are discontented and dissatisfied with God: they complain and think they have a hard time of it. Instead of being faithful and true to God, they turn away from Him. They desire to forsake God and serve Satan. They desire to accept what Satan says, and so turn away from God and all that is good. They have the same experience over and over again that this young man had. He went out with fine clothes and plenty of money, and with high hopes; but he returned home in rags, without a penny in his pocket, disappointed, penitent, and ashamed.

When he had journeyed many a week, toiling wearily over the long road that had separated him from his father's house, at last he came near his

He left his home to seek happiness, but broken his father's heart. With sorrow he was bringing his aged father down to the grave. But his father still loved his wayward boy, and expected him home. As he sat watching at the door looking over the hills, he saw the returning prodigal when he was yet a great way off. This loving and forgiving father had compassion upon his son, ran and fell upon his neck and kissed him, and welcomed him back home again. The wayward boy's heart was all broken up by such kind treatment. He fell upon his knees at his father's feet and said to his father. "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son; make me as one of thy hired servants."

> The father called his servants and commanded them to bring the best robe and put it upon this boy who had given him so much sorrow; to bring the ring and put it upon his finger; and then to kill the fatted calf, so that they might make a great feast, in order that all might be made very glad, because this his son, who was dead, was alive again, he who had been lost was found.

When we come back to God after we have sinned against Him, and are repentant and sorry for what we have done, in love and great tenderness He forgives our sins. Like the prodigal, in the time of his sorest misery, found in his father's heart the greatest mercy, so you and I may come to God knowing that in the day of our dire distress He is always willing to love us and to forgive us as His own dear children. Let us be careful not to sin against Him, and then we shall not have the humiliation and the sorrow of coming back, like this poor prodigal, when he returned in rags and poverty to his father's house. Never make the mistake of going away from your God and then old home. In going away he had nearly you will not have the remorse which

will bring you back in sorrow and shame. —With the Children on Sundays

By S. Stall

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Last Sunday we talked about the iailer and his family being saved from their sins. Today we will start with the jailer taking Paul and Silas that same night and washing their stripes and giving them food to eat. Paul and Silas taught them the Word of God and no doubt they told them that God had said in Isaiah 40:3 about how He would send a "voice crying in the wilderness" telling people to repent and be baptized. Then Paul let them know that the prophecy was fulfilled and John the Baptist was that "voice." Many did repent, confessed their sins, and were baptized in the river Jordan. When Jesus did come, He came to John the Baptist to be baptized. Oh, John felt so unworthy to baptize Jesus! He wanted Jesus to baptize him, but Jesus told John to baptize Him "for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." So John baptized Jesus. God was so pleased that He spoke from heaven, "This is my Son, in whom I am well pleased." God was so pleased that the innocent Saviour had been baptized that He could not keep still. It was a precious sight in the eyes of God. A dove sat upon Jesus' head. This was a witness to John that Jesus was the Saviour as

this was a sign given to John. All of it together was a wonderful witness of great things.

Thus we too, are to be saved from our sins and "be buried with Christ in baptism." It doesn't mean that the water washes away our sins as many false teachers try to teach, but it means that we have already had our sins washed away by the blood of Jesus. Water can't remove sins, only the blood of Jesus can. Do not let anyone tell you that being baptized washes away your sins. It means that you are letting the world know that your sins have already been washed away. Don't forget our memory verse which says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." First you need to believe and with godly sorrow have your sins forgiven through repentance. Then you are to be baptized so the world will know that you are saved.

Today many false teachers teach that babies should be sprinkled, thus calling it baptism and say it saves them from their sins. Their names are written in a church book and in their older days they point back to that time and rest in it for their eternal salvation. Boys and girls, a baby can't believe. It did not choose to be sprinkled. Parents can't choose for their children. Each child will come to the years when he will understand what it means to repent and be saved. Then each child needs to obey the example of Jesus and be baptized.

-Aunt Marie

# Lesson 5, July 30, 1978 BELIEVERS ARE TO BE BAPTIZED

Acts 16:33 And he [jailer] took them [Paul and Silas] the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them,

and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Mark 1:5 And there went out unto him [John the Baptist] all the land of Judea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

Matt. 3:13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be

baptized of him.

14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Rom. 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

I Pet. 3:20 [People in Noah's day] Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Memory Verse: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:16.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What did the jailer do after he was saved from his sins?
- 2. What did Paul and Silas teach him?
- 3. What does it mean to be baptized?
- 4. Does baptism mean to be sprinkled and does the sprinkling of babies save them?
- 5. In Isaiah 40:3, we read of the prophecy, hundreds of years before about how God would send a "voice crying in the wilderness." John the Baptist was that voice. What did he do at the river Jordan?
- 6. Did John want to baptize Jesus? Why did Jesus tell him that it was necessary?
- 7. Was God pleased when He looked down upon the scene?
- 8. What did the dove make John the Baptist know? (John 1:32).
- 9. If God was pleased with Jesus being baptized how to you think He feels when we are baptized?
- 10. Does the water wash away our sins? Repeat our memory verse.
- 11. When Jesus was buried after His death on the cross, could anyone see His body? Can we be seen when we are "buried with Christ in Baptism?"
- 12. In the days of Noah much preaching was done. Did the people listen and who went into the ark?
- 13. The ark saved the eight souls, Noah and his three sons and their wives from being drowned. Who is our ark today and if we are "buried with Christ in baptism" will we be saved?
- 14. Tell what you think baptism means?

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Part Six

August 6

# Vicarious Punishment

punishment as that which Christ hore when he suffered on the cross, the just her place, and meant to keep it. for the unjust. You do not quite know you say, "Oh, we do not want to know what such long words mean."

tell.

It was a warm summer afternoon; a lazy breeze stole through the windows of a little district schoolhouse, lifting the curtains, and rustling the leaves of the books that lay open on all the desks.

Thirty or forty scholars of all ages were bending over their writing, quiet and busy; the voice of the teacher, as he passed about among the writers, was the only sound.

Perhaps you might not have thought it possible, but I assure you, that this hot little schoolroom has its heroes and heroines as certainly as many another place which might have seemed far more pretending.

The bell rang for the writing to be laid aside: and now came the last exercise of the day, the spelling, in the floor in front of the teacher's desk.

which nearly all the school joined. At the head of the class was a delicate This is the term applied to such little girl, whose bright eyes and attentive air showed that she prized

Presently a word which had passed what it means, do you? I think I hear all the lower end of the class, came to Eunice. The word was privilege. "Priv. priy-i, privi-lege, lege, privilege," But stop a moment, I have a story to spelt Eunice. But the teacher, vexed with the mistakes of the other end of the class, misunderstood and passed it. The little girl looked amazed, the bright color came into her cheeks, and she listened eagerly to the next person, who spelled it again as she had done.

"Right," said the teacher: "take your place.

"I spelled it so," whispered Eunice partly to herself; the tears springing to her eyes as she passed down. She being too timid to speak to the teacher, remained in her place, determining soon to get up again. But her trials were not yet over.

Many expedients had been tried in the school to keep out that arch-enemy of all teachers—whispering. At length the following plan was adopted:-

The first whisperer was stood upon

Here he acted as a monitor; as soon as he detected another whispering, he took his seat, and the next offender kept a sharp lookout to find someone to take his place; for, at the close of school, the scholar who had the whisperer's place was punished very severely.

This plan appeared to operate very well; every one dreaded to be found last on the floor; but, though it secured an orderly school, many of the parents and scholars doubted its justice.

The boy who was on the floor when Eunice lost her place, was an unruly, surly fellow, who had often before smarted for his faults; and as school drew near its close, he began to tremble. The instant Eunice's whispered complaint reached his ear, his face brightened up; he was safe now. When the class was dismissed, he said, "Eunice whispered, sir."

Eunice rose, and in a trembling voice related what she had said; but the teacher saw no excuse in it, and she was called to take the place of the ungenerous boy who had told on her.

The books were put away, and the waiting school looked on in sorrow as Eunice left her seat to take the dreaded punishment. She was one of the best scholars; bright, faithful, sweet-tempered, and a general favorite.

Everyone felt that it was unjust; and many angry glances were cast at the boy who was mean enough to get a little girl whipped. Overcome with shame and fear, she stood by the side of the desk crying bitterly, while the teacher was preparing to inflict the punishment.

At this moment a tall boy stepped out of his seat, and going to the desk, said:—

"Are you going to whip Eunice, sir?"
"Yes; I never break my rules!" the teacher answered.

"We will not see her whipped!" said

the boy in an excited voice; "there is not a boy here but *that* one, who would see her whipped! Whip me, sir, and keep your rule, if you must, but don't touch this little girl!"

The teacher paused; the school looked on tearfully.

"Do you mean to say you will take her punishment?" asked the teacher.

"I do sir," was the bold reply.

The sobbing little girl was sent to her seat, and without flinching, her friend stood and received the punishment that was to have fallen upon her. The school was dimissed, and the boys paid him in admiration and praise for all he had suffered.

This was vicarious punishment—one suffering from his own free will the punishment that was to have been borne by another.

You see, do you not, that this is just what He did who bore our sins in His own body upon the tree—the Saviour of men? What He suffered we cannot know in this life; but God laid on Him the iniquity of us all; and this He willingly bore to save us from death. With His stripes we are healed. How great the gratitude each of us owes such a Friend.

"Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all." —The King's Daughter and Other Stories

# To A Little Maid

How should little maidens grow When they're ten or over? In the sunshine and the air, Wholesome, simple, fresh, and fair As the bonnie daisies blow, And the happy clover.

How should little lassies speak At this time of living? As the birds do, and the bees, Singing through the flowers and trees, Till each mortal fain would seek Joy her lips are giving.

How about her eyes and ears At this stage of growing? Like the clear, unclouded skies, Not too eager or too wise, So that all she sees and hears May be worth the knowing.

And the little maiden's heart? Ahl for that we're praying, That it strong and pure may grow; God, who loveth children so. Keep her from all quile apart. Through life's mazes straying!

—The Children's Friend

Dear Boys and Girls:

Many things had happened the night that Paul and Silas sang praises unto the Lord while in the inner prison and their feet were in stocks. But God was with them and was working so His children could be cared for and also do a work for Him. Boys and girls, we are only vessels of the Lord. If He wants us to suffer, so that through our suffering, He can perform great things and cause others to be saved, should we not be willing? Yes, it is hard on the flesh but one of these days we will meet our Lord and Saviour face to face and we want to bring some results to the high calling to which He has called us. We want to hear those words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

The magistrates heard from the sergeants and possibly others what had happened and they were afraid. They sent word for the jailer to "Let those men go." They wanted to get rid of SHEEP IN THE MIDST OF WOLVES them, as they probably were shaken up from what had happened. When Paul heard that, he said for them to tell the magistrates that they were Romans and were beaten without a trial, which is strictly against the law, and for them to come themselves and tell them to go. This added to the magistrates' fears, but

they hurried down and begged them to leave. Don't you suppose Paul took his time and preached to them? I am sure that was one of his purposes in having them come. They did not give them any trouble but went into the house of Lydia.

Jesus sent out the twelve disciples. He told them what they would face. He said that they would be sheep among wolves. They were to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Serpents are careful to avoid danger. God doesn't expect us to just go into a place where we know we will be harmed, or bring contempt to the name of Christ, yet if God sends us, He will bring us out as He did Paul and Silas. They came forth escorted by the magistrates, yet it only happened because they were willing to suffer. Boys and girls, be willing to suffer some for Christ. Other boys and girls may say something about your belief but don't let that cause you to be cowed down. Lift your head in the name of the Lord and face it with boldness because Christ is behind you. Yet be harmless and humble, not willing to hurt nor give any kind of revenge. You never know but that the one who says the most against you is secretly one of your greatest admirers. Deep down in his heart he would like to have the same grace that you have. -Aunt Marie

Note to teachers and pupils: Read the whole book of Philippians before next Sunday's lesson.

# Lesson 6, August 6, 1978

Acts 16:35 And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, let those men go.

36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, the magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.

37 But Paul said unto them, they

have beaten us openly uncondemned, life for my sake shall find it. Matt. being Romans and have cast us into 10:39. prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.

38 And the serieants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared. when they heard that they were Romans.

39 And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city.

40 And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

Matt. 10:7 [Jesus said] And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ve have received, freely give.

11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.

16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues:

18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

Memory Verse: He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Daylight had come for Paul and Silas. Tell what had happened before daylight.

2. What did the magistrates tell the serjeants to tell Paul and Silas?

3. What did Paul say when he was told that they could leave in peace?

4. When the magistrates heard that they were Romans, how did they feel and what did they do?

5. Do you think that being escorted out of the prison with honor before others, brought glory to God through their suffering?

7. Jesus had chosen His twelve disciples and He was sending them forth just as Paul and Silas had been sent forth. What did He tell them to preach?

8. What was their work for God and what were they to do with the power that He had given to them?

9. What were they to do when they arrived in a city?

10. What two animals (one reptile and one bird) were the disciples reminded of and how were they to be like them in some ways?

11. What would happen to them when they were brought before the council and others?

12. Were they to take thought of what they would say?

13. How are you a sheep among wolves today?

14. Paul's experiences show what happened to the followers of Christ. Should we today expect the world to love us or should we ask God to give us grace for the troubles we may meet?

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Vol. 29, No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1978 Part Seven August 13

### Evil Communications Corrupt Good Manners

Jody loved blackberries. The bushes were loaded with the luscious fruit this summer. With a wave of his hand to Mother he was off whistling happily, swinging an empty pail under his arm.

To get to the blackberry patch Jody had to cross Mad Creek. As he was walking over the bridge he heard voices. There was Jack, the town bully, and his gang. Mother had warned Jody to stay away from Jack Benson. He wasn't a nice boy with whom to be company. Jack would sneak cigarettes from his father when his father wasn't looking. He spoke words that were never uttered in Jody's home.

Jack even told lies. Jody had heard Mother pray that the love of Jesus would come into their hearts so Jack's family would become Christians. They would certainly be much happier.

"Hey, Jody, come on in. The water's fine!" yelled Jack from the swimming hole below the bridge.

Jody saw the deep hole. The water did look inviting. The sun beat hot upon his head. A swim would be refreshing, he thought. Just as Jody was about to answer he'd be right there, he remembered his mother's warning. "Nope, not today Jack. Got business to tend to. Thanks anyway."

As he went on his way, Jody heard Jack and his friends at the swimming hole call after him, "Goody, goody! Jody Spunk's a goody, goody, too good to swim with Jack and the gang. Jesus kid!"

Calling him names made Jody feel badly. Jack and his friends knew Jody attended Sunday school and church. Jody didn't like being made fun of anymore than the next fellow. But when he entered the cool woods and reached the blackberry patch, he forgot all about the incident.

In no time at all he had filled his pail to the brim. As he sat down to eat the snack Mother had sent along, he watched a rabbit hopping nearby. A squirrel was playing tag with its tail in a nearby oak. Some chickadees ate crumbs from his sandwich as he tossed them into the grass. Jody enjoyed the wild animals.

As he walked home that afternoon, Jody had happy thoughts. He was careful not to swing his pail lest he should lose the juicy fruit. As he walked along he said his Bible verse he'd learned for next Sunday. "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. I Cor. 15:33.

The swimming hole was vacant as Jody passed over the bridge. He was thankful. Jack Benson might be mean

enough to steal his berries.

Suddenly Jody froze in his tracks. He listened. Was that a cry for help? There it was again. Jody peered over the bridge railing, pushing aside an oak's green foliage so he could see better. Then he saw it. One of Jack's gang was stranded on a raft out in the deep end of the water. His leg was badly twisted.

"Tom, Tom Jones, is that you?"

called out Jody anxiously.

"Yeh, it's me all right," answered Tom. "That nasty Jack Benson and I got into a fight over who could swim the best. He called me a runt, said I was too small to compete with him. He tried to push me off the raft. In the shuffle I caught my toe between the boards and twisted my ankle. I couldn't see what I was doing because Jack gave me a bloody nose and a black eye." Tom began to moan with pain.

"Where's Jack now?" asked Jody

anxiously.

"He's gone home and so have the rest," answered Tom. "If I'd listened to my mom in the first place I would have saved myself a heap o' trouble. She told me to steer clear of Bully Benson. Oh, my head, my head!" Tom moaned.

"I'm going for help, Tom," said Jody.
"My father should be home from work,
now. He'll know what to do. You stay
where you are and we'll be back in a

iiffv."

"Can't do much else," replied Tom mournfully. "When Jack swam to shore, he took the oars with him." Tom began to cry.

(To be continued)

# **Telling Mother**

A group of young girls stood about the door of the schoolroom one afternoon, whispering together, when a little girl joined them, and asked what they were doing.

"I am telling the girls a secret, Kate, and we will let you know, if you will promise not to tell any one as long as

you live," was the reply.

"I won't tell anyone but my mother," replied Kate. "I tell her everything, for she is my best friend."

"No, not even your mother, no one in

the world."

"Well, then I can't hear it; for what I can't tell mother, is not fit for me to know."

After speaking these words, Kate walked away slowly, and perhaps sadly, yet with a quiet conscience, while her companions went on with their secret conversation.

I am sure that if Kate continued to act on that principle, she became a virtuous, useful woman. No child of a Christian mother will be likely to take a sinful course, if Kate's reply is taken for a rule of conduct.

As soon as a boy listens to conversations at school or on the playground, which he would fear or blush to repeat to his mother, he is in the way of temptation, and no one can tell where he will stop. Many a man dying in disgrace, in prison, or on the scaffold, has looked back with bitter remorse to the time when he first listened to a sinful companion who came between him and a pious mother.

Girls, if you would be respected and honored in this life and form characters for heaven, make Kate's reply your

rule:—

"What I cannot tell my mother is unfit for me to know." No other person can have as great an interest in your welfare and prosperity as a true, Christian mother.

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

We have studied about Paul's sufferings at Philippi in the last few lessons. He not only told the church to be willing to suffer for Christ but they saw him suffer. They loved him dearly for caring so much for them and helping them find Christ. It is a great honor to be a child of God and to have the joys of salvation, which are given to us from Christ. Before Paul came to them they were unhappy and their hearts longed for something, but now they had perfect joy, because Christ is the only One who can give us soul rest and peace.

Later, Paul was laboring at other places and the Philippian church did not forget him. They sent supplies to him and in his letter to them he mentions Epaphroditus who had brought their gifts. This touched the Apostle Paul deeply. While he was at Rome in prison awaiting trial, he wrote this letter to them, which became a book in our New Testament. I trust that you read it through this last week. There are only a few thoughts that we can talk about today. This is a very important letter, not only was it to them, but it is to you and me today. All Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: of us love to get letters and we keep the

important ones. Maybe you boys and girls do not get many, but if you would write more you might receive more.

First, we note that Paul added Timothy's name to the letter. You remember that Timothy was with Paul at Philippi but someway he escaped and only Silas and Paul were beaten and put in prison. Paul loved Timothy very much and the saints at Philippi loved him also. Notice that Paul says everytime he thought about the saints at Philippi he thanked God for them. He was glad for their fellowship, love. and care for him. He also asked God to help them to continue in Christ and to let the love and grace of God which they received when they were first saved, continue until the day that Christ would call them home. He wanted them to be filled with all the "fruits of righteousness."

Also be sure and study the eighth verse of the fourth chapter, which is in our lesson. Paul tells us what to think about. Boys and girls, please remember all of these good things to think about. Don't think about evil things but the good things to do and say to others. Sometimes boys and girls forget and say hateful things to others and this causes some heartaches. Don't make fun of others because they have some deformity or affliction. Remember, we reap what we sow. Those things will come back to us and it won't be very good, when they come to us. Love God, serve Him, and He will bless you and others will love you too.-Aunt Marie

## Lesson 7, August 13, 1978 A LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

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Phil. 1:1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at 2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.

4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy.

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now:

- 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
- 9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;
- 11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.
- 4:1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.
- 3 And I in . thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.
- 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- 8 Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
- 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- 20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Memory Verse: For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Phil. 1:21.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- Relate some of the things that happened to Paul while he was in Philippi.
- 2. A number of years later when Paul was in Rome as a prisoner, to whom did he write a letter? Is it a book in our New Testament?
- 3. To whom is the letter of Philippians addressed? Who was it from?
- 4. What did Paul say that he wanted each of them to have from "God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ"?
- 5. In Paul's prayer for the saints at Philippi, what did he implore for them?
- 6. Did Paul have confidence that the good work God had started in the hearts of all the saints at Philippi that He would perform? How long?
- that He would perform? How long?
  7. Paul desired that — would abound in their hearts.
- 8. With what did he want the Philippi saints to be filled?
- 9. In the fourth chapter and the first verse, how did Paul address the saints at Philippi?
- In verse three, Paul entreats the saints to help those — — — — —, who had labored with him in the gospel.
- 11. Do we have our names written on church books here in this world or where are they written, if we are "born again"?
- 12. How are we to let our "requests be made known unto God?"
- 13. Tell all the things that Paul tells us to think about?
- 13. Did Paul say that God would supply just part of their needs?



Vol. 29, No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1978 Part Eight August 20

# Evil Communications Corrupt He can help us decide who should be our associates. Tom, today you chose Jack

(Continued from last issue)

Jody hurried the rest of the way home, careful not to spill his pail of berries. He had only a short distance to go, now.

Father returned with Jody. They took the car so Tom could have as comfortable a ride as possible after his rescue.

Since they couldn't locate the missing oars, Father and Jody tossed a rope over the water. Tom tied it around one of the boards on the raft. Quickly, Tom was pulled to shore and in no time was in the car.

"Thank you, Mr. Spunk, for helping me. If Jody and you hadn't come along, I don't know what I would have done," Tom said gratefully. "If I had stayed home and weeded the vegetable garden like Mom told me to, I would have been wiser."

"Yes, Tom. Sometimes we learn the hard way when we want our own way. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 13:20 that 'He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed," quoted Mr. Spunk. "You must be careful in choosing your friends. If we choose Jesus as our friends.

He can help us decide who should be our associates. Tom, today you chose Jack and his gang for your companions. Do you know you could have been destroyed? Why, you could have drowned with that bad leg if you had fallen into the water. You couldn't swim with it in the condition it's in. But worse than that, you could have been destroyed eternally. With sin in your heart, you could never enter heaven if you had died."

"I see what you mean," said Tom.
"I've been skipping Sunday school
because I thought it was smarter to be
like Jack Benson and his gang. I know
now that he's a fool. Anybody that
makes fun of God is a fool, my mother
always said."

