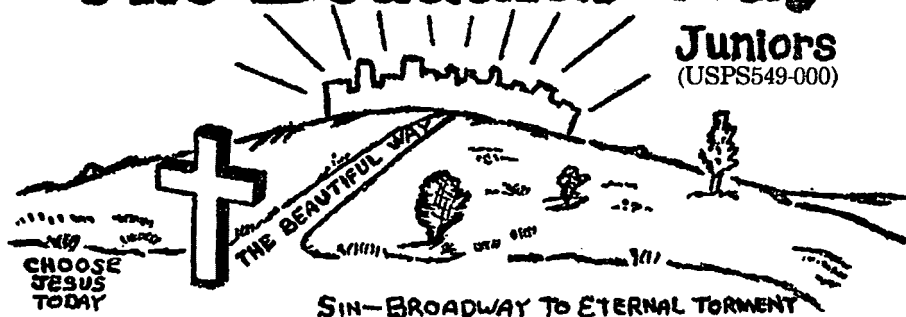


# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 1

Jan. 6

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Robert Davis arose. Every eye was upon him. Bibles and Testaments were opened. Old Mr. Stephenson was there with his Bible, and very attentive was he. Charley Moss had his Testament open at the proper place.

"At first glance, it may seem," Robert said, "that Romans 7 upholds a life of more or less sinning in a Christian. A closer view, however, reveals that it does not. The first night that I was present at these prayer meetings, Bro. Newby laid down one sound method for interpreting the Scriptures. He said, 'First, one should know who was writing; second, one should know to whom he was writing; and third, one should know what he was writing about.' This is a sound theory. Let us apply it to the text in question. First, who was writing? Paul. Second, to whom was he writing? To the Christians at Rome. Third, what was he writing about? His experience under the law."

This assertion came like a thunder-clap from a clear sky. Peter Newby saw, at once, the significance of the statement, and he shifted uneasily in his seat. He riveted his eyes to the text

in an effort to discover some point that would be in opposition to Robert's statement. The crowd looked open-mouthed. This was a new doctrine—they had never heard it explained that way. The interest was intense.

Continuing, Robert said, "This is made plain by the first few verses of the chapter. Please notice them—'Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?' Then he shows in the verses following that Christians have 'become dead to the law' through Christ, and that they are married to Christ, and bring forth fruit unto God. 'But now we are delivered from the law,' says Paul.

"His whole argument, down to and including verse 6, is that we have died to the law through crucifixion with Christ, and are therefore free to marry another. We have become dead to the law, and since death dissolves the marriage vow, we are, therefore, free from connection with the law, and are joined unto Christ. Beginning with verse 14 to the end of the chapter, is given an explanation of how Paul's sinful nature brought him into subjection to its demands. It is a clear testimony of an

honest man's experience under the old law. By that law he became aware of sin and felt its sinfulness, yet that law brought no grace nor power to preserve him from violating its prohibitions. He desired to do good, but could not. Sin came to life and slew him. Paul was condemned by the law, and yet he could not come from under the condemnation. He was, so to speak, tied or married to a dead body, a law or master which brought death, and he wondered where deliverance would come from. 'Thank God,' he says, 'it will come through Jesus Christ the Lord.'

"I am not going to accept the interpretations placed upon this seventh chapter of Romans by the speaker," said Peter, as he arose to reply. "Why? Because I never heard it explained that way. Why? Because I have heard Bro. Peters preach from these texts, and he has always declared a man could not keep from sin. Living free from sin! Whoever heard of such a thing? It can't be done, that is all there is to it. We cannot keep from sin. Paul said sin was ever present with him, and I know it is with me. I try to do right, but sin gets the better of me. I ask God to forgive me every time I pray. I tell you, a man simply cannot live without committing sin."

"This cannot be the experience of Christians," said Robert. "If you will just look at the second verse of chapter 8, you will find these words: 'For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.' And verse 3 says, 'For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, [or by a sacrifice for sin] condemned sin in the flesh,' and verse 4 states, 'That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us,' etc.