That evening at supper Jody and his family discussed the events of the day. Tom had been delivered safely home where his parents were taking care of his wounds. He would be laid up a few weeks, but had promised to attend Sunday school as soon as he learned to use his new crutches. He must stay off the broken leg awhile first.

be destroyed," quoted Mr. Spunk. "You must be careful in choosing your friends. If we choose Jesus as our friend, he'd picked that day, he thanked God in

his heart for helping him to obey his mother's warning. Staying away from Jack Benson really had saved him a lot of unhappiness and trouble. How different the day could have been if he'd gone swimming with the boys that day.

Jody thought of his Bible verse. "Be not deceived. Evil communications corrupt good manners." He quoted it for Mother. She always wanted to know if he'd learned his assignment for Sunday school.

"Tom Jones is an example of that verse," Mother said. "He was deceived or fooled. Tom was a good mannerly boy until he started keeping company with Jack. Being around the evil in Jack's life and that of his gang's strongly influenced Tom. It corrupted or spoiled his good manners. It led him into big trouble."

"Mother, do you think there's any use praying for Jack and his friends?" asked Jody. "It seems hopeless they'd

ever change."

"We should not give up hope," answered Mother. "As long as there is life there is hope. We must remember Jack's home hasn't been a very happy one. It isn't entirely all his fault that he's the way he is. We must pray for God to lead us to be a help to Jack."

—Nancy Bethel

# The Dangerous Door

"Oh, cousin Will, do tell us a story! There's just time before the schoolbell rings." Harry, Kate, Bob, and little Peace crowded about their older cousin until he declared himself ready to do anything they wished.

"Very well," said Cousin Will. "I will tell you about some dangerous doors I

have seen."

"Oh, that's good!" exclaimed Bob.
"Were they all iron and heavy bars?
And if one passed in, did they shut and
keep them there forever?"

"No; the doors I mean are pink or scarlet, and when they open you can see a row of little servants standing all in white, and behind them is a little lady dressed in crimson."

"What? That's splendid!" cried Kate. "I should like to go in myself."

"Ah! it is what comes out of these doors that makes them so dangerous. They need a strong guard on each side, or else there is great trouble."

"Why, what comes out?" asked little

Peace, with wondering eyes.

"When the guards are away," said Cousin Will, "I have known some things to come out sharper than arrows, and they make terrible wounds. Quite lately I saw two pretty little doors, and one opened and the little lady began to talk like this: 'What a stuck-up thing Lucy Waters is! Did you see that horrid dress made out of her sister's old one?' 'Oh, yes,' said the other little crimson lady from the other door, 'and what a turned-up nose she has!' Then poor Lucy, who was around the corner, ran home and cried all evening."

"I know what you mean," cried Kate,

coloring.

"Oh, you mean our mouths are doors!" exclaimed Harry, "and the crimson lady is Miss Tongue; but who are the guards, and where do they come from?"

"You may ask the Great King. This is what you must say: 'Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth: keep the door of my lips.' Then He will send Patience to stand on one side and Love on the other, and no unkind word will dare come out."

Dear Boys and Girls:

You remember that after the jailer had been saved and the magistrates had begged Paul and Silas to leave the city of Philippi, that they went to the house of Lydia. They comforted the brethren in this city and then departed. They

went up to Thessalonica and were now! in Greece. Boys and girls, remember they took something else with them besides their few personal things. They took the Word of God. It is a powerful weapon. Notice what our memory verse says about it. They entered into the synagogue with their powerful weapon. They used it, and it caused some trouble. They told them what the Scriptures had said about Jesus, who was to come as their Saviour. Remember that the Jews in the synagogue only had the Old Bible. Paul went back through it and pointed out how that from time to time God had revealed just how Jesus would come, suffer, and die on the cross. (Read Isaiah 53). Paul talked to them about the teaching of Jesus, and how they needed to repent of their awful sins. The powerful sword opened up and cut down into their thoughts and the very intents of their hearts. They didn't like this and most of them rebelled. Those who rebelled stirred up the "lewd fellows of the baser sort" in the market place and caused a mob to come together. They assaulted the house of Jason, where Paul and his company had been staying. When they did not find them, they brought Jason and some of the brethren out before the rulers. They said that these fellows had "turned the world upside down" with their teachings. The Word of God had been so powerful that it really had upset things. Isn't that a wonderful record for the Word of God? There must be something to anything that is so powerful! It is something that we each one need to take heed to.

They even brought the accusation that these men were saying there was to be another king instead of their Roman king, named Caesar. They said this new king was named Jesus. Finally, the rulers took Jason and the brethren in, but they gave some money

or put up some security, so they let them go. Immediately the brethren sent Paul and Silas by night to Berea. When they got there they went into the synagogue with their sword, which is the Word of God. How thankful they were to find some who had a "readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so," that the Apostles were telling them. Many of them believed. But when the Jews in Thessalonica heard about them preaching in Berea they stirred up the people there, so they sent Paul to the sea, but Silas and Timothy -Aunt Marie staved in Berea.

# Lesson 8, August 20, 1978 Searched the Scriptures Daily

Acts 17:1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

4 And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received: and

these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saving that there is another king, one Jesus.

8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard

these things.

9 And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go.

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind. and searched the scriptures daily. whether those things were so.

12 Therefore many of them believed: also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people.

14 And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still.

Memory Verse: For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Paul left Philippi after visiting in the house of Lydia and comforting the brethren there, and then came 15. Where did they send Paul and to Thessalonica. What place did

- they enter with the "Sword" or the Word of God?
- 2. How long did they stay at the synagogue and reason with them out of the Scriptures?
- 3. What Scriptures were mentioned in our lesson?
- 4. What did they tell them about Christ?
- 5. Consorted means "to attach themselves too." Who did this to Paul. Timothy, and Silas?
- 6. What did the Jews do, who did not believe? Did they like what the sword, which is the Word of God, opened up in their thoughts and hearts?
- 7. What did they do when they did not find the brethren at the house of Jason?
- 8. When they brought Jason and the brethren before the rulers, what did they tell them that the Word of God, the sword had "turned upside down?"
- 9. Who was the king, other than Caesar of whom the brethren spoke? 10. What did the rulers do to Jason
- and the brethren? 11. Where did the brethren immedi-
- ately send Silas and Paul?
- 12. When they brought the "sword," the Word of God to the Bereans. how did they receive it?
- 13. Should we daily search the precious Word of God so the "sword" won't cut us off from being ready to go to heaven?
- 14. What did the Jews from Thessalonica do when they heard that some were receiving the Word of God at Berea?
- what did Silas and Timothy do?

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July, August, Sept., 1978

**Part Nine** 

August 27

# God Does Heal

"Ralph says there is a lot of snow in the mountains. Can we go up there?" asked Vernon.

"We will see about it," Mother replied. "I would like to see the snow. too. It has been a long time since I have seen snow. Did you know that when I was a little girl and lived in Oklahoma we had snow in the winter time? We would just step off the porch into the beautiful, sparkling, white snow. My brothers would roll up big balls of snow and stack them to form big forts. They would also make a lot of snow balls and then they would have a snow ball fight. I generally would get in the way and stick my head out to see what was going on and get hit."

"I wish we had snow here like that, but can't we go? I know that others want to go, too."

Mother had missed the snow, but in California there was only snow in the mountains which were some distance away. She thought it would be good to take the young people and make a nice day out of the trip. She talked to Vernon's father about going, too, and asked. "Shall we call a doctor?"

taking some other young people, so a day was set. They would leave in the morning, take their lunch and go up to the mountains so the young people could play in the snow. Two carloads were to go on a certain day. The young people looked forward to the trip. Finally the day arrived. When they got up in the morning, and after breakfast. Carl Jr., Vernon's younger brother, said his head was hurting. Mother prayed for her son when they had worship and thought he probably would be all right. When they were about ready to go she looked for him and found that he was lying down. He said his head hurt, but he wanted to go so very much. Mother knew when Carl got those headaches that he needed to be quiet. She told him that she couldn't let the other young people down, so she would call and see if he could stay with his Aunt Mary. She called and his aunt was glad for him to stay so she took him over to her house. As she left the bedroom, she prayed again for him and asked the Lord to heal him.

"What shall we do for him?" Betty

has prayed for him and he will be well. Just leave him alone and he will probably go to sleep."

Betty had been watching Carl Jr's., mother while she showed him the bed and praved for him. Betty's mother had to run out to see about the chickens and had told Carl Jr's.. mother where to have him lie down.

The young people had a nice time in the mountains and also enjoyed their lunch. They had sung some songs about the Lord and also had returned thanks before they ate their lunch. When all had returned. Carl Jr's.. mother went over to pick him up. He was feeling fine and was playing with Betty.

"Carl Jr. did get well. Aunt Marie." Betty said as she ran out to the car. "We didn't call a doctor either. Carl Jr. said that God has healed him. How does He do it?"

"When we pray to God, we want to have faith to believe that He will answer our prayers. God can do anything. If He made the sun, moon, stars, the whole earth, and everything in it. He surely can heal our bodies.' Aunt Marie explained to Betty.

"He healed Carl Jr. today," Betty said again as she looked at Carl Jr. with a little wonderment. -M. Miles

# **Become Rulers**

As the king sits upon his throne as a ruler over his subjects, and all under his government; wielding his scepter to which all must bow, and even his enemies fear. Just so is our boy and girl who has been restored to manhood and womanhood, by the grace of God, and reform of their lives, which has made them to become rulers over their bodies. Their members are under the subjection

"No, he will be all right. Aunt Marie power and every member of their body obeys. They move out into the world among their fellowmen, although yet youths, their power of true manhood and womanhood is felt, is seen, demands respect, and truly "old things have passed away, and behold, all things have become new."

We now look upon them as rulers, having power to overcome all enemies, being clothed with kingly robes of power, and righteousness, possessing all the attributes of true manhood and womanhood, ready for every conflict of life. The beastly nature has been overpowered and completely subdued, yea, even cast out, and the moral and spiritual nature becomes the supreme power as the soul reaches the higher attainments of the inner life.

The boy and girl is now placed upon the throne of true manhood and womanhood where each can maintain his kingdom as long as he wills to do so.

There will doubtless be battles to fight, along the line, but as long as one fully trust in God, one will possess that which gives power over every foe. The battle may be fierce and testing sometimes, but a determined effort aided by divine power will drive back every opposing enemy who would seek to encroach upon the rights of the young ruler. Prayer and faith in God will cause the most hostile enemy to throw down his weapons of warfare and flee from the scene of battle. —E. E. Bvrum

Dear Boys and Girls:

In our last lesson Paul had left Thessalonica where he established a church of God. Sometime later he wrote to that church, and in our lesson today we will study that letter. First, we will note that he wrote to the Church of God in Thessalonica and the letter is from Paul, Silvanus (Silas). and Timotheus (Timothy). Remember to their will. They sway the scepter of boys and girls that the Church of God church here in the world. It is named after God the Father. (Eph. 3:14:15).

Paul commends those at Thessalonica for their faith, love, and patience and reminds them that his coming to them was not in vain. He reminds them of his suffering at Philippi just before he came to Thessalonica, where he and Silas were beaten and put in prison. But he didn't let his suffering at Philippi hinder him from preaching about Jesus, the Saviour who came to save them from their sins, even though he might again be beaten for doing so. We remember the mercy of the Lord at Thessalonica where they escaped the mob after preaching the truth, and the people said that he was turning the world upside down with his doctrines. which had power in them. Of course, boys and girls, you know that the Jews who lived there held to the Mosiac law and refused to accept Jesus. The Gentiles held to their idol worship and the words of Plato and other men of worldly wisdom of their age. The gospel was greater than either and this caused a great concern because of so many turning to the gospel message and upsetting even those who wanted to cling to their religious thoughts and ways of evil.

The Apostle Paul wrote in his letter some good instructions that are good for us today. In the 15th verse he tells us not to return evil for evil but to follow that which is good. This makes for happiness in our own soul and life. and also in others. Boys and girls, remember that if you want to be happy, you must forgive others and do something to make them happy. Paul tells us that God wants us to keep Christ. rejoicing in the great love of God, who salvation and make us ready for prayers;

is the name that God has given to His heaven. This will take much praying and watching. We can pray as we walk down the street, sitting in our seats at school, out on the school ground, in the home, and while lying in our beds. Continually look to God for help to think the right things. speak the right things, and to do the right things. God is faithful to help us if we will depend upon Him. We are to thank God for the good things and for the bad things. Through some bad things coming our way we can learn some good lessons. When we see God hearing and answering prayer, and working out things, then we can feel His blessings and we are made to be more thankful. Therefore we can thank God for everything.

We are to obey the Lord when He makes us know we are not to do wrong. Do not "quench the Spirit" or the voice of God, but listen to Him. He will also speak to us through prophesvings or the preachings of God's Word. We are not to turn away from them or despise them, but listen to them. All the things that the Apostle tells us, and also the Thessalonians. as to how to find perfect happiness are very good and we want to remember them so we will be ready at the coming of the Lord. Notice the last words of our lesson and always remember that verse. -Aunt Marie

# Lesson 9, August 27, 1978 A Letter to the Thessalonians

I Thess. 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus

2 We give thanks to God always for has loved us so much to give us you all, making mention of you in our

- 3 Remembering without ceasing QUESTIONS: your work of faith, and labour of love. and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father.
- 2:1 For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain:
- 2 But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.
- 11 As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children.
- 12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.
- 5:15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.
  - 16 Rejoice evermore.
  - 17 Pray without ceasing.
- 18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
  - 19 Quench not the Spirit.
  - 20 Despise not prophesyings.
- 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
- 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.
- 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

Memory Verse: Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. I Thess. 5:6.

- 1. To whom were the letters of First and II Thessalonians addressed? Who were they from?
- 2. What spiritual blessings did he desire for them to have? What did he remember about them?
- 3. Why was his "entrance" or coming to their city, not in vain, but was profitable?
- 4. Discuss the sufferings that Paul, and Silas had in Philippi just before they came to Thessalonica?
- 5. Why wasn't Paul afraid to preach the gospel in Thessalonica after suffering so much for preaching in Philippi?
- 6. How can boldness and gentleness go together? Did Paul manifest this?
- 7. What is the calling from God for us?
- 8. Are we to get even with others when they do us wrong?
- 9. How can we rejoice all the time and pray without ceasing?
- 10. Are we to give thanks for just a few things that touch our lives?
- 11. When we are tempted to do wrong, and we feel a check, are we to listen or ignore that check?
- 12. If we have a thought to do good, and we do not do it, what do you think God thinks about us?
- 13. Are we to not listen when the minister preaches, and despise the gospel?
- 14. How can we "prove all things" and "hold fast that which is good?"
- 15. What are we to do when evil appears?
- 16. Who will sanctify our whole spirit, soul, and body? Is He faithful to do it, if we will let Him?

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Vol. 29, No. 3

July, August, Sept., 1978

Part Ten

Sept. 3

# The Turtle 70000E

Men Like and Yet Unlike the Animals

My dear Boys and Girls: I want to show you how in some respect we are like the animals, and how in other respects we are very unlike them. To illustrate what I desire to say I have brought this small turtle shell. From the way some boys treat flies, bugs, birds, cats, dogs, and all kinds of animals you would suppose that many boys and some girls think that animals have no feelings. Boys who have never suffered any bodily pain themselves, oftentimes act as though they thought that animals could not suffer pain, but in this they are greatly mistaken. Animals can and do suffer pain, the same as people suffer pain, and in order to defend them against their enemies God has provided these creatures of His hand with some means of protecting themselves. The birds can fly away. Some animals, like foxes, have holes in the ground where they can hide. Others, like the squirrel, hide in the hollow trees. Bees can sting. Some

others, which are not as capable of defending themselves against the stronger animals. God has marvellously provided with two stomachs. The cow goes out in the field and crops off the grass rapidly and can then go to a place of shelter and lie down, and there, protected from the attack of wild beasts, chew what she has gathered. This is known in the country as chewing the cud. The same is true with sheep: they also bite off the grass and swallow it quickly. It passes into a first stomach and then they can lie down in some quiet place and chew the cud: or in other words chew that which they have hastily bitten off in the fields.

Now the turtle cannot escape from his enemies because he cannot run very rapidly, so God has covered him with a coat of mail and given him a helmet, a hard, bony covering for the head and this large bony covering for his body, which we can very properly call his house. When danger approaches, the turtle quickly draws his head and his feet into this large shell. and is quite safe from the attack of his enemies. Whatever animal might desire to eat the turtle is prevented on cattle have horns for defense, and some account of this hard outer shell. On

this lower part you will notice how the turtle can draw the front portion up more closely, and thus the more securely shut himself within his house. So you see how God has provided all the animals with a means of protection and defense, first, to protect their lives, and secondly, to save them from pain and suffering.

While God has thus successfully protected them against other animals, they are not protected against the superior intelligence and ingenuity of man. The birds can fly faster than the man can run, but man can shoot the bird with an arrow or with a rifle. So with all the other animals. Now God has made it right for us to kill animals for food, but it is very wrong for us to destroy animals for the simple pleasure of taking life, and it is also very wicked to inflict pain unnecessarily upon any of the animals.

I want to tell you about a boy who was once strolling through the fields with his sister. They found a nest of rabbits. The sister was charmed with the beautiful nest itself and with its living occupants, but the boy teased them, mimicking their squeaks and their struggles. In vain his sister pled with him not to hurt these pretty little creatures, but the wicked boy flung them up into the air one by one and shouted when each fell dead upon the stones. Ten years later the sister sat weeping again by that boy's side. He was in chains, sentenced to be hanged for shooting a farmer who was hunting in a neighbor's field. They were waiting for the awful procession to knock at the cell door. "Sister," he said, "do you remember the nest of rabbits ten years ago; how you begged and prayed. and how I ridiculed? I verily believe that from that day God forsook me. and left me to follow my own incli-

then, you and I would not be weeping these bitter tears now."

You see how it is that boys who have no regard for the suffering, or the preservation of the life of animals are likely to inflict pain and even to take the lives of people.

I want to call your attention to another respect in which we are like the animals, or perhaps, more correctly, in which the animals are like us. The forms of most all animals have some resemblance to each other, and all are somewhat in form like man. If you take the bird, his wings correspond to our arms, his legs and feet are somewhat like ours, only his toes are longer, and the nails are slightly different in form. If you will take the horse you will see that his neck is longer than ours, that his front legs correspond to our arms, and if you take your fingers and press them together you will see how, if you were to study the anatomy of the horse's foot carefully, it resembles the bones in our hands, and the bony foot of the horse corresponds to the nails on the ends of our fingers, only that in the case of the horse the nails are all in one, forming the hoof, to which the blacksmith nails the shoe. The horse's hoof, however, is not solid as you might think, but only a shell, the same as the nails on the ends of our fingers.

Now if you were to take the turtle that lives in this shell or house, you would find that he also has four legs. the front legs corresponding to our arms, and his hind legs corresponding to our legs and feet. On the end of each of his feet he has nails, the same as you and I have at the extremities of our hands and feet. I am sure you would say that the turtle was very much unlike us, in that he has such a hard shell of a house which he carries nation. If I had yielded to your tears about with him. But if you will feel of

your hands you will discover that you strange gods." He was brought up have bones inside of your hands. So you have bones in your arms and all through your body. These bones of your body are covered with flesh, so our bones are inside of us. But with this turtle almost all of his bones are made into one bone, and that is on the outside of his body.

(to be continued)

# DON'T FORGET

"Don't forget to pray each day That God will help you to be good, Resist evil; draw nigh to God, And He will draw nigh to you."

Dear Boys and Girls:

Paul came to Athens from Thessalonica and Berea by himself and left Silas and Timothy there. He felt the loneliness, but went into the synagogue to teach the Jews about Jesus. the promised Saviour, as was his usual custom. He also went down to the market-place to talk about Jesus. As he walked the streets of Athens, his heart was grieved as he looked at the images or statues around him. They had more gods in Athens than in the whole country of Greece. They had gods of fame, pity, energy, modesty, etc. It was a pity to see how so many were under such Satanic powers. The great men of their religions or their men of wisdom would gather in an outside theatre with huge pillars on the sides, and seats cut in the stones. The judges of a council called, "Areopagus" sat in a court to judge criminals and also to judge others on various things. There were also two kinds of groups that are mentioned in our lesson called the Stoicks and the Epicureans. They each had a human idea of finding happiness. They left God out of it. When Paul came preaching Jesus and the resurrection they called him a "babbler" and a "setter forth of Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, en-

before this council, not for any wrong doing at that time, but just to find out what he was teaching and to hear about this new doctrine that he was bringing.

We notice that these so-called wise men spent their time in doing nothing else, but finding something to tell or to hear something new. Such an idle life that they led! Such people leave themselves open for any kind of false teaching. Today, we have the Bible to find what is right and what is wrong, so we are blessed. These people did not have the Bible and the Jews only had the Old Bible.

Our lesson in Ephesians tells us not to let others cause us to be turned away from God's Word, but to become established in the truth. Just think how confused a person can become by listening to every false teaching. We don't want to be like a cork or chip on the ocean waves that is "tossed to and fro." Winds of doctrines are coming from every false teacher, but we can know the truth and become a member of the body of Christ and be an effectual worker for God. We need not walk as the Gentiles or people of this world do. who have their understanding (minds) only on sensual things of the world and are trying to find happiness in the things -Aunt Marie around them.

# Lesson 10, Sept. 3, 1978 GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION

Acts 17:16 Now while Paul waited for them [Silas and Timothy] at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

18 Then certain philosophers of the

countered him. And some said. What will this babbler say? other some. He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

19 And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.

21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

Eph. 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive:

15 But speaking the truth in love. may grow up into him in all things. which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ve henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind.

18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ.

Memory Verse: For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. I Cor. 14:33. **QUESTIONS:** 

1. Who did Paul leave behind as he came to Athens from Berea and Thessalonica? How did Paul feel when he saw the idolatry in Athens?

2. Where did he first go when he arrived to preach about Jesus and the resurrection?

3. What were the names of the philosophers whom Paul met at the market place?

4. What did some of the people call

Paul at the market place?

5. Where did they take Paul? What did the judges of that council ask Paul?

6. What did they think about the gospel of Jesus Christ, who would be the Saviour of those who repent of their sins?

7. What did most of them spend their

time doing?

8. What does it mean to be "tossed to and fro"?

9. What is a "wind of doctrine"?

- 10. What are false teachers wanting to do and what will it do to us if we listen to them?
- 11. How are we to speak the truth? Who is the head of the church, or the body of Christ?

12. How are we to walk or think about

the way to find happiness?

13. Can we be deceived and think that there is not power from God to help us to live according to the Bible and then become blinded in our heart and mind about God's ways?

14. Confusion comes from the devil. Can we find what is right and how to live acceptably before God in the Bible?

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Vol. 29. No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1978 Part Eleven

Sept. 10

# The Turtle

(continued from last issue)

Our muscles, with which we move our hands and feet and different portions of our body, are attached to the bones which are inside of us. His muscles are attached to the bone which is on the outside of him. So you see that we are like him, in that both of us have bones, only his are on the outside while ours are on the inside.

His bone or shell is a covering and a defense. Our bones, on the inside of us, are so constructed as to enable us to defend ourselves also. God has given the turtle a house, but He has given us the knowledge and the skill, so that we can construct our own house. We are created with capacity to till the earth and to subdue the wild beasts of the forest, and with our superior intelligence to be king over all the other creatures which God has created.

Now, there are several lessons which we may learn from what I have said. God has protected all animals against their foes. He has not fully protected the animals against us, but He expects nature, to be thoughtful and careful not Him as our Saviour and love and serve

to inflict pain even upon the worm or insect which crawls upon the ground beneath our feet.

While our bodies are somewhat like the bodies of birds and beasts, in our moral nature we are not like the animals, but like God. We were made i. the moral likeness and image of God. We have intelligence and God has made us to know right from wrong. The animals have no conscience. Cattle do not recognize any wrong when they break out of their owner's pasture and break into a neighbor's cornfield. We do not say that cattle have sinned, because they know nothing of ownership. They do not know what is right and what is wrong; therefore, are not accountable beings. In our intellectual, moral, and spiritual nature we are superior to everything else that God has created. We have a moral nature. We know what is right and what is wrong, and, therefore, we are accountable beings. God has made us free to follow our own purpose and we are to be held accountable. God has created us not for a few days of life upon the earth, but He has made us immortal, and if we have faith us to use our intelligence and our better in the Lord Jesus Christ, and accept Him upon the earth, our condition in the next world will be one of great blessing and happiness.

-With the Children on Sundays

By S. Stall

# God Shuts Wolf's Mouth

"There she is over there, exclaimed one of the rescuers. At daybreak they found the little girl who had been lost in the snow storm. She was lying in the snow and was fast asleep. When they awakened her she was nearly frozen.

"Were you afraid?" she was asked. "No, a doggie stayed with me all night." she said. One of the rescuers checked the area and found tracks of a wolf from where she was lying. This was truly a miracle. Only God could have caused that wolf not to kill that child who was helpless in its paws.

The above story was told in the news on March 30, 1978. This was a Tass News Agency release, so it must have happened in Russia. We can thank God for how He cares for children and also for all who love Him. Each of us has a guardian angel who watches over us and the Bible tells us that "angels are ministering spirits." Heb. 1:14. But Jesus tells us, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 18:10. The angel that guards us watches for a signal from God to go to our rescue. How wonderful this is!

Surely the angel from God closed the mouth of the wolf and the little girl was protected. Who in the Bible had the protection of God in the midst of hungry lions? Oh, yes, it was Daniel! When the wicked men threw Daniel into the lion's den it was against the wishes of the King. He had been

tricked into signing a decree which was against Daniel. Early in the morning the king came to the mouth of the den and asked, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the king. O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me: and also before thee. O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him. because he believed in his God." Daniel 6:20-23.

Isn't it wonderful how God took care of Daniel? Notice it is said that he was cared for because "he believed in God." Boys and girls, it pays to believe in God. It is wonderful when each of you love God continually. Problems come to everyone in life but it's wonderful to have God to help us out. People who do not love and serve God daily do not have the care of God over them like we do. Be sure you always love and serve God and then have faith to believe that God will take care of you. -Sis. Marie Miles

LESSON ILLUSTRATION Paul preached on mars hill

"Daddy, look at that big ant!" Mary Paul probably pointed to all of those said, "He is trying to take that big thing up over that stick and the ant keeps them that God dwelt in something better falling backwards."

"Oh, the ant made it!" Daddy said. "Mary, that is a good lesson for us. We must keep trying and not give up. Those who quit never make it." —M. Miles

Dear Boys and Girls:

Last Sunday we said that Mars' Hill is the same as Areopagus. On this hill the supreme court of justice was held. Also in Athens the greatest scholars of that day gathered and it was a grand opportunity for the Apostle Paul to introduce to them the truths about Jesus Christ's coming and the plan of salvation. He was very wise in speaking to them. He brought to their attention their own "Unknown God." Paul wisely associated His God with this Unknown God, saying that this unknown God was the One he wanted to tell them about. He told them that they ignorantly worshipped the true God. Then we hear the message that Paul had for them. It is probably only a partial record. I am sure it was a wonderful message. It did grieve Paul to see them in such spiritual darkness or lack of understanding about the wonderful God that we love and worship.

First, Paul must have waved his hands around at the outside world, which they could easily see from the Hill and said, "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands." As they looked at the heavens, trees, green grass, and the beautiful landscape that God had made, they no doubt wondered about this new God that Paul was telling them about. He must be great to do such wonderful things. Then Paul said that our God didn't dwell in temples or houses made with hands.

than what they had. God wanted to dwell in their hearts. How wonderful it is to know that He does dwell in our hearts! Paul told them that they couldn't worship God with their hands. Boys and girls, do remember this. Some people think that they worship God when they play on a piano, a guitar or some musical instrument but that instrument can't worship God nor can God be worshipped with "men's hands." How do we worship God? Jesus has told us. Jesus said that "true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:23,24. Do you understand what Jesus and Paul are trying to tell us and those who were listening to Paul on Mars' Hill? He is saying that we can only worship God from our hearts and in the spirit. Our spirits have to be in tune with God's Spirit to be able to worship Him. Sometimes people will just talk and say that they love Jesus. But for them to make Jesus know that they love Him they must say it with meaning, or with feeling which comes from their heart. You can't carelessly say it. Can you see the difference? Think and study about Paul's sermon on Mars' Hill, and you will find that it is a wonderful message and is full of truths. —Aunt Marie

# Lesson 11, September 10, 1978 PAUL PREACHES ON MARS' HILL

Acts 17:22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly him, and believed: among the which worship, him declare I unto you. was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a

24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from

every one of us:

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think the une Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all

men every where to repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again

of this matter.

33 So Paul departed from among them.

34 Howbeit certain men clave unto

him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Memory Verse: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Rom. 1:16.

## **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What was the name of the Hill that Paul was standing upon when he preached a sermon to the worldly wise men at Athens?
- 2. What did he say that the men of Athens were in their thinking?
- 2. What altar did Paul see as he passed by their devotions to gods?

4. Was Paul wise in pointing them to this altar to the "Unknown God"?

- 5. Those men of Athens were always ready to hear something new and now they were pointed to a God that was unknown to them. What did Paul say first about this God?
- 6. Can we worship God with our hands and could the Athenians? Why not?
- 7. What does God give to us?
- 8. How many bloods are mankind made from?
- 9. What did Paul say about the times and the bounds of nations?
- 10. How far away is God from any of us?
- 11. From whom are we the "offspring"?
- 12. What is the Godhead and how many are in it?
- 13. Whom is God commanding to repent and when will He judge every man?
- 14. What did the people say on Mars' Hill when Paul spoke of Jesus and the resurrection?
- 15. Did some believe what Paul told them?

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Vol. 29. No. 3 Part Twelve July, August, Sept., 1978 Sept. 17

# The Magnet

Jesus The Great Drawing Power

I am sure that there is not a boy or girl here, who has not at some time felt a desire to be good and do right. When you have felt this way, it has been due to the fact that the Holy Spirit has come to you and has put these good thoughts and good desires into your heart.

There is not a person living who has not at some time felt this same drawing and desire to do right and to be good. The results, however, have been very different with different people.

I shall seek to illustrate this drawing power to you today, and to do so have brought this magnet. I have also brought these tacks and nails of different sizes: and here are also some old, rusted, crooked nails. Let these several kinds represent the different kinds of people.

When I take this magnet, and move it around among these small tacks, and then hold it up, you will see that very many of these tacks cling to the magnet. They hold on by some unseen

even able to touch the magnet, but are drawn through the influence which extends through other tacks, and so large clusters hang on to the magnet. If I shake the magnet you will see that some fall off. These small tacks represent the youngest children. In the early vears of our lives we are more easily drawn to the Lord Jesus. It is then easier for us to come to Christ and give ourselves fully to Him. It is much easier to be Christians when we are young. Yet many put if off until they are older. when it is much more difficult and they are less likely to be successful in living a Christian life.

Now, if I remove these small tacks, and place the magnet among these small nails, you will see that several of the small nails cling to the magnet, and I can lift them up. There are not as many, however, as there were of the tacks clinging to it. In like manner, as boys and girls grow older, they find it more difficult to come to Christ.

Here are some larger nails. When I place the magnet among them, but very few are attracted to it. When I attempt to lift the magnet, most all of these large nails fall off. Only one, sometimes power. Sometimes the tacks are not two, hold on successfully.

Here are some nails that are still larger. Now, when I attempt to lift one of them with this magnet, you see that I can only lift one end of the nail. That is due to the fact that while the magnet draws these nails, the earth also draws them. That is the reason why these smaller nails, when they fall from the magnet, fall to the earth; because the earth draws them. The earth draws with so much greater force and power upon these large nails than the magnet draws that I cannot raise them by the magnet. It is on this account that they continue to hold fast to the earth rather than to the magnet.

This represents the people who have grown old; who have large cares and responsibilities; who have become worldly-minded; who are drawn away by the "deceitfulness of riches and the lust of other things," and who, although they feel a desire to do right, yet have a stronger desire to do that which is not well-pleasing in the sight of God.

Now, here are some old crooked, rusty nails. Let us see what effect the presence of the magnet will have upon them. Just as we might have expected. these rusty nails do not seem to feel the power or the influence of the magnet's presence. If I place the magnet up against the nail, and attempt to lift it, it does not seem to be drawn at all. It simply lies still. unmoved. These old, crooked, rusty nails represent people who have grown very old and very wicked, and who have become greatly hardened in sin. Jesus Christ and His love seem to make no impression any longer upon them. They are joined to their idols. God's Spirit has taken His departure, and they are left alone. Let me warn you, both young and old, that if you feel the drawing of God's Spirit, you should yield to Him, so as not to become more corroded and rusted, and coated over by every sinful influence, so that at last

the love of God shall fail to have any effect upon you.

If now we take these different classes of nails and mix them together, and then stir the magnet among them, you will see how the smaller nails, in larger numbers, cling to the magnet. These bright nails are also affected by it. Oftentimes the influence of the magnet is seen, as it is communicated from one nail to the other: but these rusty nails. not only do not themselves yield to the influence of the magnet, but they also fail to communicate that magnetic influence to any of the other nails around them. In like manner, wicked people seem to come between Christ and others who would be drawn to Him. Let me say to you, keep out of bad company. Avoid wicked companionsthose who swear, lie, or do anything that is wrong, for their influence over you will be bad, and they will prevent the good influences of holy things from acting upon you.

Suppose now that I take my knife blade and move it among these nails, you will see that it does not attract them like the magnet did. It has no magnetic power. If I draw the knife blade across the magnet a few times, it receives this magnetic power from the magnet. Now, when I move it among the nails you will see how these little tacks and some of the larger nails are drawn toward it.

Just so it is with each of us as individuals. Without coming in contact with Christ and receiving His Spirit, His drawing power, we will never influence others to do that which is right and good and holy. If we desire to have an influence for good in this world we must, first of all, come to Christ ourselves, and receive this drawing power from Him. You have doubtless seen those who have become Christians, and after they have given their

hearts to Christ they have immediately begun to draw others. They go out and invite others to come to church, they invite other to go with them to the prayer meeting, to come with them to Sunday school, and so in every way they seek to influence others that they may draw them to Christ.

> -With the Children on Sundays By S. Stall

"The devil is going to and fro Seeking whom he may devour, Little children stay hid in Jesus He'll protect you each day and hour."

# LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Paul departed from Athens and came to Corinth. No doubt he was grieved that not more in Athens received the gospel, but there was no good soil in many hearts where the seed of the gospel could lodge and grow. But in A.D. 50 Paul arrived in Corinth. Paul was very glad to meet Aquila, and his wife, Priscilla. They were Jews and also tentmakers like Paul. Not only were they able to give Paul a place to live but he was able to help them to become established in the gospel. Paul was willing to work and also preach to others. He did not have Christian converts to help care for his temporal many other wicked people in the city.

as it is to be today where there are a number in a congregation, but he worked and took care of himself.

How glad he was when Timothy and Silas came to Corinth from Macedonia. Paul had been preaching to the Jews in the synagogue every sabbath trying to help them to understand that God had sent Jesus as their Saviour. They rejected this fact and refused to accept it. How sad that they could not understand that Jesus' life and death on the cross was prophesied or foretold in the Old Bible, which they at that time studied. What was foretold had come to pass. When they refused to accept the truth. Paul just shook his raiment, or outer coat, and said, "Your blood be upon your own heads. I am clean and have done all I can to help you so I will from now on help the Gentiles to know about Jesus and His power to save them from their sins." So he went to a man's house named Justus who worshipped God. There he preached Christ and many came and heard him. Even the chief ruler of the synagogue believed on the Lord with all of his house and many others: They were baptized.

In the night, Paul had a vision and the Lord told him to not be afraid to speak boldly about Jesus and His power to save, because no man should set on him to hurt him for God had "much people in this city." How precious it is that God can see underneath the wickedness of the hearts of people and see something good there that He can touch and cause them to turn to Him! We read in I Cor. 6:9-11 about the wickedness in that city. There were adulterers, fornicators, thieves, effeminate (womanish), covetous people, drunkards, revilers, abusers of themselves with mankind, extortioners and needs, as he gave them spiritual food, None of these could inherit the kingdom

of righteousness because they needed to be justified and washed in the blood of Jesus Christ. Paul was faithful to teach and preach and many of them were saved from their sins by his faithfulness, and a large church was established in Corinth. —Aunt Marie

# Lesson 12, September 17, 1978 PAUL LABORS IN THE GOSPEL AT CORINTH

Acts 18:1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth:

- 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.
- 3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.
- 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.
- 5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.
- 6 And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.
- 7 And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.
- 8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with

all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.

11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Memory Verse: God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. I Cor. 1:9.

# **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Where did Paul go from Athens?
  2. Whom did he find in Corinth and
- 2. Whom did he find in Corinth and how did they come to be there?
- 3. What kind of work or craft did Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla do?
- 4. Where did Paul reason and preach every sabbath?
- 5. Who came from Macedonia to be with him?
- 6. Did Paul preach only about Moses and his law to the Jews?
- 7. Did the Jews believe on Jesus Christ as their Saviour?
- 8. When they refused to accept Jesus what did Paul do and say?
- 9. To whose house did Paul go and where was the house?
- 10. What ruler came and believed on the Lord and did his household believe also?
- 11. After they believed what did they do next?
- 12. What did the Lord tell Paul at night in a vision?
- 13. What was Paul to speak about?
- 14. How long did Paul stay at Corinth at that time?

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Vol. 29. No. 3 July, August, Sept., 1978 \* Part Thirteen

Sept 24

# **Nuts**

God Means That We Must Work

I have some hickory nuts, walnuts, butternuts, chestnuts, and filberts, or hazel nuts as they are sometimes called. and I want to tell you something that I suppose God means to teach us by these nuts.

Many people remember that when Adam and Eve were driven out of Eden. God told them that "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." Gen. 3:19. God also drove them out of the garden to "till the ground from whence he [man] was taken." Gen. 3:23. On this account some people suppose that if Adam and Eve had not sinned it would never have been necessary for us to work, but that is a mistake. If you turn to the second chapter of Genesis, in the fifteenth verse, you will find that it says, "The Lord God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to might think that my statement was not dress it and to keep it." So you see that wholly correct, because we go out into Adam was required to work, even the orchard and gather apples, pears, before the fall. Of course his work was peaches, and other kinds of fruit which not as severe and his labor brought him have no hard shells on them, and a richer fruitage than after he was which do not have to be planted in the driven out of the Garden of Eden.

Now, what do these nuts teach us? I think that most all boys and girls like to eat hickory nuts, butternuts, chestnuts, and all kinds of nuts. Did you ever stop to think that God has made it necessary that we should crack the shell before we can eat the kernel that is inside? God has purposed to teach us that labor is necessary before we can eat even of that which He gives us, so on the outside of this desired food he places the shell, in some instances hard and difficult to be broken, in order to teach us that labor is necessary before we can eat of His gifts.

Now the same thing is true with regard to the grain that grows in the field. No one ever saw potatoes grow without being planted and cultivated. Rye and oats and wheat do not grow wild. Weeds will grow without being sown or planted, but grain and vegetables not only have to be planted, but have to be taken care of. Possibly you spring of the year. But do you know these kinds had been cultivated for long centuries, grafted and developed so as to produce the rich fruit which is now placed upon our tables? You can see that even this has cost labor, and if we were to neglect the trees in the orchard. it would only be a few years until they would produce only a very small variety of fruit, and even that would be sour and have an unpleasant taste.

God also teaches us this lesson in another way. Man has found it very necessary to use the different kinds of metals, iron, copper, silver, and gold. God has not laid these metals on top of the ground, but has made it necessary that we should dig down into the earth and secure these metals at the cost of a great deal of labor. The same is also true with regard to the coal and the oil, and all the rich mineral products with which God has blessed us. None of them can be secured without labor.

I have oftentimes thought that we are all born lazy. Some learn to be industrious with less effort, but all have to be taught to work. God means that we should work. Have you ever thought that God could feed us without our labor if He chose to do so? He could rain down our food from heaven, just the same as He gave manna to the children of Israel, while they were journeying to the promised land. He could not only feed us, but He could also clothe us from heaven. I am sure that if God gave us our clothing from heaven, He would not make such foolish fashions as the ungodly people design. Not only our food and clothing. but God could also have made it necessary that there should be no preachers. Instead of giving us His Word in the Bible, and then asking us to go into all the world and to preach it to all creatures. He might have used the stars at night, just the same as the founded on Paul's second missionary

that we could not gather this kind of printer uses the different kinds of type rich fruit from the trees unless trees of and prints the letters and words upon the page: so God could have used the stars in order to write His law upon the heavens in a universal language that would be known by all peoples, and so at night, and even in the daytime. people could look up into the heavens and read God's law. Thus it would have been unnecessary to have printed Bibles, or to send preachers to preach. The cost of building churches and supporting ministers would thus have been unnecessary, but God does not do things in that way. Lazy people might desire that things were arranged in this way, but God has seen fit to make it very different.

Why do you think God means that you and I should learn to work? There are two or three good reasons of which I can think. We are so constituted that no one can be in good health for any considerable period without physical exertion, and so you see that if we want to be well—and no one can be happy who is not well—it is necessary that we should learn to work. You will always find that lazy people who eat a great deal suffer many physical ailments. They are always complaining, and I think you will always find that they really are sick, but they could be well if they would only go to work as God meant they should.

-With the Children on Sundays By S. Stall

When it is raining. Don't be complaining Because the sky is gray. Just start off singing, And someone bringing To the chapel on Sunday.

—V. Nixon

Dear Boys and Girls:

The Church of God at Corinth was

journey. He established a Church of reminded the church that they were now God, but the devil had made havoc all laborers together and they were among the saints there and in our lesson God's building. Paul had labored to today we are taking parts from a letter bring them to Christ and they were called, "First Corinthians" which is in saved through the power of God. our New Testament. Paul wrote this Therefore he said, "For in Christ Jesus I letter to the Corinthians about two have begotten you even though you years after he was there. Let us have many fathers and have 10,000 note some of the things that he wrote. It is a long letter so we only took a few to his instructions because they were his of the things and will discuss them.

First notice that the letter is written to the Church of God. That is the name that the church is to be called. Then we notice in our next verse that Paul savs he did not come to them in excellency of speech of man's wisdom or with flowery oratorical ability (giving out the gospel in words that they could not understand). Paul told them in simple words that Jesus came as their Saviour for sin had to be punished. Jesus was without sin, born of a virgin, not having an earthly father, but God was His father. If man had been His father He could not have been the Son of God and would have had the sin principle in Him, for all children when they are born of earthly parents have the sin principle in them. Paul told them how Jesus was innocent. Even Pilate said that he found no fault in Him when he was brought up in court before him, yet he let the Jews take Him and crucity Him. Even the centurion, who stood by the cross, watched Jesus die and saw all things that came to pass, including the earthquake, said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" Matt. 27:54. Then Paul told them how Jesus arose from the grave Corinth. and appeared unto the disciples and also to over 500 brethren. Then He ascended into heaven. All of these things caused many to believe on Jesus. therefore there was a congregation in Corinth because Paul had simply told them the truth under the power and anointing of the Holy Ghost. Paul

linstructors in Christ. They were to listen children in the Lord.

Paul warned them that they needed to glorify God in their bodies, which had been bought with a great price, and not to think they were able to stand without watching and praying. He told them that they would be tempted, but their temptation would not be more than they could bear, because God would make a way for them to escape so they could bear them.

Many other things Paul told them, but boys and girls all of these things are good for us today. Love the Lord with all of your heart. Watch and pray and be ready to go to be with the Lord at any time, as none of us know when we will be called to leave this world.

-Aunt Marie

# Lesson 13, September 24, 1978 PAUL'S COUNSEL FOR THE CORINTHIANS

I Cor. 1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God. and Sosthenes our brother.

2a Unto the church of God which is at

2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

3:9 For ye are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

4:14 I write not these things to shame

you, but as my beloved sons I warn you.

15 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh

he standeth take heed lest he fall.

13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

11:31 For if we would judge ourselves,

we should not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

14:1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

40 Let ail things be done decently and

in order.

15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

16:22 If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema, Maranatha.

Memory Verse: But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. I Cor. 2:14.