"Hence, it is evident that Christians are to live holy lives. God demands holiness of us. 'Be ye holy; for I am holy,' says 1 Pet. 1:16. Yea, we are to repent and turn away from all sin, for Christ 'gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works' (Titus 2:14). And 'the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world' (Titus 2:11, 12)."

The arrow of conviction shot deep down into many hearts as Robert Davis spoke these words. The truth he spoke commended itself to their minds and consciences. Some rebelled, and rejected

his sound arguments. Peter Newby especially was agitated. He felt himself sinking into despair, as far as argument was concerned. Old Mr. Stephen and Charley Moss trembled from head to foot. The Spirit of God was working powerfully in their and others' hearts.

"I am not going to accept the interpretations placed upon this seventh chapter of Romans by the speaker," said Peter, as he arose to reply. "Why? Because I never heard it explained that way. Why? Because I have heard Bro. Peters preach from these texts, and he has always declared a man could not keep from sin. Living free from sin! Whoever heard of such a thing? It can't be done, that is all there is to it. We cannot keep from sin. Paul said sin was ever present with him, and I know it is with me. I try to do right, but sin gets the better of me. I ask God to forgive me every time I pray. I tell you, a man simply cannot live without committing sin."

When Peter Newby sat down, Robert Davis arose again, and said:

"There is a text of Scripture that says certain persons cannot cease from sin. I do not say that anyone here fulfills the description in that text. Peter says, in his second Epistle, chapter 2, verse 14: 'Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin.' As I said, I charge no man with this kind of character, and only read it to give you a Scriptural description of one who cannot live without sin."

*(To Be Continued)*

## 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



started to scold. "Give us water that we may drink."

The Israelites had seen the many miracles God had done in the past, and they should have known He would provide water. They shouldn't have murmured or complained.

Moses didn't know what to do, so he prayed. "What shall I do? These people are ready to stone me!"

God told Moses to take the elders and go to Mt. Horeb. Moses was to take his rod and strike a rock that God would show him. When he did as God commanded him, water came from the rock, and the people hurried to drink. Moses then scolded the people for not believing and trusting God. —Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 1, January 6, 1985**

## **GOD PROVIDES WATER**

Ex. 17:1 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the Lord, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.

2 Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the Lord?

3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

4 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

5 And the Lord said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

7 And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, Is the Lord among us, or not?

**Memory Verse:** Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 1 Cor. 10:10.

### **Questions:**

1. Can you tell why the Israelites were in Egypt?
2. Do you remember how Joseph was made second to Pharaoh?
3. Who was Joseph's father?
4. When the good Pharaoh died, was the next Pharaoh kind to the people?
5. What did the people do?
6. How did God guide His people in the day? How did He guide them at night?
7. Where were they to stop?
8. Why did they scold Moses?
9. What did God tell Moses to do?
10. What happened when Moses struck the rock?

**Bible Search:** Who was let out of prison by an angel? *Answer next week.*  
*Last week's answer:* "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." Matt. 6:33.

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Ok. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Ok. Dorothy Wilkins, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 2

Jan. 13

## Around Old Bethany (Continued From Last Lesson)

It was painfully evident that this was an unwise thing to say at that particular time. Robert Davis was young, and full of zeal. Most probably he should not have uttered these words. Peter Newby was powerfully affected. He felt as if his character had been scandalized before the whole crowd. His face waxed red with an inner rage. His body quivered and shook with excitement. No one had ever seen him quite so exercised. He arose slowly, but with extreme determination. Things had gone as far as they could without a physical clash.

"Hold your place, young man. I will not allow anyone to insult me in this manner. Be careful what you say. There will be another chapter added to this if you are not careful. I will defend my honor, no matter what it costs." And he resumed his seat.

The air was filled with intense excitement. A few words from Robert would have struck fire, and he knew it. So he quietly sat still without saying a word. The tenseness of the situation was painful. Just then Mary Davis started that old, familiar song:

"Jesus, lover of my soul,  
Let me to thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past,  
Safe into the haven guide,  
Oh, receive my soul at last."

A few joined in toward the last half of the verse, and, as she began on the second verse, the whole congregation sang with vigor:

"Other refuge have I none,  
Hangs my helpless soul on thee;  
Leave, oh, leave me not alone,  
Still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed,  
All my help from thee I bring,  
Cover my defenseless head  
With the shadow of thy wing."

Robert and Mary started for home as soon as they could. Peter Newby got into an argument with old Mr. Stephenson, who by this time had become a sort of champion of Robert's and a crowd encircled them. Peter Newby found a match in the old man, for Mr. Stephenson, at this time, while mentally convinced, was still unsaved, and could be as personal and ironical as Mr. Newby.

They argued the point of a sinless life for an hour, mixed a good deal of personal invective into the argument, which drew from the crowd vociferous "ha, ha's!" and they parted without feeling one whit better toward one another than they did before.

## WHAT CHURCH SHOULD I JOIN?

The week following the events that took place at the schoolhouse was an important one in the life of Robert and Mary Davis. Having put their hands to the plow, they could not look back. Already, they were aware that the steps they had taken religiously were separating them from the people about them. Robert's bold stand for a holy Christian life made him the butt of many a joke, and a laughing-stock. They began to hunger for companionship and spiritual fellowship with those of like mind and hope. The gradual separation taking place, which was throwing over their neighbors a coldness toward them, accentuated the question of which church they were going to join. Their hearts were hungry for soul-food, for spiritual nurture; there was a longing within which was acutely felt, but which was unsatisfied. The intensity of this desire for the fellowship of saints increased as Robert and Mary studied the Scriptures and beheld glimpses of the path which was being so clearly marked out from therein. They were willing to be martyrs for the truth, but how their souls did long for someone to whom they could unburden their hearts and in whom they could confide!

There is inherent in the human heart a desire for fellowship and companionship. God has recognized this desire. Jesus Christ soon gathered around Him chosen men, who were one with Him in heart and soul, one with Him in His grand purpose to lift a world out of sin. The story of Christ's and the apostles'

lives reveals a most remarkable affinity of spirit between Christ and them. They became so much at one with Him that they gladly forsook every earthly prospect, and became willing to die for Him, even as He died for them. Jesus made a class called His "disciples," which was an inevitable result of His salvation work. They were the members of the spiritual kingdom which He founded. They were the members of the Church which He built. With His infinite love He had sought them, and with His atoning blood He had bought them. He found them dying, and He gave them life; He found them sinning and doomed to a devil's hell, and He redeemed them. Having received so richly of Christ's blessing, all these saved ones were drawn into a unity of soul and heart unknown in any organization of man.

It was exactly for this that Robert and Mary Davis were longing, at the time of our narrative. They had expected soon after their conversion, to join some denomination. They had purposely set out to see which church was right. They had supposed that it would be a matter of a few weeks only, and then they would be safely housed in their Church home but the more they searched and the more of the Bible they read, the less inclined they were to join any of the churches about them. God was leading them, but it was some time before the hand of the Lord was seen.

There was an awakening over all the religious world in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Holiness, the keynote of Holy Scripture was being taught. Out of that holiness awakening grew a reformation whose standard was "Back to the Bible" in faith and practice. Robert and Mary Davis were strangers as yet to these grand movings of the blessed Holy Spirit, but that Spirit was leading them on unerringly. God desired to plant in Bethany His own glorious Church, to be a beacon-light, an

ark of salvation, to the people of that community.

A series of events accelerated the progress of the Davis' toward the ultimate truth. Their attendance at the various churches, and their spiritual life, caused every pastor to consider them good prospects for membership. It so happened that during the few days that followed the last debate at the schoolhouse, three different ministers visited them with this idea in mind.

On one fine day, Pastor John B. Jones, of the M. E. Church, drove up. He was invited in most cordially. After some casual remarks, Pastor Jones introduced the subject of joining church.

"Do you contemplate uniting with any church in the near future?" he asked them.

"Yes, it has been our intention to join soon," said Robert. "May I ask a few questions?"