# **QUESTIONS:**

1. To whom was the letter in our lesson written?

- Paul told the Corinthians the truth about Jesus in simple words. Tell about Jesus' birth, death, resurrection, and His ascending to heaven.
- 3. With whom are we laborers together in helping others know about Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension?
- The church is many times referred to as a building. What does our lesson call that building
- 6. What kind of a price were we bought with so we could be saved from our sins?
- 7. What happens to someone who thinks he can stand any temptation without praying or looking to God?
- 8. Are temptations common to us and who is faithful to help us to go through them, helping us to bear them?
- 9. How can we judge ourselves so we will not be judged?
- 10. If God judges us what happens?
- 11. Charity is love. What are we to do about love and what are we to desire from God?
- 12. How are things to be done in the church and in our lives?
- 13. If only in this life we had hope in Christ how would we feel?
- 14. Who became the firstfruits of them that slept, or are dead?
- 15. Anathema Maranatha means "Let him be accursed; our Lord cometh." The first word is Greek and the last one is Syriac. So what happens to someone who doesn't love Jesus Christ?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part One

Oct. 1

# Saved from a Bandit

"In the Spring of 1872, my wife, child and I were in the city of Cadereita. Mexico, where we had been laboring as missionaries, but felt it was our duty to return to the States for a little season. and had been asking God to open up the way for us. At length, about the middle of March, the opportunity appeared to be given, the means being provided; but the country was in a state of revolution (not an uncommon thing there), and, consequently, there were no stages running out of the country, so we had to take conveyance in Mexican carts. Therefore, we engaged two men, with their carts; one in which we might ride and carry a mattress, which should serve as a bed at night, and the other, to carry the baggage and provisions for ourselves and the horses, as our way was mostly through an uncultivated country.

"We knew that General Cortinas, with his troops, were somewhere between us and Texas, as the State we were in was one of those in rebellion. The bloodthirsty character of General Cortinas is well known on the frontier, there being

against him for murder in the state of Texas. He is regarded as having a special hatred against Americans, and the Mexicans, themselves, stand in terror of him.

"Our friends and brethren in Cadereita tried hard to deter us from going, as most likely we would fall into the hands of General Cortinas: in which event, they said, the very utmost we could expect would be to escape with our lives, being left destitute of everything, in a wilderness road. God had seemed to open up the way. providing the means, so we determined to go forward, trusting that He also would protect us in the way. Therefore. having completed our arrangements. we started for Matamoros, some three hundred miles distant, on the 19th of March. The wives of the two men accompanied their husbands, making our party six adults and one child. The brethren in Cadereita promised to pray daily for our safety. The third morning, after commending ourselves, as usual, into the care of our covenantkeeping God, we started on our journey. Some two hours later, we espied the troops of General Cortinas, about two no less than seventeen indictments miles distant, marching toward us. Again we all looked to God for protection, potato, nor a bean; and "Charles, poor and prayed that, as He shut the mouths fellow, will come home from work at six, of the lions that they should not hurt His servant Daniel. He would now restrain the evil passions of men, that they might not hurt or injure us. Then we went on until we met the advance guard, who commanded us to halt and wait until the General came up. After nearly half an hour, General Cortinas, with his escort, rode up to where we were waiting for him. After the ordinary salutation, he asked: (¿de adonde vienen y adonde van?) 'From whence have you come, and where are you going?'—to which we replied properly. Then he asked: 'What is the news from Nueva Leon?' (the State we left)-to which we replied as faithfully as we could. Then I asked him, 'Is the road safe between us and Matamoros?' He replied: 'Perfectly; you can go on without any fear, and as safely as you would in your own country.' Then, bidding us 'good morning,' he rode on. not even inquiring about or examining any of our baggage.

"When we arrived in Brownsville. Texas, and told of how gentlemanly General Cortinas had treated us. all pronounced it wonderful, and said, 'We could not have believed General Cortinas capable of such kindness to Americans so in his power. It was truly a miracle. We believed that it was God who restrained the naturally vicious passions of the man, in direct answer to -D. W. Whittle prayer."

# A Prayer for Supper

An educated, accomplished lady, reduced to the very lowest round of poverty's ladder, whom we shall call Mrs. X\_\_\_\_\_ bears unfailing testimony to God's hearing and answering the prayer of faith. The daughter came upstairs one day to announce that there was not even a piece of dry bread, not a

tired and so very hungry. What shall we do. \_Mother?"

"The Lord will send us something, before he comes," said Mrs. X\_ For three hours more the daughter waited, "Mother it is five o'clock and the Lord has not sent us anything." "He will, my dear, before half-past six." The widow went in an adjoining room, to ask that her daughter might not feel it vain to call upon God. In fifteen minutes the doorbell rang violently. and a gentleman with suitcase in hand said, "Mrs. X\_\_\_\_\_ I left the room which I hired of you one year ago, in a great hurry, you will remember; and I owed you five dollars. I have not been in the city since, and am rushing out of it again. I just stopped by to give you this money. Good-bye." The Wonders of Prayer

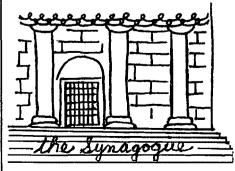
"Why don't you go hunting with us. Bob?" asked Randy.

"Because Mother said I must rake all these leaves and it will take all day," replied Bob.

"You could go with us for a little while and your mother would never know it."

"God would know, said Bob. And He tells us to obey our parents."

# LESSON ILLUSTRATION



instruction."

Dear Boys and Girls:

We remember that Paul and his company are on their second missionary journey, and in our lesson they arrived at Antioch from where they had started. According to one commentator, they had been gone on this journey about three years.

Our lesson begins with Paul in Corinth, where he lived for about a year and a half. We remember that Crispus and his whole family believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and they were baptized. Crispus had been the ruler of the synagogue. After he left the synagogue, Sosthenes became chief ruler of the synagogue. No doubt Sosthenes and the Jews were very angry because so many followed Paul to the house of Justus and believed that Jesus truly was the Messiah, who was to come, and the Saviour of all who would believe on Him. It possibly greatly disturbed the Jews for Paul to have services right next door to the synagogue. Their hatred for the gospel and for Paul grew, until finally they caused a riot against Paul and the Lord's followers. Paul was arrested and brought before the governor's tribunal. He was accused by the Jews of teaching things that were against Moses' law and against the Hebrew's ideas of what they thought the law of Moses meant. These were their only accusations.

Gallio, the Roman ruler under which the city of Corinth was controlled, cared nothing about God nor any of the Mosaic laws. He ruled in A. D. 53 and was a pagan worshipper, and was a very serious man with polished Greek manners. He had just entered office, and maybe the Jews thought that he, being new, would want to appease them to win their favor. They were greatly surprised

"He is in the way of life that keepeth when they told him their complaints. Paul was about to open his mouth in self-defence, after being accused of persuading men to worship God contrary to the Mosaic law, when Gallio stopped him. He told the Jews that if it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness he would listen to them, but that he would not listen if it was a matter of question concerning just their law and names as to whether Jesus had been rightly or wrongly called Messiah. He then ordered them to clear the court. The case was dismissed.

The Lord did not forsake His child in his time of need. He truly is a present help in time of need. He caused the ruler to be in favor of right, even though Gallio did not really have sympathy with Paul and his teachings.

The tables were turned, so to speak. and the ruler, Sosthenes, was beaten by the Greeks because of the rising up of the Jews and causing trouble. This was not done by Paul nor by any of the -Aunt Marie Christians.

# **Notice of Price Increase**

As a result of the rapid advance in production costs and postage, it has become necessary for us to increase the subscription price on this "Beautiful Way" paper. Beginning with the first quarter of 1979, the subscription price will be 35¢ per quarter, or \$1.40 per year, issued quarterly. As usual, the subscription includes the Primary and Junior papers. They cannot be ordered separately by subscription on account of the postal regulations. When ordering papers by the quarter or year, please use these new prices. Thank you!

# Lesson 1, October 1, 1978 UNSUCCESSFUL PERSECUTIONS

Acts 18:12 And when Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord against Paul, QUESTIONS: and brought him to the judgment seat.

13 Saying, This fellow persuadeth men to worship God contrary to the law.

14 And when Paul was now about to open his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews. If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness. O ve Jews, reason would that I should bear with you:

15 But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ve to it; for I will be no judge of such matters.

16 And he drave them from the judgment seat.

17 Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. And Gallio cared for none of those things.

18 And Paul after this tarried there vet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; having shorn his head in Cenchrea: for he had a vow.

19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews.

20 When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not:

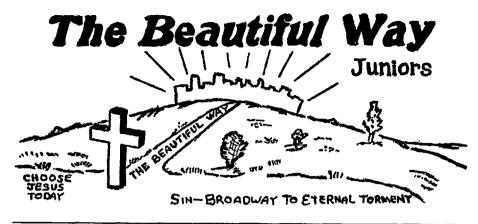
21 But bade them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep this feast that cometh in Jerusalem: but I will return again unto you, if God will. And he sailed from Ephesus.

22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch.

Memory Verse: So that we may boldly say. The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Hebrews 13:6.

- 1. God had promised Paul in a vision that no man would set upon him and hurt him while he was at Corinth. But when the new Greek deputy, Gallio, began to rule, what did the Jews do?
- 2. What did they tell the court about Paul?
- 3. When Paul was about to open his mouth to speak, what did Gallio say about the matter of wrong or wicked lewdness?
- 4. Gallio mentioned that if it were only a question of words and names of their law, that he would not be a judge of such things. What did he mean?
- 5. After Gallio spoke, what did he do?
- 6. Read our memory verse and comment on its being fulfilled in this incident.
- 7. Sosthenes became chief ruler of the synagogue after Crispus believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, left the synagogue and went with Paul and the Christians. What did the Greeks. who were in sympathy with Gallio, do to the Jews that brought Paul up before the court?
- 8. Are we told how long Paul stayed at Corinth after this happened?
- 9. Where did he go from Corinth and who did he take with him?
- 10. When Paul arrived in Ephesus, where did he go first and what did he do?
- 11. Where did he go from Ephesus after refusing to stay longer with them?
- 12. Paul told them he would return again, if \_\_\_ \_ willed it so.
- 13. Where did he go after visiting Caesar?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Two

Oct. 8

# The Prayer of Faith

The family of Mr. James R. Jordan had resided in Lake View, Chicago, since the spring of 1871. They were members of Lincoln Park Congregational Church. The father, Mr. James E. Jordan, died in October, 1882, aged eighty-four years. Through a long series of financial trials, sorrows, afflictions by death and pressing cares, this family learned to depend on God for their daily prosperity. The cures wrought in them, according to God's Word, are only a small portion of the remarkable answers to prayer with which their history is filled.

It is an instructive fact for Christian meditation, that when the exercise of intelligent faith was necessary to their cures, the faith was there ready for exercise. They had not to begin, as, alas! so many do, at the very foundation, and find out first, what faith is, and next, how to exercise it. They had learned long before what faith is and what faith is not; that faith is trustful obedience to the Word of God; that it is not a determination to have one's own way, nor to expect the immediate gratification of a desire, simply because the desire

has been made known to God. They knew that faith obediently accepts God's commands and promises, expects to comply with the conditions of those commands and promises, and, so complying, expects to receive the results of such obedience at such time and in such ways as God appoints; all of which truths they found, and all of which may be found in the Holy Scriptures.

Thus, living in the hopes of the Gospel, realizing as much that their "home is in heaven" as that their "rest is not here," they have, through the years, performed the daily duties of their pilgrimage.

The writer has known them for thirteen years, and gratefully testifies that their faith has strengthened her's, and that their cheerful hope in the Lord has been a strong consolation to many who were in trouble.

After the sudden death of the youngest son of the family, in 1880, the care of the family devolved entirely upon the two daughters, Mrs. H. J. Furlong and Miss Addie S. Jordan.

In April, 1876, Mrs. Jordan fell and badly fractured her hip. She was then seventy-seven years of age. On account of her age she could not well be etherized, nor endure the repeated necessary resetting of the bones, and consequently they grew together irregularly. Her hip-joint was stiff, so that she was never able to walk without the support of a cane or crutch. For eight years she could not leave her own little yard, nor climb into a carriage, nor walk without support.

Through this misfortune her afflictions grew worse. In January, 1884, she fell and broke one bone and dislocated another in the left wrist. Notwithstanding all that medical help could do, the shock brought on a severe sickness, and when, after eight weeks, she left her bed to move around feebly, she had almost lost her sight and hearing, her hand was useless, and her mind greatly impaired.

On her birthday, June 10, 1884, when she was eighty-five years of age, she greatly mourned that she had outlived her usefulness; that she could no longer feed herself, nor read her Bible, nor remember the desirable subjects for her prayers, and she hoped that she should not linger here long in such a helpless and useless condition.

During the latter part of this time the two daughters were sick, Mrs. Furlong with paralysis and Miss Jordan with consumption.

In the latter part of 1882, Miss Jordan, then in feeble health, was needed at home to attend the father's last sickness, and Mrs. Furlong was left to conduct their business alone. The extraordinary exertion brought on paralysis. It began in her right arm, which became so insensible that the strongest ammonia produced no sensation or apparent effect. Gradually her whole right side lost power, her foot dragged, and though she did manage to move about, she was comparatively helpless. Physicians did not speak hopefully; and protracted rest was recommended as a possible relief. She

planned to take electric treatment, though not very hopeful about the result. She failed once to meet her physician, and while planning the second time to take the treatment, and considering Christ's miracles of healing, and the Bible's promises to the sick, she had a feeling that possibly she might be doing wrong in not relying entirely on the Lord, who had hitherto helped them so much. She delayed a little, and failed again to meet the appointment. It was Saturday evening in January, 1883.

(To be continued)

"Now see what you did? You 'good for nothing' boys broke my window! Which one of you did this?" yelled Mr. Jones as he came down the steps with the boys' baseball in his hand.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jones," said Mike. "I hit the ball harder than I meant to. I'll do some work for you to pay for a new window."

Mike's honesty and humble attitude calmed Mr. Jones.

He said, "Oh, I think I have some extra window panes in the garage. But next time play ball a little farther from the house."

Proverbs 15:1, "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

# LESSON ILLUSTRATION



# Almost A Bankrupt

A prominent Christian had just entered a merchant's office, when the head man of the place said to him, "Let us kneel and ask God to help me through, for without His help, I shall be a bankrupt before the setting of the sun." They knelt and prayed. That man went through the pressure, and did not become a bankrupt.—The Wonders of Prayer

Dear Boys and Girls:

We remember that Paul abode with a man named Aquila and his wife Priscilla when he was at Corinth. They left Corinth with Paul and in our lesson we find they are at Ephesus. A man named Apollos came to Ephesus. He was a Jew born at Alexandria. He was a great student of the Scriptures. At that time there was only the Old Testament. Apollos had studied it and was very knowledgeable as to what it said about the coming of Jesus Christ. vet He did not know Christ had already come. He had only heard about John the Baptist and knew that he was a forerunner of Jesus Christ. This gave him great joy and he was bold to tell others that Christ was soon to come, and that they needed to repent and be ready to accept Him. Now when Aquila and Priscilla heard Apollos preach, they rejoiced to know that Apollos loved God and was proclaiming that Jesus was to come, yet they were anxious to tell him that Jesus had already come. Can you imagine how Apollos acted when he heard that Jesus had come as a baby and had grown up among them? How glad he was to hear that Jesus had taught the people how to live to be ready to go to heaven! Apollos was happy to know that by dying on the cross Jesus had paid the penalty of sin for everyone who would accept way of the Lord; and being fervent in him as their Saviour. No doubt, the spirit, he spake and taught dili-

Apollos' face lit up with joy to know that Jesus arose from the grave and that He was even then in heaven. sitting on the right hand of God, interceding for everyone who loved and served Him. What joy filled his heart. He surely went forth with a new message of truth, gladly telling others the wonderful good news! Today, the message of truth is still precious and wonderful to us. We can never cease praising the Lord for loving us so much that He died for our sins and made a way whereby we can find peace with God and have peace in our souls. Oh, how we love Him!

In the last part of our lesson we find others who needed to know more truths. Paul found some of the disciples of Jesus who had never heard about the Holy Ghost. How glad Paul was to tell them about the Holy Spirit's coming upon the 120 that were in the upper room, where Jesus had told them to wait until they were endued with "power from on high." They were filled with the Holy Spirit and God so blessed them that they were able to tell the good news to seventeen different nations who had come to Jerusalem. This was a glorious event. (Acts 2:1-41). After hearing the messages of truth on the day of Pentecost, there were 3,000 souls saved. How glad we are today that we know these precious truths! -Aunt Marie

# Lesson 2, October 8, 1978 PAUL'S LABORS AT EPHESUS (Part One)

Acts 18:24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.

25 This man was instructed in the

gently the things of the Lord, knowing QUESTIONS: only the baptism of John.

26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

19:1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth. Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them. Have ve received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him. We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

7 And all the men were about twelve.

Memory Verse: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. II Timothy 3:16.

- 1. What was the Jew's name who was born at Alexandria?
- 2. Did he know the Scriptures and what Scriptures was he referring to?
- 3. Apollos was \_ \_ \_ \_ in spirit, and was instructed in the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of the \_ \_ \_ \_
- 4. Apollos knew of the baptism of \_ \_ and \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ . diligently the \_ \_ \_ \_ of
- 5. Who heard Apollos speak in the synagogue and what did they do later in talking to Apollos?
- 6. Did Aquila and Priscilla recommend Apollos to the brethren at Achaia and how did he help them?
- 7. What does verse 28 tell us about Apollos?
- 8. While Apollos was at Corinth Paul came to Ephesus and what did he ask certain disciples there? What was their answer to his question?
- 9. What did Paul ask them in verse three and what was their answer?
- 10. What did Paul explain to them about John's baptism?
- 11. After hearing this, what did they do?
- 12. What did they do after Paul laid his hands upon them?
- 13. There was a need of other languages because of foreigners there. How many men spoke the other languages?
- 14. What does the memory verse tell us and should we not study the Scriptures to know what God requires us
- 15. If a person had heard only about John the Baptist and not about Jesus, what would you tell that person?

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Part Three

Oct. 15

# The Prayer of Faith

(Continued from last issue)

Feeling depressed, Mrs. Furlong went home and sat down in the dining-room. depressed. The enfeebled family—the aged crippled mother, the sick sister and her own young son—had retired. As she thought the subject through, she became convinced that it was not good to spend time and money in the way proposed. Instantly the words The Saviour filled her soul with indescribable hope, and as she thought of His miracles, and how the same Jesus, on earth, healed paralyzed ones, the hope grew that He would heal her.

With the well hand she stretched out her paralyzed hand on the table and said: "Dear Lord, will you heal me?" Like an electric shock the life began to move in her arm, and the continued sensation was as though something that previously had not moved, was set in motion. The feeling passed up to the head, and down the body to the foot. She was healed! and she was grateful! She did not speak of her experience to the family, but retired. She rose early the next morning, and awoke her son—a prayerful, dutiful young man—and

said to him, "I'm going to church today." He replied, "Then I'll get up and go with you," expecting that she must ride.

Her soul was solemnly full that day of the felt presence of the Holy Spirit, and she did not like to talk. Her son watched her movements, astonished.

She went to the church, took a class again in Sunday school, and, in going back and forth to church that day and evening, walked about sixty blocks without weariness.

We are not permitted, here, to draw aside the curtain, to dwell upon the surprises and the grateful joy of that ever-to-be-remembered, sacred day.

A few days after this healing, she, with a consciousness that she was running a risk, lifted a heavy weight, and a numbness returned. She confessed the sin to the Lord, and asked Him that, when she had been sufficiently chastened, He would take the trouble away. Gradually, within two days, it disappeared, and has never returned.

At the time when Mrs. Furlong was healed in answer to prayer, Miss Jordan's case was considered hopeless. Her lungs had been diseased since 1876. In November, 1879, her physician had

decided that tubercles had formed in the left lung, and that the right lung was much congested and hardened.

In 1882 she had many hemorrhages. and gradually grew worse, so that she could not use her left arm or shoulder without producing hemorrhage.

Mrs. Furlong, soon after her own healing, received a comforting assurance from the Lord that her sister would be healed: but Miss Jordan, herself, had not that assurance. At this time she took little or no medicines, the physicians and the family having no confidence in their curative effect; but, on the 1st of January, 1884, she had so many chills and hemorrhages, that they sent for the family physician to aid in checking, if possible, the severe attack.

During this apparently rapid descent deathward, Mrs. Furlong continued to to tell the family and the physicians that the Lord would heal her sister.

Miss Jordan was one day so low that she could just be aroused to take her medicine. As Mrs. Furlong went to give it, Miss Jordan said to her, "Do you want to throw that medicine away?" Mrs. Furlong said, "Yes," and threw it away. Six hours of united waiting upon the Lord followed. These were hours of pain. From nine in the morning until three in the afternoon she suffered indescribable pain. A few minutes after three, the pain left her, and with a bright look she said, "I believe I'm better." She wanted to rise and dress, but Mrs. Furlong advised her to rest through the night. She said she had not. in five years, been so free from weariness and pain.

The aged mother was sick in bed with that broken wrist, and Mrs. Furlong feared that her sister's improved condition would shock and perplex her.

Miss Jordan lay on the lounge the most of the time for two days. One of her here free from pain." Her breathing became perfectly natural, and very soon the great hollow place in the upper part of the chest, over the left lung, filled out. Shortly before her healing she only weighed eighty pounds; but a few months after, her weight had increased to one hundred and twenty pounds.

She progressed in health rapidly. on the second Sunday after the healing came, she attended church. The feeble mother was most sensitively anxious lest her daughter should pursue some unwarrantable course which should lead to relapse.

(To be continued)

"It requires far more grace in the heart, to do little, than great things, to the glory of God."

# LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

We notice that Paul often went into the synagogue, which under the old law system was the Jewish place of worship for offering sacrifices for their sins. The Jews did not accept Jesus as the Saviour of the world. Paul had a burden for his people and longed to help them. He tried to get them to see that all the prophesies of Jesus in the Old Testament had been fulfilled in Christ, but they would not expressions was, "It's perfect bliss to lie | believe. We read that many hardened

against proof of Jesus Christ's coming, His miraculous resurrection and ascension, and even "spake evil of the way." After three months of teaching and persuading. Paul separated himself from them and the believers went with him. The Bible tells us to "come out from among them and be ye separate." When people will not accept truth we must withdraw ourselves from them. Boys and girls, we must not accept anything that is not truth or we will become deceived. Oh, we want to stand before God in that day measured up to all the Word of God or we will not enter heaven. It's very serious to disobey God's Word.