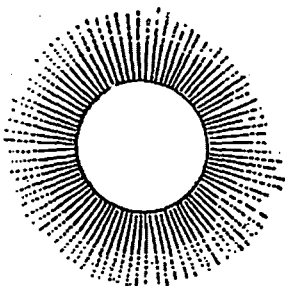
"Certainly," replied Mr. Jones.

"Does the Methodist Church teach holiness?"

*(To Be Continued)*

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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I am but a little worker,  
In the cause of Christ, my King,  
Yet I know my Master loves me,  
So His praise I gladly sing.

## I'm Growing

I'm growing and learning

A little each day,

I'll try to be fair

With my neighbors at play.

---

Dear Boys and Girls:

We remember that Joshua was now leader of God's people. They had been going through the wilderness, and now it was time to enter the Canaan land.

Joshua was to overtake Jericho, a walled-in city. God told Joshua that they were to march around Jericho for six days. On the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times. When the priests blew their trumpets, the walls were to come down. On the seventh day the trumpets blew and the people shouted, and the walls came down! What a mighty victory! Ai was captured, too. People around the Israelites were becoming afraid of them.

The Gibeonites were frightened, too. They thought of a plan that might help them. They sent men dressed in old clothes, worn water bottles, and moldy bread. They told Joshua and the elders that they had come from a long way off. Because Joshua forgot to ask the Lord what to do, he promised that they would not destroy them. When they learned that they had been tricked, he told them that they were to be servants to work for the Israelites.

When five kings were going to fight the Gibeonites, the Gibeonites asked Joshua to help them. God told him that He would be with them, so Joshua went with his army. As they fought, God sent huge hailstones that killed more enemy soldiers than Joshua's men did. The sun was going down in the west and Joshua knew he needed the sun to show where the men were hiding. He looked to the Lord and commanded the sun to stand still. God answered him and the sun stayed in the heavens for a

long time. By this another victory was won. There has never been another day like this one, where man commanded the sun to stay and it stayed.

—Aunt Dot

Lesson 2, January 13, 1985

## THE SUN STANDS STILL

Josh. 10:5 Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made war against it.

6 And the men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua to the camp to Gilgal, saying, Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the mountains are gathered together against us.

7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valour.

8 And the Lord said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.

9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night.

10 And the Lord discomfited them before Israel, and slew with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.

11 And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the Lord cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hail-

stones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

12 Then spake Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the Lord fought for Israel.

**Memory Verse:** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. *Psa. 46:1.*

### Questions:

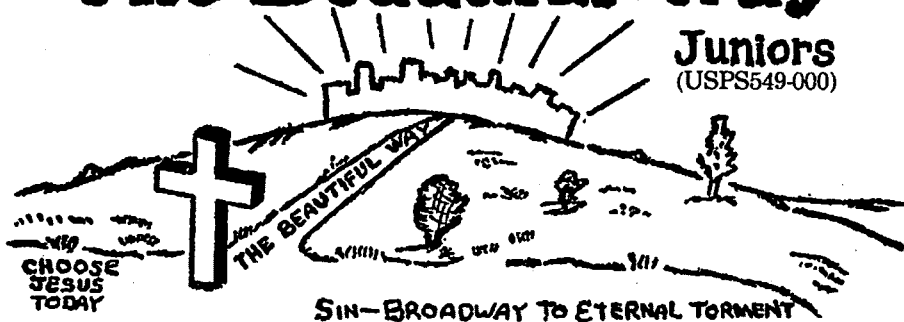
1. What land were the people to go into now?
2. What was the first city they were to conquer?
3. Was it a walled-in city?
4. How many days were they to march around it?
5. How many times were they to march on the seventh day?
6. What happened when they obeyed God's command?
7. Why were the Gibeonites afraid?
8. What did they do?
9. How did God help them fight the five kings?
10. Why did Joshua command the sun to stand still?
11. Did God answer prayer?

**Bible Search:** When was a chariot used as a pulpit? *Answer next week.*  
*Last week's answer:* Peter. Acts 12:11.



# The Beautiful Way

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(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 3

Jan. 20

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church," said Mr. Jones, "taught holiness, and sanctification subsequent to regeneration. But we do not preach much on that subject now."