Paul taught God's Word in Asia for two years and all heard about the Lord Jesus Christ. Many miracles were done in Christ's name. Paul was so full of God that those who brought handkerchiefs and aprons to the sick from Paul were healed. How wonderful to know that God is still healing today! I know by experience that God will honor faith in Him and heal, as He has healed me many, many times. Some put their faith in doctors, but it's precious to have our faith in One higher than man. Man makes mistakes, but God never makes a mistake. I am glad I have my body placed in God's hands. Boys and girls, it pays to trust in God rather than in doctors.

According to reliable information, the whole orient was full of interpreters of dreams, fortune tellers, charmers, masters of black art, jugglers, exorcists of demons, etc. Mentioned in our lesson is Sceva, a Jew having seven sons who were vagabonds and exorcists. They decided that they would use the name of the Lord Jesus to cast out evil spirits, but hear the message to them from the devil within the man. The devil knows Jesus Christ and knows all about His

their hearts against the truth and against proof of Jesus Christ's coming, His miraculous resurrection and ascension, and even "spake evil of the way."

After three months of teaching and persuading, Paul separated himself from them and the believers went with him. The Bible tells us to "come out from among them and be we separate" lesson.

The results of Paul's preaching—the healing of bodies, and false teachers being exposed—caused many to believe on Jesus Christ. They brought their books of art, etc. together and had a big bonfire. Today many people need to bring their evil books together and burn them. Boys and girls, never stoop so low as to read those filthy books that are being handed around or are for sale. Keep yourself pure minded and God will bless you.

-Aunt Marie

# Lesson 3, October 15, 1978 PAUL'S LABORS AT EPHESUS

# (Part Two)

Acts 19:8 And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.

9 But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.

10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews

exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.

14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so.

15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ve?

16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.

19 Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

20 So mightily grew the word of God

and prevailed.

21 After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

22 So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

Memory Verse: I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. Eph. 4:1.

# QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Paul always go into the

Jewish synagogue when he first went into a town?

- 2. Did many harden their hearts against Jesus and what did they do?
- When we are with unbelievers, what does the Bible tell us to do and did Paul do that? (Read II Cor. 15:18).
- 4. How long did Paul teach in Asia and what did the people hear about?
- 5. Mention some of the miracles of healing that were done by Paul?
- 6. What did the vagabonds and excorcists decide to do after they saw Paul in the name of Jesus cast out evil spirits?
- 7. What was the name of the Jew who had seven sons that tried to cast out spirits in the name of Jesus?
- What did the devil say to them through the man? (Read James 4:19).
- 9. What happened to those who used the name of Jesus without the power of the Holy Spirit within them?
- 10. Is it a dangerous thing to profess to know Christ and not live by His words?
- 11. How did the people in Ephesus feel after they heard and saw what happened to the men who used the name of Jesus without being His disciples?
- 12. In the first part of our lesson we note that many spoke against Paul and the holy way before the multitude, but in verse seventeen what do we read about how the people felt?
- 13. What does it mean to confess our sins and to believe?
- 14. What did the people do with their evil books and what was the cost of them?
- 15. Should we burn evil books today?
- 16. How did the Word of God grow?
- 17. Where did Paul want to go after he had passed through parts of Asia?

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Part Four

Oct. 22

# The Prayer of Faith

(Continued from last issue)

Miss Jordan's health steadily improved, but it was several months before a cough entirely left her. You may be sure that doubters made the most of that cough! But it left her! At one time she brought on a slight relapse by giving lessons in crayon drawing. She came to the conclusion that the Lord had other work for her to do; and at this writing, September, 1885, having prayerfully and watchfully followed the leadings of the Lord, is a missionary among the freedmen of the South, and is strong in health and in faith, "giving glory to God."

One of the aged mother's perplexities was that the Lord should want her to live on in such a helpless and useless condition, while her daughters, who might be so useful, must die; but oh, how successfully she had by precept and example taught those daughters that "He hath done all things well!" How patiently she suffered whatever she thought was the Lord's will! How sweet was her constant thanksgiving! Said a pious Christian neighbor, whose poor health restricted her attendance at

church, "When I'm hungry for a blessing I go down to see old lady Jordan."

After eight painful weeks, she so far recovered from the sickness consequent to the broken and dislocated wrist as to move around feebly, but sight and hearing were almost gone. Her leg was stiff, her wrist deformed, and her mind greatly impaired.

Miss Jordan became very hopeful, and received strong assurance, in answer to prayer, that her mother might be healed. Mrs. Furlong received no assurance whatever in her mother's case. There was a great deal of talking and praying about it in the family, and finally Mrs. Jordan humbly claimed the Lord's help, beseeching Him that since He had recorded that He would make the blind to see, the lame to walk, and the deaf to hear, if it were His will He would heal her. This was the night of June 16th, 1884.

In the morning Miss Jordan was so hopeful that she rose early, and attentively listened to the movements in her mother's room. She called the little family's attention to them, saying, "Just listen to her"; and as, holding on by the banister, the aged mother came

with her accustomed slow movements down to the dining room. Miss Jordan said to them, "Now, watch her."

According to the long habit of eight years, she began to reach out for her cane, unconscious that she had been walking around her room with new freedom. Miss Jordan went toward her and said, "Mother, do you want your cane?" and, wondering, the old lady walked freely into the dining room. They gathered around her and said. "Are you not healed, mother?" and she began to think she was, and sat down in her chair by the table. Could she move her hand? The doubled-up thumb, and straight, stiff finger, were perfectly free and as limber as ever, and the stiff wrist joint moved with perfect freedom! She heard as well as anybody! Could she see? She went upstairs to her Bible. whose blurred, dim pages she had thought closed to her forever, and she could read as well as ever, and without glasses! She could thread the finest needle. Could she kneel and thank the Lord? She had not knelt for eight years. Yes, she could kneel as well as when she served the Lord in her youth!

Christian reader, stop here and think what a joyful family there was that June morning. That aged saint, of a little more than 85 years, was in good health again! And her two daughters had been snatched from the jaws of death! What a triumph of blessed memories to leave in legacy to that young, hopeful, Christian son, who, in childhood, had himself repeatedly proved that the Lord hears and answers praver!

Mrs. Jordan has never used cane or crutch since that morning. She has frequently walked five blocks, to go to her church; and, a few weeks after her healing she walked the distance of about fifteen blocks. She has walked for plants and flowers, and she goes up and down stairs, and wherever she likes, as well as anyone.

She has the use of her faculties, and an altogether comfortable use of her sight, though that is not so acute as at first. Her earliest joy was that she was permitted to see that the Lord had some purpose in sparing her so long.

Dear Christian reader, shall the wonderful manifestation of that "purpose" strengthen your faith? It helps me.

"Is anything too hard for the Lord?" "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him." "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit." -Miss E. Dryer Chicago, Ill.

God's Way is the Best Way.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Demetrius was one of the master silversmiths who employed a large number of craftsmen, or skilled artisans with high wages, and carried on an extensive trade in manufacturing and selling silver shrines of Diana. These were portable miniature temples. containing a statue of the goddess. They were purchased by the inhabitants of the city as well as by strangers visiting it, and were either dedicated to the goddess at the temple or set up on returning home as objects of worship. They were sometimes even carried about on the person as charms. Having collected his brother-tradesmen in some building, if not upon the street, Demetrius, perhaps the chairman of the guild, directed their attention to the danger to which their business was increasingly hours in Lincoln Park, among the exposed. Demetrius' purpose in calling

them together was to let them know about the Apostle Paul and to stir up trouble against him. Demetrius said. "This Paul," who according to Demetrius' admission had been carrying on a successful work of evangelism in the city, was preaching a terrible doctrine that "there be no gods which are made with hands." This was a doctrine which the Old Testament is full of, and of course is true. In Hosea 8:6 concerning a calf used as an idol the Bible says. "The workman made it: therefore it is not God: but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces." People were wanting to worship it but it was to be broken to pieces because it was not God, the One whom we worship. Oh, how wonderful to know that our God is real and cannot be made with hands! He is the Creator of the world and everything in it. He is mighty and powerful and rules this world, permitting those who choose to not love Him to go their own ways; yet all will come in judgment before Him.

Demetrius let the craftsmen know that Paul was doing a good job of telling others about the true God and that many were believing him and "not alone at Ephesus but almost throughout all Asia" turning away much people from the worship of Diana. What a splendid testimony to the success of the gospel in Ephesus! The purpose of Demetrius in calling the meeting was not to lift up God nor to tell of the success of Paul's preaching, but was because he saw his pocketbook was being affected. One person said that the "most sensitive part of a civilized man is his pocket." Demetrius was distressed, and therefore he stirred up the others. Their trade was in danger and their wealth was fast leaving them. Demetrius talked until he got all the tradesmen so worked up that they moved out on the street and cried "Great is Diana plunged into a riot. Two of Paul's and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia,

companions were arrested, since the mob couldn't find Paul. They dragged them into a theatre, which was an immense building capable of holding twentythousand persons. Paul came to the theatre and wanted to push himself into the midst of them and take the responsibility of the whole uproar, but his disciples would not let him.

The townclerk quieted the uproar and said that everyone knew that Diana was their god and if Demetrius had any matter against any man to bring it up in a court of law. He warned them that they might be called in question for the uproar and then he dismissed the assembly. God took care of the situation.

-Aunt Marie

# Lesson 4, October 22, 1978 PAUL'S TROUBLE AT EPHESUS

Acts 19:24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;

25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ve know that by this craft we have our wealth.

26 Moreover ve see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saving that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.

28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

29 And the whole city was filled with of the Ephesians!" The whole city was confusion: and having caught Gaius

in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.

31 And certain of the chief of Asia. which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

32 Some therefore cried out one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.

33 And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people.

34 But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?

38 Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead one another.

39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.

40 For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar, there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this concourse.

41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

Paul's companions in travel, they | Memory Verse: Look unto me, and rushed with one accord into the theatre. be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for 30 And when Paul would have entered I am God, and there is none else. Isaiah 45:22.

**QUESTIONS:** 

- 1. What did Demetrius do to make money? Did he make much money at his craft?
- 2. Whom did he call together and what were his first words to them?
- 3. How did he testify for Paul's great work for God?
- 4. The temple of Diana was considered one of the seven wonders of the old world since it was a magnificent temple. What did Demetrius tell the craftsmen might happen to this great temple?
- 5. What did the craftsmen do when they heard the great speech of Demetrius which was a plea for his own wealth to be preserved?
- 6. Whom did they drag into the great theatre?
- 7. Did Paul want to go in and help out his two companions?
- 8. Who kept him from going into the theatre?
- 9. Whom did they finally bring up to help in the situation and did he help?
- 10. After how long did the townclerk finally get their attention?
- 11. What false thing did he tell them about Diana?
- 12. The townclerk said that those men were not robbers of churches and that they should be quiet and do nothing rashly. What did he advise Demetrius and his craftsman to do if they had a problem?
- 13. What did the townclerk tell them before he dismissed them?
- 14. Who do you think worked out this problem for Paul and his companions?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Five

Oct. 29

# Saved from the Hands of a Hard Criminal

The following circumstance is related to us by a United States Surgeon:

After the close of the Mexican war. and in the year 1849, a train was sent out from San Antonio to establish military posts on the upper Rio Grande. particularly at El Paso. I was surgeon of the quartermaster's department, numbering about four hundred men. While the train was making up, the cholera disease prevailed in camp, for about six weeks, at first with terrible severity. On the 1st of June it had so far subsided that we took up the line of march. After about four days out from San Antonio, the health of the men became very good, and continued through the whole route, with the exception of occasional cases of prostration from heat, and slight fevers. the summer being unusually hot. One evening in July, after coming into camp, I received a call to see a man who had been taken sick on the march. I found him lying under his wagon. The wagon was loaded with bacon, in bulk about two tons. The heat, with the pressure, had caused it to drip freely. I asked him after the occurrence at the wagon, a

might examine his case and prescribe for him. This he refused to do; but demanded that I should crawl under the wagon to him, which I, of course, would not consent to do. No persuasion could induce him to change his position in the least. Becoming satisfied that he was not much, if at all sick, I left him. His profanity, threats and imprecations were fearful.

Perhaps it would be well to give a short sketch of his life for the three years previous, as I learned it from men who knew him, and had been with him for considerable portion of that period. He went to Mexico, at the beginning of the war, a soldier in the regular army. When his term of service expired, he was discharged, and sought employment in the quartermaster's department, as a teamster. He had the reputation of being a thief, a robber, and an assassin. In a few months he was dishonorably discharged from the service. At the close of the war he came to Texas, and sought and obtained employment as teamster in the train then organizing for El Paso. But, to return to my narrative. On the morning to come from under the wagon, that I teamster came to me and said. in a

hasty and abrupt manner, 'Doctor, Mc will kill you today or tonight. He is full of rage, and muttering terrible threats. He was out very early this morning and emptied his six-shooter, and came in and reloaded it and put it in first-rate order. I said, "Mc, what's up now?" He replied, "I will kill that old doctor today or tonight"; and he will do it. I have known him make threats before. and have never known him to fail to execute them. I must go; he must not know that I have seen you.' Knowing the man, I realized the danger, and felt that I was powerless, either to resist or avoid it. I retired within my tent and closed it up. I prostrated myself before Him who is able to save. I prayed for deliverance from the hands of the cruel and blood-thirsty man, and that I might not be left in the power of him who was my enemy without cause. I submitted my cause into the hands of Him who doeth all things well, and prayed for entire submission to His will. My anxiety subsided; my fear was removed, and I commenced the duties of the day with usual cheerfulness.

"Soon after this, the camp broke and we were on the march. I fell back with the officers of the rear guard, and the excitement of the morning was soon forgotten. About 10 o'clock, a messenger came back in haste, for me to see a man who had been thrown from his mule and crushed under the wheels of his wagon. He did not know who the man was-he was about half or threequarters of a mile ahead. The thought then occurred to me, I shall probably have to pass Mc's team. I will ride square up with the messenger, and keep him between myself and the train. When we came to the spot, I inquired who the man was, for he was so mutilated I could not recognize him. It was Mc. God was there. Awe and terror took hold upon me. I was dumb with amazement.

"Mc had dismounted and walked some fifty rods by the side of his team. Attempting to remount, his mule whirled and pitched, and he was thrown upon his back, and his team with fourteen others instantly stampeded. Both the fore and hind wheels on the near side of his wagon passed directly over his face, and crushed every bone in his head. It was a fearful sight; not a feature of the human face could be discerned.

"The stampeded teams were flying wildly over the prairie, in spite of every effort of the teamsters to control them.

"I directed the head of the corpse to be inserted in some new, thick sacks, in such a way as to prevent the oozing of blood, and that it be wrapped in his blanket and taken to the next camp for burial. When the stampeded teams came in, it was found that no other person was injured, nor any damage done.

"The philosopher may tell us of the reign of law; of the coincidence of circumstances; of the action of natural causes; but, to the Christian, the fact still remains—prayer was answered. God heareth his people when they cry unto Him."

—D. W. Whittle

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

# they took sail

Dear Boys and Girls:

After the uproar at Ephesus over the

loss of trade of the craftsmen, who made silver shrines of their idol Diana, because of Paul's preaching and many turning from the idol worship to worshipping the only true and living God. Paul left for Macedonia. Paul was faithful to exhort, to teach, those who had been saved from sin and were loving Jesus Christ, to keep faithful and true. After his being in Greece about three months, some of the Jews were stirred up about his preaching. This was about the time he had intended to sail to Syria. He purposed, or decided, to go back through Macedonia. Paul did not run from trouble because of his strong faith in Jesus Christ as His Deliverer. Praise God! It seems that every where Paul went, he had either a riot or a revival.

Paul finally arrived at Troas and upon the "first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached to them." The first day of the week is Sunday. You remember, that after Jesus arose on the first day of the week, the disciples met together the next "first day of the week": then again on the next Sunday. Since that time the Christians have met together on Sunday. Saturday was the old Jewish Sabbath which meant complete physical rest. They could not even pick up sticks with which to build a fire on that day or they would be stoned. That is a type of our spiritual rest in Christ from sin. To meet together in worship of the Lord is to be on Sunday. We note that the Word says that they met together to "break bread." We read in I Cor. 10:16 that breaking bread was to have the Lord's Supper or the Communion. We note in verse 11 of that chapter it speaks of Paul's breaking bread and that he ate, which surely meant food.

Do young people and children die? In the cemetery we see graves of all sizes. Troas.

So, boys and girls, live so you will have everything clear between you and the Lord. We never know when we will die. There is no time to change between death and the judgment. As death finds you so will the judgment in that last great day when the world will be dissolved and pass away.

A young man went to sleep while sitting in a window listening to Paul's preaching, around midnight. He fell from the third story of the building. They took him up as dead. Paul went down and fell on him, praying and said, "Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him." God was merciful and spared his life. We do not know if he was ready to die, but at least he was there wanting to hear Paul preach, which was a good sign that he had some love for God and His Word.

We read about Paul's taking a long walk. No doubt he wanted to be alone with God. Boys and girls, it's good to be alone with God and let Him talk to your heart.

—Aunt Marie

# Lesson 5, October 29, 1978 PAUL PREACHES AT TROAS

Acts 20:1 And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto him the disciples, and embraced them, and departed for to go into Macedonia.

2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation, he came into Greece.

3 And there abode three months. And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed to return through Macedonia.

4 And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus.

5 These going before tarried for us at Troas.

6 And we sailed away from Philippi how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him after the days of unleavened bread, and shall be given; and whosoever hath not. came unto them to Troas in five days: where we abode seven days.

7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them. ready to depart on the morrow: and continued his speech until midnight.

8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gath-

ered together.

9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep. and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

10 And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.

11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.

12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

13 And we went before to ship, and sailed unto Assos, there intending to take in Paul: for so had he appointed, minding himself to go afoot.

14 And when he met with us at Assos. we took him in, and came to Mitylene.

15 And we sailed thence, and came the next day over against Chios; and the next day we arrived at Samos, and tarried at Trogyllium; and the next day we came to Miletus.

16 For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.

Memory Verse: Take heed therefore

from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have. Luke 8:18.

# QUESTIONS:

1. What uproar had ceased?

- 2. What did Paul do before he departed for Macedonia and then where did he go?
- 3. What does the word exhortation mean and what do you think Paul told them?
- 4. After being in Greece for about three months, what happened just before he decided to sail to Syria?
- 5. What does the last part of verse three tell us about Paul's character?
- 6. Who went with him and where did they wait (or tarry) for him?
- 7. In verse seven, we note that "on the first day of the week" they met together. What day was this and why did they meet on that day instead of Saturday which is called the Sabbath? (Read John 20:1; 19, 26).
- 8. What did they do when they "came together to break bread"? (I Cor. 10:16).
- 9. Paul preached until midnight and what happened?
- 10. The boy died that fell from the third story of the building and what did Paul do?
- 11. What does verse eleven tell us?
- 12. Did Paul see the young man before he left? I wonder what the young man said and how he felt about sleeping in services, also about being ready to leave this world at any time.
- 13. Verse 13 tells about Paul's walking. Does it help a person to be alone with God?
- 14. Where did they sail after they met Paul and took him with them?

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Part Six

Nov. 5

## Consult God

It was my happiness to cross the Atlantic in the company of dear Bro. George Muller on the Sardinian steamship, from Quebec to Liverpool, in June, 1880.

I met Mr. Muller in the express office the morning of sailing, about half an hour before the tender was to take the passengers to the ship. He asked of the agent if a deck chair had arrived for him from New York. He was answered, "No." and told that it could not possibly come in time for the steamer. I had with me a chair I had just purchased and told Mr. Muller of the place nearby, where I had obtained it, and suggested that, as but a few moments remained, he had better buy one at once. His reply was, "No, my brother, our Heavenly Father will send the chair from New York. It is one used by Mrs. Muller, as we came over, and left in New York when we landed. I wrote ten days ago to a brother who promised to see it forwarded here last week. He has not been prompt as I would have desired. but I am sure our Heavenly Father will send the chair. Mrs. Muller is very sick upon the sea, and has particularly desired to have this same chair, and not finding it here yesterday when we

arrived, as we expected, we have made special prayer that our Heavenly Father would be pleased to provide it for us, and we will trust Him to do so." This dear man of God went peacefully on board the tender, running the risk of Mrs. Muller's making the voyage without a chair, which he could have bought for a couple of dollars. I confess, I feared Mr. Muller was carrying his faith principles too far and not acting wisely.

I was kept at the express office ten minutes after Mr. Muller left. Just as I started to hurry to the wharf, a team drove up the street, and on top of a load just arrived from New York, was Mr. Muller's chair! It was sent at once to the tender and placed in my hands to take to Mr. Muller (the Lord having a lesson for me) just as the boat was leaving the dock. I found Mr. and Mrs. Muller in a retired spot on one side of the tender and handed him the chair. He took it with the happy, pleased expression of a child who has just received a kindness deeply appreciated, and reverently removing his hat and folding his hands over it, he thanked his Heavenly Father for sending the chair. "In everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be

made known unto God." "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you."

The Word of God teaches us as His children (inviting us to pray, commanding us to pray, and teaching us how to pray), that there is a divine reality in prayer. Experience abundantly corroborates the teaching.

-D. W. Whittle

## Sight Given to a Blind Child

A missionary visiting one of the mission schools of Brooklyn, was introduced to a remarkable child. He was brought into the school from the highways and hedges, and young as he was, he had been taught of God. One day he was playing with fire crackers and putting his mouth to the match to blow it out, it exploded. The whole charge went into his face and eyes. He became totally blind, and the physician gave but little hope of recovery. The little sufferer was patient and calm, and even hopeful. Sitting through the dark days, meditating on what he had learned at the mission Sunday school. he repeated Bible verses and beautiful hymns.

One evening the physician spoke discouragingly, and his parents were in deep distress. He got on his knees in a corner of the room in earnest prayer. His voice, though subdued almost to a whisper, was with intense feeling. His parents inquired for what he had been praying so earnestly. "Why," said he, "that Jesus Christ would open my eyes. The doctor says he can't, and so I thought I would ask the Saviour to do it for me." God honored his faith. In a few days his sight came to him; and the prayer was answered. He can now see clearly. -The Wonders of Prayer

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof."

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Lesson 6, November 12, 1978
PAUL'S FAREWELL
TO THE EPHESIANS

Dear Boys and Girls:

Farewells are hard to face. I am sure when your grandmother and grandfather visit you that it's hard to see them leave, or when it's a girl or boy friend, or a cousin. We love our relatives and friends and we like to be with them. Also, in campmeetings it is hard to part with the saints and sometimes it is easier to just leave without saying goodbye because of its being so hard. Yet, how wonderful it is to know that one of these days the saints will all meet around the throne of God. What a great meeting that will be! I want to be in that number.