"What I am thinking about," said Robert, "is this: I am longing for a real Church home, where I can feel at one with, and in fellowship with real Christians. Pastor Jones, there are so many professing Christians who are Christians only in name. I cannot fellowship them. They engage in questionable practices; they are dishonest and tricky; they use bad language; and their bent is more toward pleasure than religion. My soul really craves a Church home. Can you offer me such where I shall have the fellowship I crave?"

"We need just such members as you and Mrs. Davis would be, Mr. Davis," said Pastor Jones. "Many of our members are not spiritual. I have tried to arouse them, but it seems in vain, but if we had more members like you, we should have a spiritual church. Old Mother Piercy claims sanctification, and there are three or four who are praying members."

On the next day, Mr. Piercy Johnson visited them on the same mission, and on the day following, Mr. Claude Perkins came. To them, Robert replied much as he did to Mr. Jones. All of them deplored the lack of vital godliness in their churches and bewailed the lack of spirituality among their numbers. It was a fact that on prayer meeting nights very few persons were out to either of their churches. On the outside, Robert could discern little difference between the various denominations. He had learned that they held different doctrines, and had different schemes of government, but as to the real church life, the heart and soul of them, he saw little difference. He was about to decide to join by casting lots, when something providentially started his mind along another line of thinking.

Robert Davis suddenly bethought himself of the new religious paper. Those words which he read when he first saw a copy stood out before him again:

"A Definite, Heart-Searching, Non-Sectarian

Religious Weekly

Published in the Interests of

THE CHURCH OF GOD."

"Mary," Robert said suddenly to his wife, "there is beginning to form in my mind an idea of what a church ought to be. I suppose that text in Acts that you read this morning for worship, and that religious paper, are responsible for it. These words paint a beautiful picture:

" 'And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of these things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.'

"This, it seems to me, is the kind of Church there ought to be today. Where is it? By the way, those words were written of the early Church, were they not? Yes, for see here, in Acts 2:47, it says, 'And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.' This description is of the early Church then.

"They were united, with one heart and soul; one holy purpose animated them; one powerful motive brought them together. There were no divisions among them, they all believed the same thing, and their holy fellowship was complete.

Everyone knew them as the disciples of Jesus, and anyone under conviction of sin knew where to go for salvation. It was a pure Church. I suppose that there was not a sinner who dared to profess very long among them. It was not a mixed multitude, part saved, part unsaved, part trying to do God's will, and part with a bent on pleasure and full of worldliness. They were all full of grace. They were humble, too, and consecrated.

They were not classified as rich and poor—they were all brethren, and the wealthier members had a care for the poorer members' temporal welfare. What a contrast with the churches as they exist today! My heart longs for a pure, united Church which will bear the pure testimony to the world.

"Mary, do you suppose that there is any church today like the early Church was?" asked Robert.

"I do not know," said Mary. "It may be that there is."

"Do you suppose the 'Church of God,' in whose interests this paper is printed, can be that pure apostolic Church?" said Robert. "What should the true Church be called, anyway? This paper says it is 'non-sectarian.' What is a sect? What does 'non-sectarian' mean? Say, Mary, let us set this afternoon apart as a time of investigation of what the Bible has to say about the Church. What do you say?"

"Let us do that," said Mary. "We have not read the Scriptures at all on this subject. Now, since we wish to find a Church home, it would be well to first search the Scriptures; probably the Bible will direct us in this most important step."

#### WHAT SAY THE SCRIPTURES?

After dinner on that day, Robert and Mary Davis prayerfully and reverently began a study on the New Testament Church. They had not, as we have intimated before, made any particular effort to ascertain what the Scriptures had to say about this subject. It was not until circumstances forced the issue upon them that any particular concern about it entered into their minds. On this day, however, they began a most earnest investigation of the matter. They had determined beforehand to accept whatever the Scriptures had to say about it, and to abide by their teachings.

"I have a concordance ready, Mary," said Robert, "so let us begin. May God direct us in this Bible study."