In our lesson we read about Paul's farewell to the elders of the church at Ephesus. It was a painful farewell, as Paul told them that he would not see their faces anymore. Paul had laid down his life for them so they could know about Jesus Christ, the Saviour who came from heaven to dwell in the flesh like other humans so he could teach us the way from earth to heaven. What glory filled their souls in knowing that their sins were forgiven and then to know the power of a Holy Spirit filled life! This was such a great change from worshipping an idol that was made of

anything for them. No longer did they bye. have to fall down before the great goddess. Diana, which was their former god. How glorious to know Jesus Christ and to have the Holy Spirit dwelling within them, being their Comforter in all the troubles of life. No wonder they loved Paul who had brought this good news to them and helped them to find that peace in their souls for which they had longed.

Paul told them that he had served the Lord before them with tears and many temptations. Of course, you remember in our lessons how Paul got into trouble because of Demetrius and his craftsmen. They began losing their trade of making silver shrines of their god, Diana, because Paul had preached Christ and many had believed on Him. The dear ones in Ephesus were convinced of Paul's love for Jesus Christ and for them. We know that trouble brings people together when they have suffered together. Paul and the saints at Ephesus had suffered many things.

Paul talked to the elders and called to their mind how God had blessed His Word even though trouble had awaited him, not only there, but in every city where he had been. He said, "None of these things move me!" Paul was ready to lay down his life for Christ and the Word. He said that he didn't count his life dear unto himself so that he might finish his life with the joy of knowing that a reward awaited him over there.

Paul warned them that false prophets or "grievous wolves" would come in among them. He said that there would even be some among them that would rise up and teach false things, which would cause them trouble, but that they were to be good teachers of the flock and watch for their souls.

Paul knelt down and prayed with them and then parting came with much unto you all the counsel of God.

stone which couldn't speak or do weeping and kissing each other good--Aunt Marie

### Lesson 6, November 12, 1978 PAUL'S FAREWELL TO THE EPHESIANS

Acts 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons.

19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house.

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself. so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.

27 For I have not shunned to declare

28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.

35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

36 And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.

Memory Verse: Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. Acts 20:28.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Whom did Paul call together at Ephesus?

- 2. What did Paul tell that he had been to them at all seasons or times?
- 3. Don't you think Paul was one of the bravest men that ever lived? Then what do you think of a man that cries? Did Jesus cry?
- 4. How can boys and girls have "humility of mind"?
- 5. What does verse 20 tell us that Paul did from house to house?
- 6. What did Paul mean when he said he taught that the Jews and Greeks should have "repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ"?
- 7. What did the Holy Spirit make him know awaited him in every city?
- How did he take the thought and knowledge that "bonds and afflictions waited for him in every city?
- 9. Should we be stedfast like Paul in facing problems that arise because we love Jesus?
- 10. How did Paul want to finish his course or life for Jesus?
- 11. Paul told them that they would not see his face anymore but he said that he was free from the blood of men. What did he mean?
- 12. What were the overseers to do for the Church of God and how were they to act?
- 13. Paul warned that grievous wolves, which were false prophets, would come among them. What did he say that some among them would do?
- 14. How did Paul labor among them and how were his needs supplied?
- 15. Is it true that it is more blessed to give than to receive and why?
- 16. How did the saints and elders act after he knelt down and prayed before he left?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

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Part Seven

Nov. 12

## A Pocket Rule

How God Measures Men

Today I have with me a yardstick, a pocket-rule, and a tape-measure.

If I were going to measure any of you, to tell how tall you are. I would use one or the other of these rules; as each is divided into even inches. I could use any of these three I should prefer. I would say one boy is four feet two inches, another four feet nine inches and another five feet four inches, and so on according to the height of each person. We speak of this kind of measure as feet and inches. When it is used in measuring cloth, or other goods in a store, we speak of it as yards and parts of a yard. Then there are other forms of measures, dry measurequarts, pecks, bushels; and liquid measure-quarts, gallons and barrels. There is also a standard of weight ounces, pounds and tons.

It is necessary to have standards of weights and measures. This is absolutely necessary, or we could not tell in purchasing cloth or lumber, in buying sugar or flour, or other things, whether we are getting the right quantity, or whether we are not getting the right quantity.

If you look on the other side of this tape-measure, there is a different standard of measure. This, on the reverse side, is the metric system, used in many countries and is now being taught in many schools in the United States. If you were to go into a store in France and wanted to purchase cloth. you would not ask for a yard, you would ask for a meter of cloth, which instead of thirty-six inches, which makes our vard, would be a little over thirty-nine inches; so the standard of measures and values varies in different countries. There is a slight difference in the length of the English yard and the American yard. In this country we also speak of dollars and cents. In England they have the penny, shilling, pound or sovereign. And so in different countries there are different pieces of money, having a great variety of values.

I have spoken of these things simply to call your attention to the fact that God has a standard of measure, and a standard of value, as well as men. When the Government enlists soldiers into the army every man is measured, and he must be of a given height; if he is not as tall as the requirement, then he is rejected. When Napoleon chose his body-

guard the men all had to be exceedingly tall.

God also has His standard of measure. He does not measure us according to the height of our body, but according to our moral character. He measures us to see whether we are good or bad. God's standard of the measure of our moral character is found in the Bible. You will find it, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. In the Old Testament we have the Ten Commandments. in which we are required to worship God, and to worship nothing else; to honor our parents; and various other requirements. In the New Testament we have a great many principles for moral government which Jesus announced when He was upon the earth.

We have all broken one or more of the Ten Commandments and the precepts which Jesus left for us to follow. If you desire to see how you should live, if you would keep the law perfectly, you will have to look at the life of Jesus Christ. He was the only perfect man who ever lived. He came to this world to set a perfect example for men to imitate. Just the same as you copy after the lines correctly written at the top of your writing book, so you and I are to copy after the life and character of Jesus Christ.

The moral law is a perfect law: the Psalmist says, "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul." I showed you how in France they have a different standard of measure from that which we have in the United States, but with the moral law, the standard is the same everywhere and at all times. It is wrong to lie or steal in America, and it is equally wrong to lie or steal in France. Africa, India, on the islands of the sea, or anywhere in all of the universe. If it is wicked now to swear, or to commit murder it always was wicked. It was just as wicked three thousand years ago triumph over me." Psalms 25:1,2.

as it is today, and it never will be right to take the name of God in vain, or to destroy human life. God has but one standard of morality for all people and for all time.

What God requires of the young in order that they may be pure and holy, He requires also of grown people. If it is wrong for the preacher and the Sunday school superintendent to go to the theatre, or to do anything else, it is equally wrong for every member of the church and for every member of the Sunday school. Before God we must all be measured by the same standard of morality.

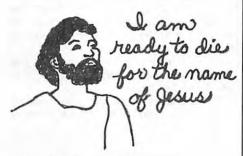
If I had one year ago measured the height of each of you and written it down, and then measured you again today. I would find that during these twelve months each of you had grown. You are taller today than you were a year ago. Now, God has given us a standard of moral character, right and wrong, and I want you all to study it very carefully, so that you may see how tall you are, how far you come short of the character of Jesus Christ. As you grow taller in body, so you should grow in moral character. If you will study God's Word carefully, you will be able to discover what progress you are making in becoming more like Christ, in becoming better boys and better girls. and afterward better men and better women, from year to year, than you were each preceding year.

May God bless you abundantly, and may you grow daily "unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Eph. 4:13.

> -With the Children on Sundays By S. Stall

"Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. O my God. I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Paul was on his way to Jerusalem. As in all of his journeys he stopped to be a comfort to others who loved God. We find that he only had three men with him and one was Luke, who wrote the book of Acts. The first night the vessel anchored at Coos and the next day it made a journey of about fifty miles and lay for the second night in Rhodes: being, as is reported, "one of the most beautiful portions of the world." The next day they landed at Patara with a splendid harbor. All of these places were renown for their temples to the gods of the people who lived in these cities. In Phenicia they went aboard a ship and sailed to Tyre where they stayed seven days with the brethren. Paul was glad to impart to them some more of the precious riches of the Word of God and they rejoiced in it. While there, the brethren were warned of the dangers of Paul awaiting his arrival at Jerusalem. They imparted to him their warnings but surely it was to make Paul know that "bonds and afflictions" awaited him in every city. The spirit had already made Paul know to go to Jerusalem, and by others warning him his faith and trust in God to see him through was greatly tested.

The whole body of the disciples with their wives and children, unwilling to be parted from Paul and his companions,

repeated the scene which had but a few days before been witnessed when he left the dear ones from Ephesus. It is precious to part with a farewell prayer-meeting rather than a farewell social banquet. In a prayer-meeting God's favor can be prayed down upon those who are parting and solemn commendations of each other to God.

Finally Paul came to Caesarea and there he went to the home of Philip, the evangelist, who had four daughters, who were virgins and who prophesied. Today some do not think that women should preach but we know that they did in the days of Paul and the disciples of Jesus. Some take parts of the Scriptures and try to make them mean something else. In one place the Bible speaks of women keeping silent and it was because they were causing confusion, but above the same place it speaks of the men keeping silent for the same reason. Men or women are not to cause confusion in the house of God or the congregation of the righteous. See I Cor. 14:28.33.34.

Agabus took Paul's girdle and bound his own hands saying that the Holy Ghost made him know that the Jews would bind Paul at Jerusalem. We know that this came true but Paul was walking in the way that the Lord was leading him. When they wept and begged him not to go he said, "I am ready to die for the name of Jesus Christ."

Boys and girls, we must love the Lord with all of our hearts and be willing to be lead by His Spirit where ever He leads us.

—Aunt Marie

## Lesson 7, November 12, 1978 PAUL'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

Acts 21:I And it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Coos, and the day following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara:

2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth.

3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre; for there the ship was to unlade her burden.

4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.

5 And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.

6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.

7 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day.

8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus.

11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

15 And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem.

Memory Verse: By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:35.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- Who was traveling with Paul to Jerusalem and wrote the book of Acts?
- 2. How long did Paul stay with the brethren at Tyre?
- 3. What did the disciples at Tyre say to Paul about his going on to Jerusalem?
- 4. What did Paul and the disciples at Tyre do as he was about to leave?
- 5. How long did Paul stay with the brethren at Ptolemais?
- 6. Where did Paul go after leaving Ptolemais?
- 7. In whose house did Paul stay in Caesarea?
- 8. The man Paul stayed with had four daughters. What did they do?
- 9. Who was Agabus?
- 10. What did Agabus do with Paul's girdle?
- 11. Who did Agabus say would bind Paul at Jerusalem?
- 12. Did the brethren in Caesarea want Paul to go on to Jerusalem?
- 13. Paul told them he was ready to die for whose name at Jerusalem?
- 14. Did the disciples with Paul finally consent to his leaving?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Eight

Nov. 19

## Grasshopper and Ant

Negligence and Industry

The grasshopper is very much like the class of boys who want to have a good time, play and frolic from day to day. but never go to school or work, but live for the play and pleasure to be enjoyed each day as it passes. The grasshopper jumps from place to place across the field, eating his food wherever he can find it, and then spends his days and weeks in idleness. He never stops to think that the summer will soon pass away, the fields will then be barren, the cold autumn will come, when the fields will be left desolate and covered with snow. Finally when autumn comes, he has no food laid up for the winter, but dies of poverty and hunger.

The little ant is not so foolish. For thousands of years the ant has always been wise and industrious. In Proverbs 30:25, Solomon tells us that, "The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer." In the sixth chapter, sixth, seventh and eighth verses he says, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise; which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the

summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." You have probably noticed the industry, activity and perseverance of these little ants. They attempt great things. Sometimes you will see one of these little insects carrying a burden which is several times larger than its own body. If they come to a stone, or a log, or some obstacle, over which they must carry their burden, if they do not succeed the first time, they will try again; and even though they should fall. or fail as much as a hundred times, they will persevere until they have accomplished their undertaking. If you watch them, you will see how rapidly they move. They are not lazy, they do not loiter along the way, but are always in a hurry. They work with energy and gather food during the summer, which they lay up for their supply during the winter. Whatever the little ant can gather, it carries home and lays up in store, not for itself alone, but all work together, each laboring for the good and well-being of all the others.

chapter, sixth, seventh and eighth verses he says, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise; which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the go to school and study, when he is being

taught to be industrious and useful. When the days are pleasant, boys do not like to go to school. When a pleasant Sunday morning comes in the springtime, they often wish to stay at home, to go out to the park, or to roam about the fields, and if most of the boys and girls had their own way about it, in the beginning, they would live pretty much like the grasshopper. They would get what pleasure they could out of the days as they pass, grow up in ignorance and idleness, and in manhood and womanhood find themselves in poverty and want. I think that pretty much all boys and girls are naturally lazy, and that feeling can only be cured by being required to work, being compelled to go to school and study, and being kept persistently at it from week to week and year to year, until at last they learn to love to work. If the parents of the grasshopper had not themselves been lazy and grown up in idleness, they would have taught the young grasshopper that in the spring and summer he was to look forward to the wants and needs of the winter. The older ants always teach the young ants to work, and in that they are very wise.

Perhaps you have seen boys and girls who have learned to work, who are always very active, who seem always to be busy, but after all accomplish nothing of any value in life. If we want to live to some purpose in this world, we must remember that we should have a purpose worthy of ourselves, and of the great Father in Heaven who has created us. After a few months and years the grasshoppers and the ants and all the insects die, but you and I shall live on forever and ever. These bodies will be laid away in the grave, but our immortal spirits shall continue to live. The stars in heaven which have been shining for thousands and thousands of years shall

eventually grow pale. The sun itself shall cease to shine, and all the heavens and the universe about us shall be rolled together as a scroll. But these immortal spirits of yours and mine shall live on with God throughout all eternity. It is important, therefore, that our industry, our thought, and our labor should not be for those things which perish with the using; that we should not simply lay up treasures which we must after a time go away and leave behind in this world, but that we should lay up treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; that where our treasure is, there our hearts may be also; and that we may possess and enjoy our treasures throughout all eternity.

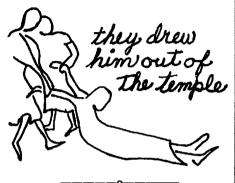
I hope that every time you see a grasshopper or an ant, you will remember the lesson today.

-With the Children on Sundays
By S. Stall

## Little George's Prayer

A clergyman writes us these incidents: "I knew a poor family whose son George, four or five years of age, was accustomed to pray. They lived five or six miles from neighbors, and, at times, were quite destitute. One day, as little George observed his mother weeping over their destitution, he said, 'Why, Mother, don't cry any; we shall not starve: God will send us something to eat, I know He will. I've just been praying, and asked Him to.' The little fellow just as much believed God would send them food, as if he had asked a reliable neighbor and obtained his promise to supply their wants. In a day or two after this, some friends living at a distance and knowing they were poor, took them the welcome surprise of a wagon-load of substantial material for grew up to be a Christian minister, and, told me he had been at the head of an institution of learning in the Southwest."

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

One day the Jews saw Paul in the city with Trophimus, a Gentile. They imagined that Paul had brought this man into the temple. Boys and girls, we must get ready for others to imagine things against us. When we live for God we will suffer persecutions for Christ. Jesus said there is a blessing upon all who are persecuted for righteousness' sake. So be sure and memorize our memory verse and let it be a part of your understanding of what to expect when you live for Christ. Be encouraged to know that great is our reward. He said. "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven." Praise the Lord for that great reward that is awaiting us over there!

A mob spirit is a terrible spirit. Boys and girls, it's best not to be around where there is a group talking about doing something terrible to a person. One time there was a group of boys who hated another boy. They began to pick on that boy. They talked about him to

food and other comforts. The little boy others. He tried to defend himself against the boys that were against him. about a year ago, on inquiry, his uncle In doing so, he did unwise things, but he knew he was outnumbered. Finally the boys who were against him grew in number. One time they caught him out by himself and cut him up. Oh. how terrible! This boy died. Can you see how awful it is for a number of boys, or girls, to hate someone and keep on picking at that boy or girl until they get carried away with a mob spirit and do something terrible, which they will be sorry about later? Stay away from a group of boys or girls who are picking on just one person. You might get into trouble or be a part of a group who gets into trouble. If you are there, you will be held as part of the trouble makers.

The people were so stirred up by a few until the entire city was against Paul just because he had been falsely accused. They took Paul and went about to kill him. Finally, the chief captain of the band heard that all of Jerusalem was in an uproar. He immediately came. with his soldiers, and the Jews left off beating Paul. The chief captain commanded that Paul be bound with chains and be carried to the castle.

Boys and girls, let us learn a lesson here—you just can't believe everything you hear about another boy or girl. So never enter into a mob spirit.

Next Sunday we will talk about how Paul got saved and was called to preach to the Gentiles and then about what the Jews did to him for preaching his sermon. So, boys and girls, this week be sure to read the whole chapter of Acts 22 before coming to class and remember what you read, so you can relate it to your teacher as she asks questions.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, November 19, 1978 PAUL SEIZED AT JERUSALEM

Acts 21:17 And when we were come to

Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

27 And when the seven days were Asia, when they saw him in the temple. stirred up all the people, and laid hands thou speak Greek? on him.

28 Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where against the people, and the law, and this place; and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.

29 (For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian. whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)

30 And all the city was moved, and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple: and forthwith the doors were shut.

31 And as they went about to kill him, tidings came unto the chief captain of the band, that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.

32 Who immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down unto them: and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, they left beating of Paul

33 Then the chief captain came near. and took him, and commanded him to be bound with two chains: and demanded who he was, and what he had done.

34 And some cried one thing, some another, among the multitude: and when he could not know the certainty for the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle.

35 And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was borne of the soldiers for the violence of the people.

36 For the multitude of the people followed after, crying, Away with him.

37 And as Paul was to be led into the almost ended, the Jews which were of castle, he said unto the chief captain. May I speak unto thee? Who said. Canst

> 38 Art not thou that Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers?

> 39 But Paul said, I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

> Memory Verse: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven. Matt. 5:10

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What group of people caused the disturbance about Paul?
- 2. What did these people claim Paul taught against?
- 3. Who was Paul accused of having brought into the temple?
- 4. Did the people take Paul out of the temple?
- 5. What did they set about to do with Paul?
- 6. Why did the people stop beating Paul?
- 7. What did the chief captain do with Paul?
- 8. When the chief captain asked what Paul had done, what did the multitude say?
- 9. Where did the chief captain take Paul?
- 10. Why did the soldiers have to carry Paul to the castle?
- 11. What did the multitude who followed cry?
- 12. As Paul was going into the castle, what did he ask the chief captain?

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Part Nine

No. 26

## Laura Healed

A Christian teacher, connected with a southern orphan asylum, writes, "that often when the children were sick (and most of them came to me more or less diseased), I cried to the Lord for help, and He who 'bore our infirmities, and carried our sicknesses,' healed them. To confirm and strengthen the faith of the doubting, I send you the following account of the healing of one of our orphans.

"Laura was one of a large orphaned family, living on Port Royal Island, S. C. When her mother died, she went to live with a woman who made her work very hard. She had to get up at daybreak and had very little to eat. Laura suffered from want, exposure, and abuse. The freed woman of the plantation looked with pity into her eyes, and desired her to run away. But she replied, 'Aunt Dora will run after me, and if she catches me she'll whip me; she has already told me so.

"One morning, however, when Laura went to the creek for fish, a good Aunty

you can. She has a good home for jes sich poor children as you.' Laura obeyed, hastened to Beaufort, seven miles away. She found my home, was made welcome, and her miserable rags were exchanged for good clean clothes. In the morning, I said, 'Laura, did you sleep well last night?' She replied, 'O, missis, my heart was too full of joy to sleep. Me lay awake all night, thinking how happy me is in dis nice, clean bed, all to myself. Me never sleep in a bed before, missis.'

"Laura, then about thirteen years old, came to me with a hard cough, and pain in her side. I put on flannels, gave her a good diet, and hoped that with rest and cheerful surroundings, she would soon get well as other children had, who had come to me before. Still the cough and pain continued and she steadily grew worse. Her appetite failed; night sweats came on: and she was so very weak that most of the day she lay in bed. The children, all of whom loved Laura because she was so patient and gentle, whispered one to another, 'Laura is gwine to die: dere is def in her eve.'

"One evening in midwinter, the poor followed her, and throwing a shawl over child's short breath, fluttering pulse, the poor child's rags, said, 'Now, Laura, and cold, clammy sweat alarmed me. I run to Mrs. Mather's house as fast as felt sure that unless the dear Lord interposed in her behalf, her time with us was very short. I staved by her bed until near midnight praying for her recovery. I could not give her up. Again in my room I poured out my soul in prayer for the child, and then slept. About two o'clock I suddenly awoke, and heard what seemed a voice saying to me. 'Go to Laura: I can heal her now: the conditions are right; you are both calm and trustful.

"I arose quickly, and went to her room. I said to her, 'Laura, do you want to get well?' 'O, ves, missis, me wants to get well.'

'Do you believe Jesus can heal you?' She replied, 'I know He can if He will.'

" 'Well, Laura,' I said, 'Jesus has just awakened me out of a sound sleep, and told me to go and tell you that He will heal you now. Do you believe He will, Laura?

" 'Yes. Missis, me do believe,' she replied earnestly. She then repeated this prayer.'O. Jesus, do please make me well; let me live a long time, and be a good and useful woman.'

"The burden had rolled off my heart; I returned to my room and slept sweetly. In the morning, Tamar, Laura's attendant, met me at the door, exclaiming joyfully, 'O, I'se so glad! Laura is a heap better, Missis. She wake me up long time before day and begged me to get her something to eat, she is so hungry.'

"From that night Laura rapidly recovered. In less than a month she was strong and well.

"Oh, it is so good to trust in the Lord! How much better to rely on Him 'in whom we live, and move, and have our being,' than to put confidence in man. even in the most skillful physician."

-The Wonders of Prayer

heart.