"I shall bring the Scripture textbook and Bible," said Mary. "I am ready."

"I suppose that we may as well take the first text in the concordance," said Robert. "It is Matt. 16:18."

" 'And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will

build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," read Mary.

(To Be Continued)

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"Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being." Psalm 146:1,2

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### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls:

King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel were wicked. They served an idol called Baal. In those days, when the king believed in idols, he caused the people to worship that idol, too. If a king was a good king and loved the Lord, the people would love and serve Him, too.

Elijah wanted the people to serve the one, true God, so he had the prophets of Baal and all the people go to Mount Carmel. The people listened quietly to Elijah. He said, "How long will you serve other gods? If the Lord is God, serve Him. If Baal is God, serve him. Now bring two bullocks to sacrifice. Put no fire under it. Whichever God causes fire to burn the sacrifice, let him be your God."

The people liked this plan and quickly brought the offerings. Elijah told the prophets of Baal to choose and offer their sacrifice first. Soon they were ready and from morning until noon they called on Baal. Elijah made fun of them, and said, "Maybe he has gone on a journey, or is sleeping, or talking, and cannot hear you. Call aloud." They continued to call on Baal until evening, but, of course, he could not send fire.

It was now time for the evening sacrifice, so Elijah began to rebuild the altar that was broken down. He took twelve stones and piled them together. Then he dug a ditch around the altar. He placed the wood and the sacrifice on the altar. So the people would know God's great power, Elijah had twelve barrels of water poured all over the altar, filling the ditch around it, also.

When everything was ready, Elijah called on God. "Hear me, O Lord, that the people may know that you are the one, true God." Suddenly, fire came from heaven and burned up the sacrifice, wood, and the water in the ditch! The people fell down before God and said, "The Lord, He is the God."

—Aunt Dot

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Lesson 3, January 20, 1985

### GOD SENDS THE FIRE

1 Kings 18:21 And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

24 And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the

Lord: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

26 And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

30 And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

32 And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

33 And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

34 And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

**Memory Verse:** Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in truth. . . . Josh. 24:14a.

#### Questions:

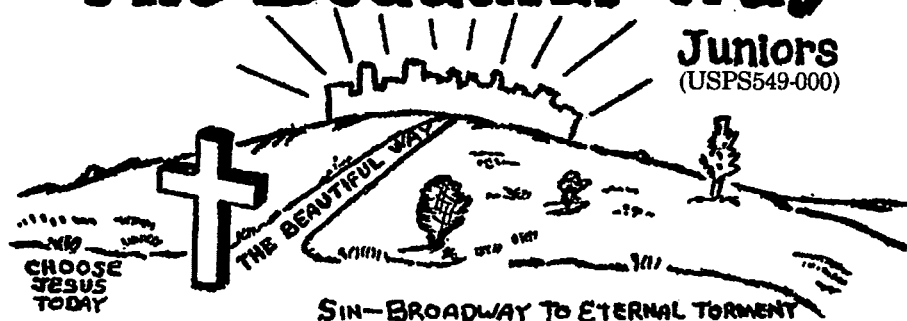
1. When the king served God, did the people serve Him, too?
2. If the king was wicked, what did they do?
3. What was the name of the idol in our lesson?
4. Whom did Elijah want the people to serve?
5. Where did he tell everyone to go?
6. How was he going to prove which was the true God?
7. How many prophets of Baal were there?
8. How long did they pray? Did Baal answer?
9. Can you think of why Elijah used twelve stones for the altar?
10. How many barrels of water did they pour on the sacrifice?
11. When Elijah prayed, what did he say? Did God answer?
12. What did the people say and do?

**Bible Search:** Who was struck dumb because he did not believe? *Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* When Phillip preached to the eunuch. Acts 8:31-35.

# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 4

Jan. 27

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"I have heard a few discussions about the 'rock' of this text," said Robert. "Some affirm that it means Peter, others that it means Peter's confession, and still others that it means Christ. I do not know which is right, but I believe Christ is the real rock. Anyway, Mary, it teaches that Christ did build a Church, doesn't it? and that it should not be overthrown. Read Acts 2:47."

"'Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved,'" read Mary. "Then the Church was built by this time, wasn't it? 'And the Lord added to the church.' Then I wonder if they joined the Church? How did the Lord add them?"

"I do not know," said Robert. "Maybe there was no joining in that day. It may be that as soon as they were saved they were counted as members of the Church. There are several texts here in Acts about the Church. 'There was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem,' (Acts 8:1); they 'ordained them elders in every church,' (Acts 14:23); Paul 'saluted the church,' (Acts 18:22); etc. Well, there was an early Church, judging from these

texts, which corroborates the words of Jesus who said that He would build a Church."

"What was the name of that Church?" asked Mary. "Are there any texts that show what it was called?"

"Let us see. Here is a text—Acts 20:28. See what that verse says," replied Robert.

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

"Here is another text—1 Cor. 1:2," said Robert.

"'Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours,'" read Mary.

"Here is another with 'church of God' in it—1 Cor. 10:32, and another in Gal. 1:13; also one in 1 Tim. 3:5. All of these have 'church of God' in them. Oh, yes, I skipped one text in 1 Cor. 15:9," said Robert. "That is a good name. It shows that it is God's Church."

"What have we learned so far?" asked Mary. "We have learned that Christ

built the Church and that it was named the Church of God. What else can we learn about it? I would like to know who the members were, and how they were made members."

"Maybe there are Bible answers to these questions," said Robert. "See Col. 1:24."

"Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church.' This says the Church is His body. Are there any texts to explain that?" asked Mary.

"Try Col. 1:18," said Robert.

"And he is the head of the body, the church," read Mary.

"Read Eph. 1:22, 23," said Robert.

"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

"I guess we shall have to look up the word 'body' to find out just what it is," said Robert. "Here is 1 Cor. 12:13."

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

"Try Romans 12:4, 5," said Robert.

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

"That makes it plainer," said Robert. "As I see it now, Christ's body is the Church, and the Church is His people. That is logical. Just like my body, it has a variety of members, yet it is just one body. So Paul says the Church is."

"How do persons get into this Church of God? Mr. Jones asked us to join the church. So did Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Johnson. They said that they would open the door and receive members."

But, Robert, I feel, yes, thank the Lord, I know that I am saved, and yet I am not a member of any church. How can this be?" asked Mary.

"I do not know about that, Mary," replied Robert. "Maybe you are a church member, after all. Let us see another text. Yes, don't you remember Acts 2:47, which said that 'the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved'? If salvation makes them members, then why does not salvation make us members now? Why, Mary, surely it does. This must correspond with Paul's saying that we read from 1 Cor. 12:13, about the Spirit baptizing us all into one body. I begin to see now that we get into the Church that Jesus built by being saved through the Spirit, and that salvation makes us members of the Church. Well, praise God for these truths! They fit right into my heart."

"Now another point seems plain," resumed Robert. "The Church, in order to be pure, must have only saved members. And Jesus would not add any but saved members. I see that."

"And more than that," said Mary, "if Christ adds the members, then every Christian is bound to be a member, isn't he?"

"That must be right," said Robert.

"But that would make one big Church, Robert, and you know everybody cannot see alike about the Church," said Mary.

"Why not, Mary? If Jesus built the Church, and if He adds the members, and if all the members are saved, and if the Spirit puts them all into one body, and that body is the Church, and if He named it, why then would it not be the right Church? I do not see how anyone could be a Christian without being in this Church," said Robert.

"Is not the Church of God what Pastor Jones called the 'invisible church' and are not all the denominations together the whole Church?" asked Mary.

"Invisible church! Why, was all that early Church invisible, Mary? Impossible! Paul persecuted the Church, it says. There was something visible to persecute, was there not? Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth. Surely there was something to write to. What puzzles me, though, is where this Church is today. It is plain enough that the early New Testament Church was visible, and that it was organized, and had ministers and government. It had power and grace also, and it grew rapidly, and spread over much of the Roman Empire even before the death of the apostles. But where is it now? This is a mystery to me," and Robert was troubled.