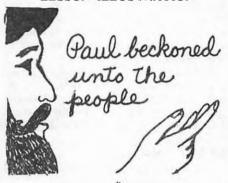
## The Lord's Special Care

The scenes of the riots in New York, at the time of our civil war, are well known. However, few know that one of the meanest schemes thought up by some criminals failed because of an answer to prayer. On the first day of the mob, several thousand men, women and children, armed with clubs and brickbats, suddenly appeared at the door of the Colored Orphan Asylum. They tried to enter by breaking down the front door with an axe. The building was set on fire in ten or fifteen places, and the work of destroying the building was finished in twenty minutes.

"There were two hundred and twentythree children in the building with their teacher. The lady in charge called all the children together after the alarm. and one of the teachers said: 'Children. do you believe that Almighty God can deliver you from a mob?' They quickly said, 'Yes.' The teacher said, 'Then I wish you now to pray silently to God to protect you from this mob. I believe that He is able and will do it. Pray earnestly to Him, and when I give the signal, go in order, without making noise, to the dining room.' At this every head was instantly bowed in prayer, such prayer as usually is not offered from terrified little children. When, at the sound of the bell, their heads were raised, the teacher said the tears were streaming, but not a sound or a sob was to be heard. They quietly went downstairs and through the halls. She remarked that to her dying day she should never forget the scene: the few moments of silence, the streaming, noiseless tears, the solemn march through the halls, the yells and the horrible sounds which were nearer and nearer. Not one of the helpless children was injured at all. In spite of the hate and threats of the mob. the Worry and faith cannot live in the same children were safely taken to another place." —Sel.

"Remember now thy creator in the | do love Him so much, don't you? days of thy youth."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

I trust that you had some added thanksgiving in your heart not only for having a good mother and father, a bed to sleep in, food to eat, a roof over your head, etc., but also because it is wonderful to know such a Friend as Jesus. Boys and girls, in this life you will have a lot of trouble, as well as a lot of joys. In the times of trouble you need someone who can help you and that Someone is Jesus. He has all power, so pray to Him in times of need and trust Him to help you. Trusting Him means knowing that He hears you when you pray and believing He will work it out the best way. You may think God should work it out a certain way, but that might not be best for you. One time I had some trouble that touched me deeply and I prayed and thought it was best to be worked out a certain way, but God saw differently. He knew what was best for me, and after it was all over and it worked out God's way, oh, how happy I was that I trusted Him, and waited on Him because it was the best way. It was best for me and I am glad I prayed, then trusted. Let us be thankful that we have such a wonderful Friend as Jesus. Oh. I might have thought.

Paul had some troubles, too. I hope vou read about his sermon that he preached on the castle stairway to the Jews who had caught him. They were going to kill him, but the chief captain rescued him. Now Paul spoke to them in the Hebrew language and this drew their attention and they listened. Paul told how Christ had revealed Himself to him and also related how Ananias came to him after his conversion to pray for him. These things we have already studied about. In verse 21, when Paul finished his sermon and said that the Lord told him to "Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles." the mob of angry Jews went wild. They said. "Away with such a fellow from the earth for it is not fit that he should live." The Jews hated the Gentiles and would never accept the fact that Jesus died on the cross to save everyone, regardless of race or color. In fact, they would not accept Jesus as being the Messiah that they looked for, who was to come as their Saviour. So they threw dust in the air, tore off their clothes, screamed and yelled. How terrible a mob spirit is! Never get mixed up in one.

The chief captain had Paul brought into the castle to examine him by beating, or scourging, so that he might know just what he had done and what the trouble was. When they bound him. Paul said to the centurion that he should take heed because he was a Roman. This caused them to stop and take heed, and even the chief captain was afraid because he had bound him. He had thought he was a Jew and he didn't care much what he did about a Jew. The next day he loosed him of his bonds and said that he could have a trial before the chief priests and their council. So. God worked things out for Paul in a different way than others -Aunt Marie

#### Lesson 9. November 26, 1978 PAUL'S DEFENSE AT JERUSALEM REJECTED

Acts 21:40 And when he had given him licence, Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto them in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

22:1 Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ve my defence which I make now unto you. (Read Paul's defense, vs. 2-21).

22 And they gave him audience unto this word, and then lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live.

23 And as they cried out, and cast off their clothes, and threw dust into the

air.

24 The chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle, and bade that he should be examined by scourging: that he might know wherefore they cried so against him.

25 And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and

uncondemned?

26 When the centurions heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman.

27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea.

28 And the chief captain answered. With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born.

29 Then straightway they departed 15. How did the chief captain react from him which should have examined him: and the chief captain also was

afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.

30 On the morrow, because he would have known the certainty wherefore he was accused of the Jews, he loosed him from his bands, and commanded the chief priests and all their council to appear, and brought Paul down, and set him before them.

Memory Verse: But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them. because they are spiritually discerned. I Cor. 2:14.

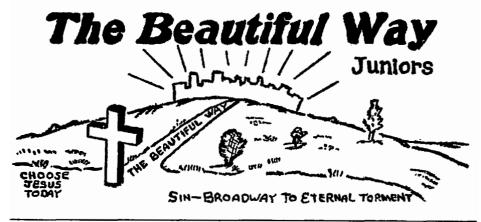
#### QUESTIONS:

1. Did the people listen to Paul's preaching?

2. In what language did Paul speak?

- 3. In what city was Paul born?
- 4. Who taught him the law?
- 5. How did Paul say he had persecuted the followers of Jesus? 6. What did Paul tell the Jews he saw
- on the road to Damascus? 7. Whose voice did he hear when he
- fell to the ground?
- 8. What did the light do to Paul's sight?
- 9. Whom did the Lord use to restore Paul's sight?
- 10. Why did Paul say the Lord told him to leave Jerusalem?
- 11. To whom did the Lord send Paul to preach?
- 12. After Paul's sermon, how did the people react?
- 13. What did the chief captain do with Paul when the people cried out against him?
- 14. What did Paul say that made them not beat him?
- when he found out Paul was a Roman?

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Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Ten

Dec. 3

## King David's Great Sin

"Because David did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord, and turned not aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite." I Kings 15:5.

Most all the days of King David were spent in war. God gave him great victory over all his enemies. Perhaps he would have had peace in his country and rest from war if he had not sinned a great sin.

David's army was besigging the city of Rabbah, but David was still in Jerusalem. One evening David was restless and arose from his bed and walked upon the roof. At that time, people used the roof as we use porches and patios today. From the roof, David saw a beautiful woman bathing herself. The woman could not have been seen from anywhere but the roof.

David sent for his servant. "Who is the beautiful woman who lives next door?" he asked.

the army at Rabbah." That should have Uriah.

been enough to stop the king in his desire for the woman, but King David was used to getting what he wanted. He sent and had Bathsheba brought to him and committed adultery with her. Later. Bathsheba sent the King word that she was "with child."

Now King David was going to be caught in his sin! He began to plan what he could do to keep his sin hidden. He sent word to Joab, his general, to send Uriah to him, on the pretext of having a message for him.

Uriah came and King David asked about the progress of the army and how the battle against the city was going. Then he told Uriah to go to his house. If Uriah would go and be with his wife at this time. Uriah might think the child Bathsheba was going to bear would be his own. David's sin would be hidden. BUT Uriah DID NOT GO TO HIS HOUSE. He slept with the servants instead. David asked him, "Why didn't you go home to be with your wife?"

"The ark, the armies of Judea and Israel abide in tents in the field. I am part of the army. Why should I then go The servant replied, "Bathsheba, the to my house and eat and drink and be wife of Uriah, the Hittite, who is with with my wife at a time like this?" asked

When David saw his plan had failed. | Word says in Prov. 13:24. "He that he gave Uriah much wine to drink. thinking, "If Uriah gets drunk enough, he will forget his high ideals and go to his house." Uriah did get very drunk. but he staggered back to the servants' quarters and slept there.

King David had only one thing left to do. "I will have him killed in the battle. then I can take Bathsheba for my wife." He sent a letter by Uriah telling Joab. the general, to place Uriah at the front of the battle where he would be killed. Joab did as David directed and sent word that Uriah had died. Uriah's wife mourned for her husband, then David took her as his wife.

God saw all that David had done and was displeased. He sent Nathan, the prophet, to tell David of his sin. "Because you have despised the commandment of the Lord, and killed Uriah, there will be no peace in your reign. I will raise up evil against you in your own house and the child Bathsheba shall bear shall die." All of this came to pass. David's son, Absalom. tried to take the kingdom. He raised up an army and came against his own father and perished on the battlefield. The baby died although David fasted and prayed. Even though David did truly repent of his sin, he had to reap for the sins he had sown. -T. S.

#### Are You Going To Pray For ME?

When I was teaching school in Santa Catarina, I had several boys of good size who were quite mischievous. One of these boys names was Ruso. He had done several real annoying things throughout the school year and I even had to whip him once. Of course, some people think that when you whip a child, it is But I work hard and do my task. because you do not love him, but the

he tried another way. He gave a feast spareth his rod hateth his son; but he and invited Uriah to sit with him. There that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." It works the same way with those whom we are teaching. We love them, and that is the reason we want them to do rightfor their own good in the future. needed to close the school early that year unexpectedly, so the last day, I decided to utilize the time of the drawing period to talk to them. I began to tell them about the Lord showing me definitely to close the school that day, then ended up by saying, "There is one thing I want you all to remember above everything else. Regardless of all you have learned in school about arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, art, civics, history, or whatever, I desire that you remember along with your Bible story, chorus, and prayer time, that wherever you are, or whatever you are doing, the sisters (meaning Sis. Ruby Marken and myself) are praying for you and your salvation. They all said they would. A look of surprise came upon the face of Ruso, and he said, "Are you going to pray for ME?" He seemed to say in that one sentence, as the tears showed in his eyes, that he was sorry for all the mischief he had caused. "Yes. Ruso, we will be praying for you too." He seemed so pleased and the look in his eye, though he could not form the words, seemed to say thank you. I don't believe that the Spirit of God will ever let him forget it, and every time he thinks about us or hears our names, he will think about us praying for him. Jesus said in Matt. 9:12, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Ruso had more need of our prayers than some of the others.

-Sis. Opal Kelly

There are many times I want to play when I have work to do.

then play when I am through.

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson begins with Paul before the Jewish council. Paul felt that he had not done anything wrong and was being unjustly accused. This made the high priest angry and he commanded Paul to be slapped on the mouth. Paul rebuked the high priest for having him hit and then when he was rebuked for speaking to the high priest in that manner he felt sorry and asked forgiveness. How humble he was to be willing to admit his error and ask forgiveness.

We also see Paul's wisdom in bringing up before the council that he believed in a resurrection. In the crowd there were the Sadducees who did not believe in a resurrection. We want to say here, that you can remember who these people are because it is sad not to believe in a resurrection, which means that our bodies will arise from the grave in the last day. Our bodies will be changed and our spirit will have a new body in which to live in eternity. It will be a body that will never know pain or grow old. What a wonderful plan God has for us in heaven! Let us go back to the Sadducees and the Pharisees in the crowd. We find that they began to argue among themselves about the resurrection and there was a great dissension. The chief

pulled in pieces, so he took him to the castle. That night the Lord stood by him to comfort him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul; for you will testify for me in Rome as you have in Jerusalem." What a comfort the Lord is to us and was to Paul in time of trouble! This gave him courage to know that God was taking care of the trouble.

About 40 men said they would neither eat nor drink until Paul was killed. They bound themselves before the chief priest and elders. They told them to bring Paul before the council, as if they wanted to find out more about him, and then the men would kill Paul. Paul's sister's son heard of this plan and he told Paul about it. Paul called one of the centurions and asked him to let the boy talk to the chief captain. When the chief captain heard about the plan he decided to send Paul, by night, to appear before Felix, the governor. He told the boy not to tell anyone about the plan. The chief captain wrote a letter, which you can read in your Bible, verses 25-30, and sent it with the 200 soldiers and Paul to Felix by night. So we see how the Lord took care of Paul and how boys and girls can be of a help also. -Aunt Marie

# Lesson 10, December 3, 1978 PAUL BEFORE JEWISH COUNCIL AND THE RESULTS

Acts 23:1 And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.

10 And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle.

was a great dissension. The chief 11 And the night following the Lord captain was afraid that Paul would be stood by him, and said, Be of good

cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

17 Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him.

18 So he took him, and brought him to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.

19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?

20 And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to morrow into the council, as though they would enquire somewhat of him more perfectly.

21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

22 So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.

23 And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;

24 And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor.

25 And he wrote a letter after this manner: (read Letter — verses 25-30)

33 Who, when they came to Caesarea, and delivered the epistle to the governor, presented Paul also before him.

34 And when the governor had read the letter, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that he was of Cilicia;

35 I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

Memory Verse: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. Luke 21:15.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Before whom did Paul appear?
- 2. Why did the chief captain have Paul taken back to the castle?
- 3. Who stood by Paul during the night?
- 4. In what city did the Lord want Paul to witness?
- 5. Who heard of the Jew's conspiracy to kill Paul?
- 6. To whom did Paul send his nephew?
- 7. How did the Jews plan to take Paul?
- 8. What was the oath the forty men took who wanted to kill Paul?
- 9. Did the chief captain listen to Paul's nephew?
- 10. Whom did the chief captain arrange to take Paul to Caesarea?
- 11. To whom did he send Paul?
- 12. In the chief captain's letter to Felix, what was his reason for having rescued Paul?
- 13. Did the chief captain think Paul had done anything worthy of death?
- 14. Who had to be present before the governor would hear Paul?
- 15. Where was Paul kept awaiting hearing?

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Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

"He Could Not Flee from the Power of the Holy Spirit

Vol. 29, No. 4

A clergyman of distinction gives this instance of the worthlessness of all attempts to flee from the Power of the Spirit.

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"I looked out of my window one morning, while it was yet dark, and saw a lady standing at my gate. leaning against a post, and evidently weeping bitterly. I knew her. She was an earnest, consistent Christian. She was married to one of the most bitter Universalists I ever knew. I stepped down the steps to her, and asked, 'What is the matter?' She replied, 'Oh, my poor husband! I had so hoped and prayed that he might be converted in this revival! and now he has ridden away, and says that he will not come back until this religious flurry is over. What shall I do to bear up under this?"

"I said, 'It is near the time for prayer. We will go and lay his case before the Lord, and make special request that God will bring him back again under the power of the Spirit. The Lord can bring him home, and I believe He will do it. We must pray for him.'

"She dried her tears in a moment, and seemed to seize hold of this 'strong hope,' as we walked to the place of prayer. We found the room crowded. It fell to my lot to lead the meeting.

Dec. 10

Part Eleven

"At the opening, I stated the case of this Universalist husband, who had undertaken to run away from the influence of the Spirit, by fleeing into the country. I said that we must all pray that the Holy Spirit may follow him, overtake him, and bring him back again, show him his sins, and lead him to Jesus.

"The meeting took up the case with great earnestness, and I could not but feel that prayer would in some way be answered.

"But can you imagine our surprise when, at our evening prayer meeting, this same Universalist came in?

"After standing a few minutes, until the opportunity offered, he said:

"I went away on horseback this morning, and told my wife I was going into the country to stay until this flurry was over. I rode right over the hills, back from the river, into the country, until I had gotten eighteen miles away. There, on the top of a hill, I was stopped as Paul was, and just as

suddenly, and made to feel what a horrible sinner I am. I am one of the worst sinners that ever lived. I have lost my Universalism, and I know I must be born again, or I can never see the kingdom of Heaven. Oh, pray for me that I may be converted; nothing else will do for me.'

"He took his seat amid the tears and sobs of the whole assembly. The hour was full of prayer for that man's conversion.

"This strong and intelligent man, once one of the bitterest Universalists I ever knew, is now one of the most joyous, happy, energetic men of God you will meet in many a day. He believes he was 'converted on the spot in that prayer meeting.'

-The Wonders of Prayer

### "I Shall Not Want"

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

I shall not want food. "I am the bread of life. He that cometh to me shall never hunger."

I shall not want drink. "If any man thirsteth let him come unto me and drink."

I shall not want rest. "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are leavy laden, and I will give you rest."

I shall not want guidance. "I am the way; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me."

I shall not want companionship. "I have called you friends." "Lo, I am with you always."

I shall not want joy. "These things have I spoken unto you that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

I shall not want honor. "If any man serve me, him will My Father honor."

—Sel.

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Paul was still in prison and was waiting to come before Felix, the governor. The Jews still wanted to have their say. so the high priest and the elders got a great orator, named Tertullus and they came down to inform the governor about Paul. Tertullus started out by saving they had enjoyed quietness until Paul caused them trouble and profaned the temple. Tertullus said Paul was a mover of sedition and the ringleader of them. Tertullus said that they were going to judge Paul by their law but the chief captain (Lysias) came and took him out of their hands. So the governor turned to Paul and asked him to answer their accusations. Paul said that he did not cause any trouble nor did they find him disputing in the temple with any man. Paul said that he would confess "that after the way that they call hersey, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets, and have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." Acts 24:14.15. When Felix heard them he said that he would talk to the chief captain (Lysias) about that matter. He commanded the centurion to keep Paul, and to let him have liberty so he could minister to his friends.

Our lesson begins with the time when Felix and his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, called Paul to hear him con-

cerning Christ. Felix was a wicked man and Drusilla had left her former husband to marry Felix. When Paul was brought before this wicked couple it was perhaps to satisfy the curiosity of Drusilla and to give Felix an opportunity to receive a bribe from Paul. Instead, Paul "reasoned of righteousness, temperance [self-control], and judgment to come." Whereupon Felix was terrified and dismissed him, saving, "When I have a convenient season. I will call for thee." Felix kept Paul in prison, no doubt still hoping to receive a bribe. Thus Paul was held for two years until Felix was succeeded by Festus.

When Festus had come into power. and on an occasion when he was departing from Jerusalem for Caesarea. the Jews besought him that he would send Paul to Jerusalem to be tried. Again they were seeking to kill him. Festus refused and said, "Go with me to Caesarea, and I will hear you there." They did this, bringing against Paul many grievous charges, but they failed to give proof. Then Festus, desiring to please the Jews, asked Paul if he would be willing to go to Jerusalem to be tried. Paul answered: "If I be an offender, or have committed anything worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar."

In order to escape the jealous hatred of the Jews, Paul exercised his right of appeal which was one of the most important privileges of Roman citizenship. Festus had no choice but to grant the appeal; therefore, Paul was held until he might be sent to Rome.

-Aunt Marie

## Lesson 11, December 10, 1978 PAUL APPEALS TO CAESAR

Acts 24:24 And after certain days, against Cae when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, thing at all.

which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

26 He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him.

27 But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

25:1 Now when Festus was come into the province, after three days he ascended from Caesarea to Jerusalem.

2 Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and besought him,

3 And desired favour against him, that he would send for him to Jerusalem, laying wait in the way to kill him.

4 But Festus answered, that Paul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself would depart shortly thither.

5 Let them therefore, said he, which among you are able, go down with me, and accuse this man, if there be any wickedness in him.

6 And when he had tarried among them more than ten days, he went down unto Caesarea; and the next day sitting on the judgment seat commanded Paul to be brought.

7 And when he was come, the Jews which came down from Jerusalem stood round about, and laid many and grievous complaints against Paul, which they could not prove.

8 While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all. 9 But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, Wilt thou go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me?

10 Then said Paul, I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest.

11 For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar.

12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, Hast thou appealed unto Caesar? unto Caesar shalt thou go.

13 And after certain days king Agrippa and Bernice came unto Caesarea to salute Festus.

14 And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king, saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix:

15 About whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, desiring to have judgment against him.

16 To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.

17 Therefore, when they were come hither, without any delay on the morrow I sat on the judgment seat, and commanded the man to be brought forth.

18 Against whom when the accusers stood up, they brought none accusation of such things as I supposed:

19 But had certain questions against him of their own superstition, and of one

9 But Festus, willing to do the Jews a Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul easure, answered Paul, and said. Wilt affirmed to be alive.

20 And because I doubted of such manner of questions, I asked him whether he would go to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these matters.

21 But when Paul had appealed to be reserved unto the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept till I might send him to Caesar.

Memory Verse: And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! Romans 10:15.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Who was Drusilla?
- What did Paul speak about to Felix and Drusilla?
- 3. Why do you think Felix trembled?
- 4. What did Felix tell Paul?
- 5. Why was Paul still held prisoner?
- 6. How long had Paul been bound when Festus came into power?
- 7. Who informed Festus against Paul? 8. Why did they want Festus to send
- 8. Why did they want restus to send for Paul?
- 9. What did Festus tell Paul's accusers?
- 10. Why did Festus want Paul to be judged in Jerusalem?
- 11. To whom did Paul appeal?
- 12. To whom did Festus tell the account of Paul's trial?
- 13. According to Roman custom what had to be done before a man could be condemned to die?
- 14. Did Festus think the Jews had reason to deliver Paul to death?
- 15. What was one of the disputes between Paul and his accusers?
- 16. Paul was kept in bonds until another hearing. Who was to be judge at this hearing?

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Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Twelve

Dec. 17

## An Infidel's Life Spared a Few Days

"During the summer of 1862, I became acquainted with a Mr. A who professed infidelity, and who was, I think, as near an atheist as any I ever met. I held several conversations with him on the subject of religion, but could not seem to make any impression on his mind, and when a point was pressed strongly, he would become angry.

"In the fall, he was taken ill, and seemed to go into a rapid decline. I, with others, sought kindly and prayerfully to turn his mind to his need of a Saviour, but only met with rebuffs. As I saw that his end was drawing near, one day I pressed the importance of preparing to meet God. He became angry and said I need not trouble myself any more about his soul, as there was no God, the Bible was a fable, and when we die that is the last of us, and was unwilling that I should pray with him. I left him, feeling very sad.

"Some four weeks later, on New Year's morning, I awoke with the impression that I should go and see Mr.

A...., and I could not get rid of that impression. About nine o'clock I

went to see him, and as I approached the house, I saw the two doctors, who had been holding a consultation, leaving. When I rang the bell, his sisterin-law opened the door for me, and exclaimed, 'Oh! I am so glad you have come; John is dying. The doctors say he cannot possibly live more than two hours, and probably not one.' When I went up to his room, he sat bolstered up in a chair, and appeared to have fallen into a doze. I sat down, about five feet from him. In about two minutes, he opened his eyes and when he saw me, he started up, with agony pictured on his face and in the tones of his voice, exclaimed, 'Oh! Mr. P\_\_\_\_\_ I am not prepared to die; there is a God; the Bible is true! Oh, pray for me! pray God to spare me a few days, until I shall know I am saved.'

"These words were uttered with the most intense emotion, while his whole physical frame quivered through the intense agony of his soul. I replied in effect, that Jesus was a great Saviour, able and willing to save all who would come unto Him, even at the eleventh hour, as He did the thief on the cross.

A\_\_\_\_\_, and I could not get rid of "When I was about to pray with him, that impression. About nine o'clock, I he again entreated me to pray especially

that God would spare him a few days, until he might have the evidences of his salvation. In prayer, I seemed to have great assurance of his salvation, and asked God to give us the evidence of his salvation, by granting him a few days more in this world. Several others joined in praying God to spare him a few days, until he should give evidence of being saved.

"I called again in the evening; he seemed even stronger than in the morning, and his mind was seeking the truth. The next day, as I entered, his face expressed the fact that peace and joy had taken the place of fear and anxiety. He was spared some five days, giving very clear evidence that he had passed from death to life. His case was a great mystery to the doctors. They could not understand how he lived so long. His friends, who had been praying for him, all believed it was in direct answer to prayer." —The Wonders of Prayer

## **All Saved**

In a dismal basement, Anna found a very interesting American family. The father was in the last stage of consumption and they had a little girl of ten years who had been an invalid from infancy. The mother and two older daughters (both under fifteen), were out all day at work, trying to keep even such a wretched shelter, and a little coarse food, as daily supplies. The three together could not make over four dollars a week. The only person to wait on the two sick ones during the day, was a little boy four years of age, who, when the missionary entered, was reclining upon the bed. He got up, put more coal on the fire, and brought a drink of water, first to his sister, then his father, without any bidding, and with the consideration of a grown person.

On Anna's next visit, a few days after, she found the mother at home, grief-

stricken. Her eldest daughter had taken ill the previous day. She gave her all the money she had and prayed with them. In a few weeks the daughter died, but not without a good hope in Christ: and was buried at the expense of the few kind friends whom Anna had sent to see the family. The dving daughter exhorted her dying father to seek his soul's eternal welfare, and not boast, as heretofore, of his life-long morality. Her conversations led him to see his danger out of Christ, and, in a little while after his daughter's departure, he followed. The mother had not before had a sure Christian hope; but, amidst such influences, her heart was soon opened to admit the truth. Not long after her bereavement she began having a "cottage prayer meeting" in her room. She immediately became anxious for the conversion of her two boys who were away, and urged the missionary to write them. He did so, frequently, and his heaven-directed appeals led one of the boys very soon to Christ. Soon after, he died; the brother returned home with consumption. He took great pleasure in the little prayer meetings, and in three months cheerfully and exultantly exchanged this world of suffering for the one where father, brother and sister awaited him. Worn out with anxiety, care, hard work and poor health, the mother followed. That left the invalid girl and the youngest boy, who were watched over, not only by their Friend in heaven, but friends on earth. The eldest surviving daughter is an esteemed and consistent Christian.

-The Wonders of Prayer

## **Be Honest**

One time I worked at a candy factory as a saleslady in the front. As I boarded the street car, one morning, I did not have the correct change. I did not tell the motor man but just dropped day I had a guilty feeling. Boys and another wicked couple that Paul was to girls, we cannot do any little or big wrong and get by with God. The Lord dealt with me over this and the next time I boarded the street car I added more money to make it right. Then I felt clear before God.

We read in the Bible that the "eves of whole earth." (II Chron. 16:9a). Boys and girls. God saw me when I shortmeet you at the judgment and you will miss heaven. -Edith Wall

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

definite charge to lay before Caesar when he sent Paul to Rome, so he talked to King Agrippa about Paul when he and Bernice, his sister, came down to Caesarea. Agrippa expressed a desire to hear Paul himself about the matter.

Agrippa is known as Herod Agrippa,

in what I had, which was not enough, the wife of Felix and she was reported to and went on to work. All through the be a wicked woman. It was before make his defense.

Paul's discourse here was similar to that given from the stairway to the Jews in the temple. Although a prisoner in chains, he forgot his own miserable condition and thought only of those before him who were bound by sin. As the Lord run to and fro throughout the he preached to them, Agrippa said, "With but little persuasion thou wouldest make me a Christian." Paul changed the street car company. He replied, "I would to God that whether sees everything that you do. Be careful with little or with much, not thou only, to always be strictly honest because if but also all that hear me this day might you don't make it right here, it will become such as I am, except for these bonds."

> When the company had withdrawn they agreed that Paul had done nothing worthy of death or imprisonment. Agrippa's judgment was that Paul might have been set at liberty if he had not appealed to Caesar. Thus the matter was closed and Paul awaited the time when he should be taken to Rome. Italy for trial.

We want you to read the sermon that Paul preached. He told how from a youth he loved God and tried to live up to what he thought was right. He had not believed Jesus was the Messiah, or the Saviour, who was to come. He was convinced by Jesus calling to him from the brightness of the light that appeared around him on the road to Damascus. Festus felt the need of having some He changed and quit persecuting those who loved Jesus. He was given a job to do and he said that he was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. He went about preaching Christ-that He was able to deliver from sin and from the power of Satan, and to forgive sins. He preached that by faith one could have a the second, who was the son of Herod place in heaven after death. This struck Agrippa mentioned in chapter 12 who home to King Agrippa's heart. He knew had James, the disciple, killed with the he needed a Saviour and his sins, no sword. Bernice was a sister of Drusilla, doubt, came up before him. Festus was stirred, also. Sad to say, they did not yield to Christ, as far as we know. Paul had cleared his soul and they were now responsible to God.

—Aunt Marie

## Lesson 12, December 17, 1978 PAUL ALMOST PERSUADES THE KING

Acts 26:1 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself: (Paul's sermon, verses 2-23).

24 And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

25 But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

26 For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.

27 King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.

28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

29 And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.

30 And when he had thus spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them:

31 And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

32 Then said Agrippa unto Festus,

stirred, also. Sad to say, they did not This man might have been set at liberty, yield to Christ, as far as we know. Paul if he had not appealed unto Caesar.

Memory Verse: That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles. Acts 26:23.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Who was Agrippa?

- 2. What religion had Paul lived from a youth?
- 3. To what was Paul referring when he said "the hope of the promise of God unto our fathers"?
- 4. What did Paul say he had done to some of the saints?
- 5. What did Paul tell the King he saw on the way to Damascus?
- 6. What did the voice say to Paul?
- 7. How did the Lord want to use Paul?

8. Did Paul obey the Lord?

- 9. What did Paul tell the Jews throughout Judea, and the Gentiles, that they should do?
- 10. Who did Paul say sought to kill him?
- 11. Why do you think the Jews wanted to kill Paul?
- 12. Was Paul preaching something different from what Moses had said would come?
- 13. What was Festus' reaction to Paul's testimony?
- 14. Did Paul think King Agrippa had heard before of the things done to Jesus?
- 15. How did Paul's discourse affect Agrippa?
- 16. Did Agrippa give his heart to the Lord at this time?
- 17. Did Agrippa and Festus think Paul had done anything worthy of death?
- 18. Why could Paul not be set at liberty at this time?

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Vol. 29, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1978

Part Thirteen

Dec. 24

## **Home for Christmas**

The words of Solomon's proverb were explanation—SIN. never more applicable than in prison than "a broken spirit."

or guilty is not for the officials to decide. of nights that followed. To us is delegated only the responsibility of the physical, moral, and spiritual well-him during the strained, and difficult being of the prisoner.

kindly old man, apparently having a love and cherish "until death do us heart big enough to shelter a multitude. part." How he had leaned on that love! His endearing term "Honey" is applied Then one day in the dark journey, he to officials and inmates alike.

has seen nearly eighty years of life. blessed day to his sad old heart! "Back Home" is the term applied to the small Oklahoma town where he had failed so rapidly, he was admitted as a been a respected citizen and business bed patient to the prison hospital—the man, since the state was in infancy. By victim of a "broken spirit." But his faith conservative managing and energetic in the One who is "A very present help effort he had comfortably reared and in trouble," never waned. educated a family worthy of the name. It was during the rush of the Christ-Then calamity came, but shall we just mas season that the telegram came from skip the unfortunate scene that placed the "Pardon and Parole Board." It was

this old man behind prison bars in his declining years? One word affords an

Daddy's pride was crushed too deep life: "A broken spirit drieth up the for human understanding. He faded like bones." Young men age; strong men a blossom deprived of sunshine. The break and premature gray hair is a days were so long. Silently, the shadows prison fashion. There are many cases of deepened into the lingering twilight. As illness without apparent reason other the stars looked down from the arch of heaven, Daddy dreamed of home. That Whether or not inmates are innocent night was only a pattern of the hundreds

There were two things that sustained days that followed. One, the faithful Daddy, as he is known in prison, is a little wife who so long ago had vowed to had made contact with the "Friend who His thin, white hair denotes that he sticketh closer than a brother." What a

With the passing of time his strength

a pleasant task for the chaplain to go to the prison hospital with the good news, "Daddy, you're going home." His tears were like "flood waters, long pent up, now rushing free," but these were tears of joy.

The chaplain phoned the little wife, "Daddy's parole has been received, you can come and take him home for Christmas." The happy family arrived in an unbelievably short time, and while hospital attendants helped Daddy dress. the little wife, with eves swimming in pools of happy tears, looked at the husband she adored and muttered softly, "Oh! how I love that man!"

It was not until Daddy was dressed and was well on his way out of the prison that one of the family reminded him that in his haste and excitement he had forgotten his hat. But there was to be no retracing of steps for him, "I don't need it: I'm going home" came the reply.

Nestled in the foothills of the Ozarks, the happy family celebrated Christmas with a family reunion, and made plans for their advent into "The Land of Beginning Again," determined to ever follow in the footsteps of "The Friend who sticketh closer than a brother."

Oh wonderful thought! a new chance is given,

To all who would like to start life anew; Christ cancels the debt, erases sin's scars.

Blots out all transgressions, the good news is true.

-Christmas in Prison

## God Sent the Bag of Flour

In about the year 1830, in Central New York, there was a time of great scarcity of provisions. Grain was very high, and difficult to be obtained at any price; and, of course, families of limited means were in a hard place. In one family, the wife and mother of six from many an evil spirit.

children, a godly woman, worked as a seamstress to the extent of her ability. She prayed earnestly that God would deliver them from pressing want. Husband and children all knew of their need, and of the fervent prayers of the wife and mother for their supply; but no one knew by what means the supply was to come. Every day, as their scanty means were being consumed, the prospect grew darker. On the farm was a large quantity of pine timber. Four miles from there, in the next town, lived a man who needed some shingles. He wondered where he could obtain a supply, and thought he would go and purchase a pine tree and work it up into shingles. As he was about to start, the thought occurred to him, "Perhaps they may be in want of wheat flour—a bag cannot come amiss in this time of scarcity." So, putting two bushels in a bag, he proceeded to the next town, entered the house, and made known his errand, saying, "I have brought along two bushels of flour towards paying for the tree thinking you might be in want of it in this time of scarcity, and I knew you live six or seven miles from the mill, and have no horse." "That is in answer to prayer," said the noble woman; and the husband believed it, though not a praying man. When, at night, the eldest son came in, the mother said to him. "God has answered our prayers, and sent a bag of flour." It is believed that, while this was not miraculous, it was as directly the providence of God, as feeding Elijah by the ravens; and it was in direct answer to prayer for that special blessing." -The Wonders of Prayer

Let no day pass without reading a portion of the blessed Bible. A single verse may be as the pebble out of the brook, with which David slew the giant; or as a guardian angel, to protect you

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

In August of A.D. 60, as nearly as we can reckon, Paul started on his long journey to Rome. He went along with other prisoners, who were in the charge of Julius, a centurion. Paul was given privileges that the others did not enjoy, although he was chained to a soldier so that he would not escape. Luke, the writer of Acts, and Aristarchus also went with Paul. The day after leaving Caesarea the ship stopped for a few hours at Sidon, and at Myra they changed vessels and went to Fair Havens. The trip to Fair Havens was 130 miles and was slow and tedious. It was so near the stormy season of the year that Paul advised that the vessel remain in the harbor until that season should be over, but they did not take his advice and soon they were out at sea in a violent storm. They threw all the cargo overboard but the ship was driven before the gale for several days. All were in despair but Paul told them that he had a vision. An angel appeared to Paul and said, "Be of good cheer; for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you but of the ship." Then Paul said, "Sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." He had faith that God would see them centurion of Augustus' band. safely to land but the ship would be lost.

Now let us talk about another angel visit. The shepherds were taking care of their sheep out on the hills and an angel appeared unto them and said, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Wasn't that wonderful? Then suddenly the heavens were full of angels and they were saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Today we rejoice because Jesus was born and that He truly is the Saviour of all who will come to him and confess their sins and find peace.

We think of gifts at Christmas time because we think of the greatest Gift that has ever been given to mankind. I know you know who that is. What a wonderful Saviour we have! Jesus is the greatest Gift and we all love Him so much. We don't want to think only of receiving presents and forget about Jesus. So many today have a Christmas tree (which has nothing to do with Jesus' birth), admire its glitter, and forget all about Christ who is the greatest Gift from God to us. Not only are we to give gifts to those whom we love and are dear to us, but we want to give to some who might not receive a gift at this time. That is the giving that God loves. We are not to just look forward to what we are going to receive. but we should get the greater joy out of giving to others.

-Aunt Marie

## Lesson 13, December 24, 1978 ANGEL VISITS

Acts 27:1 And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a

13 And when the south wind blew

softly, supposing that they had obtained were gone away from them into heaven. their purpose, loosing thence, they the shepherds said one to another. Let sailed close by Crete.

14 But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon.

many days appeared, and no small lying in a manger. tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.

21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said. Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve.

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo. God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field. keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and 20 And when neither sun nor stars in found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe

> Memory Verse: Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Acts 27:25.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- In whose care was Paul committed on the trip to Italy?
- 2. What mode of travel did they use from Caesarea to Rome?
- 3. Was Paul the only prisoner aboard ship?
- 4. What time of year did this voyage take place?
- 5. What was a Euroclydon?
- 6. How did the skies appear during the storm?
- 7. What did Paul remind the ones aboard ship that he had said?
- 8. During the raging storm why did Paul tell them to be of good cheer?
- Who did Paul say talked to him in the night?
- 10. What did the angel tell Paul?
- 11. Did Paul have confidence in the words of the angel? St. Luke 2:8-11.15.16.
- 12. The night of Jesus' birth who was in a field near Bethlehem?
- 13. Who appeared unto the shepherds?
- 14. To whom did the angel say the good tidings were for?
- 15. What was the "good tidings" the angel spoke of?
- 16. Did the shepherds believe the words of the angel?
- 15 And it came to pass, as the angels 17. What did the shepherds do?

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Part Fourteen

Dec. 31

## Brought Back to Life

The following instance, when death itself was made to give back the life it claimed, is personally known to us to be true: A mother, in this city, sent a request for prayer to the Fulton street prayer meeting in Chicago, asking the Lord for the recovery of her daughter, who was sinking rapidly, and who she felt was almost dving.

Her husband, an eminent physician, and others, also, the most skilled physicians of the city, gave up the case as hopeless. The mother felt that now none but God could or would help. She knew there were sympathizing friends at the Fulton street prayer meeting, and to it sent her request. She came to the meeting herself, to join in their prayers and testify her faith. The moments of the meeting passed; one request after another was read, but hers was not touched. She was sadly disappointed. Her child was so very weak and almost dving, it could not live the day through. perhaps. The time was within a few minutes, less than three, of the close of the meeting. She, at last, with faltering steps and palpitating heart, pressed her way to the desk and asked if her request | brought that life back, even when death

was there. Upon search, it was found that it had been overlooked. Too late. said the leader, to read it today. See, the clock is at its last moment: but it shall be read first thing at 12 o'clock, tomorrow, and special prayer shall be offered immediately.

With a very heavy heart the mother went away, back to the chamber of the dying one. All night the waiting ones watched, with their ceaseless attentions and silent pravers.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock the body sank, the eyes closed, pallor came over the features, the spirit seemed gone, and all was still; not a breath, not a motion-death had come.

The mother had taken her watch. hung it on the pillow of the bed, and with streaming eyes, yet ceaseless prayer, they watched the slow finger move to 12 o'clock. At precisely twelve, all joined in prayer, lifting their hearts to God. At fifteen minutes past twelve, the daughter opened her eyes, saying, "Mother, I feel better," then sank into sleep, breathing steadily. After three hours she awoke to consciousness and sat up in bed, and before night was able to walk the floor of her chamber. Prayer

had taken it. At the very moment when that precious prayer was offered in the meeting, the Lord came and touched the dying one, and gave it new life. The mother's faith and prayer were honored, and the Lord remembered His promise, "If ye believe, ye shall see the glory of God." The same Lord who raised Lazarus and bade him come forth, also came and bade this precious life to come back to earth again. —D. W. Whittle

## The Fur Cap

A widow once told the writer of the turning point in her Christian life. when God's love was so shed abroad in her heart that she had been enabled to go on through all her trials rejoicingly conscious of God's presence, and casting all her burdens upon Him. She was driven to seek God by great need. Her husband's death left her destitute, with little children to provide for, and few friends from whom to look for continuous aid. Winter drew on, and, one day, her little boy came in shivering with cold and asked if he could not have a fur cap, as his straw hat was very cold and none of the boys at school wore straw hats. She was without a cent in the world. She gave a hopeful answer to the boy and sent him out to play, and then went to her bedroom and knelt and wept in utter desolation of heart before God, praying most earnestly that God would give her a token that He was her God and was caring for her by sending her a cap for her boy. While she prayed the peace of God filled her soul. She was made to feel the presence of her Saviour in such a way that all doubts as to His love for her and His fulfillment of all His promises to care for her vanished away, and she went out of her room, rejoicing in the Lord and singing His praise. She had no burden about the cap, and was quite content for God to send it or not as it

pleased Him; and, in the afternoon, when a neighbor called, occupied with the Lord and His wonderful love, the thought of the cap had gone from her mind. When the neighbor rose to depart, she said. "You know my little boy died last fall. Just before he died I bought him a fur cap: he only wore it two or three times. After his death I put away all his things and thought I could never part with any of them. But, this morning, as I went to the drawer to look them over. I felt that I should give you this cap for your little boy. Would you like to have it?" As she took the cap and told her neighbor of the morning trial, prayer, and blessing, two souls were filled with the sense of the reality of prayer and the love of God for His children. "My little boy," said the widow, "wore that cap for three winters. Often when sorely tried by my circumstances. God has lifted the burden from my heart, by my just looking at it, and remembering the blessing that came with it." -The Wonders of Prayer

## The Holy Bible

There is a Book we all should read, For it supplies our spirit's need, And brings Christ near, to guide and lead—

The Holy Bible.

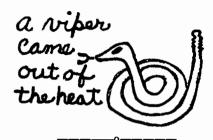
Life will be sweeter day by day;
More flow'rs will bloom along the way,
If we will read it more, and pray—
Our Mother's Bible.

'Twill fill the days with sunshine bright, Its precepts guide our feet aright, And help us win in life's hard fight—The Holy Bible.

O precious Word of God, divine, Whose promises with gladness shine, May all its joys to yours, and mine— The Holy Bible.

-L. S. Leech

#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

There were 276 people on the ship with Paul, which was sailing to Rome. Italy. They were in a great storm and the ship was tossed and driven by the wind. The sun had not shone for days and many of the people were in great despair. Finally, on the fourteenth night they found that they were near land. The ship was anchored to avoid being driven upon the rocks, and the morning anxiously awaited. When daylight arrived they lifted the anchor and let the ship be driven upon the shore. The soldiers thought about their own lives being taken if any of the prisoners escaped so they wanted to kill the prisoners, but the centurion thought of Paul and refrained them. Finally, the ship was driven upon a deep bank of mud and though it was soon lashed to pieces, everyone reached the shore.

On the island of Melita the natives were happy to help the shipwrecked men. They quickly gathered wood and made a fire. Paul, in helping to gather the fuel, was bitten by a viper. The superstitious natives, observing that he was a prisoner, immediately concluded that he was a murderer, and though he had somehow escaped from the storm, vengeance was overtaking him in another form. However, Paul shook the serpent off and suffered no harm from its bite. Then they were ready to declare him a god.

Publius, the chief, was sick and Paul came to his house and prayed for him, laying on his hands and he was healed. Others came to Paul and many were healed of diseases. The natives honored them with many things that they needed and soon they departed on another ship which took them on their way to Rome.

When they got close to Rome some Christians came to meet him, from as far as Appii Forum, a distance of forty-three miles. If he had any misgivings on the long journey as to the reception he would receive at the hands of the Roman Christians as a prisoner, he must have been cheered and inspired when he beheld their love and hearty welcome extended him. He was delivered to the captain of the guard in Rome in March, 61 A.D.

From the beginning of Paul's imprisonment in Rome he was permitted to live in his own hired house, with the soldier who guarded him, and was allowed to receive and teach all who came to him. The two years Paul was in Rome he preached the gospel to many.

—Aunt Marie

—Aunt Man

## Lesson 14, December 31, 1978 PAUL ARRIVES IN ROME

Acts 27:37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

44 And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

serpent off and suffered no harm from 28:1 And when they were escaped, its bite. Then they were ready to declare then they knew that the island was him a god.

- 2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindles a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.
- 3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand
- 4 And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.
- 5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.
- 6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.
- 8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.
- 11 And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.
- 16 And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.
- 30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him.
- 31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Memory Verse: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. How many were aboard the shir Paul was on?
- 2. Where was the ship run aground -
- 3. What happened to the ship when it struck ground?
- 4. How did the men get ashore?
- 5. How many were killed in the shipwreck?
- 6. What was the name of the island near which they wrecked?
- 7. How did the people on the island act toward the men from the ship?
- 8. What happened to Paul when he was gathering sticks for a fire?
- 9. When the barbarians saw that he was bitten by a snake, what did they think Paul had done?
- 10. Is is easy for people today to "jump to conclusions" and think someone has done wrong when harm befalls them?
- 11. What happened to Paul's arm after the snake bite?
- 12. When the people on the island saw this, what did they think of Paul?
- 13. What did Paul do for the father of Publius, who was sick?
- 13. How long did Paul and the prisoners stay on this island?
- 15. Upon reaching Rome was Paul delivered to the captain of the guard with the other prisoners? Where was Paul taken?
- 16. Who dwelt in the house with Paul?
- 17. How long did Paul live in this hired house in Rome?
- 18. What did Paul do while living in Rome?

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