"That is as far as we have gone, Mary. But we are not through the New Testament yet. I was just counting, and there are about one hundred texts in which the word 'church' occurs. But, it seems to me we have learned a great deal. I can see plainly enough that there was only one Church in the early era of Christianity. All the ministers were welcome in every congregation. They all went by one name. There was probably only one congregation in any one city. I do not know whether they had a class-book or not, but they were united in Christ. Well, fold that sheet up, Mary; that contains the summary of our work this afternoon. We may derive some value from it later on.

*(To Be Continued)*

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



## Dear Boys and Girls:

Every four years in America, we elect a man to be our President to guide the country. In some countries, they have kings and queens. The people have no say about them. If a person is of the royal family, the king or queen's son or daughter becomes the next queen or king. Some kings love their people and try to help them, while others aren't interested and don't care about them at all. A king has the authority and power to do as he pleases in almost everything.

Ahab had been a very wicked king. He did many things that displeased the Lord, and he worshiped the idol, Baal. When he died, Jehoram, his son, became king of Israel. He was better than his father, Ahab, but he still worshiped idols. God wants us to worship and serve Him alone.

Mesha, king of Moab, was a servant to the kings of Israel. He was always supposed to send two hundred thousand sheep to them. Jehoram was now king, and Mesha refused to send his sheep.

Jehoram was displeased and with the help of two other kings, he was going to destroy Mesha, and the country of Moab. On their way to Moab, they discovered that there was no water for them or their cattle. Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, asked if there was a prophet of God in Israel. A servant told him about Elisha.

"What shall we do? There is no water in the land!" said the kings to Elisha.

"Elisha said, 'Why don't you go to your father's prophets? Let them help you. If you weren't the king of Judah, I would not help you.'

He sought the Lord for an answer. "Dig many ditches throughout the land. They will be filled without either rain or wind," said Elisha. "This is but a small thing for the Lord to do."

In the morning, after the meat offering was offered, the people looked out

and the country was filled with water! The Lord also helped them win the battle against Mesha, the king of Moab.  
—Aunt Dot

## WATER FILLS THE DITCHES

2 Kings 3:9 So the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom: and they fetched a compass of seven days journey: and there was no water for the host, and for the cattle that followed them.

10 And the king of Israel said, Alas! that the Lord hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab!

11 But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord, that we may enquire of the Lord by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah.

12 And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the Lord is with him. So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

13 And Elisha said unto the king of Israel, What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father, and to the prophets of thy mother. And the king of Israel said unto him, Nay: for the Lord hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab.

14 And Elisha said, As the Lord of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee.

15 But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him.

16 And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

17 For thus saith the Lord, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.

18 And this is but a light thing in the sight of the Lord: he will deliver the Moabites also into your hand.

20 And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

**Memory Verse:** Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. *Psa. 90:16.*

## Questions:

1. Was king Ahab a good or a wicked king?
2. When Ahab died, who was made king?
3. Did Jehoram please God? Did he worship idols?
4. Who was to give Jehoram sheep?
5. Did Mesha want to give him sheep?
6. How many kings went with Jehoram?
7. Did they find water in the land?
8. To whom did they go about the water problem?
9. What did he tell them to do?
10. Was it going to rain to fill the ditches?
11. Was this a great thing for the Lord to be able to do?
12. Explain what happened.

**Bible Search:** What little girl did Jesus raise from the dead? *Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* Zacharias. *Luke 1:20.*



# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 5

Feb. 3

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"I am really puzzled," continued Robert. "Something certainly has happened to the Church since the apostles' day. It is all divided now. I believe that some said that there are hundreds of denominations in the world now. But I am determined on this—that I will not join any church until this mystery as to its history has been cleared up, and I can see definitely the will of God in the matter. It is possible, Mary, that this Church of God, which this paper stands for, may be what we are looking for. It has a Bible name, which is one thing in its favor. But we shall wait. I take my stand, here and now, God helping me, for Christ's pure Church. I will look until my dying day to find it on earth, and will pray Almighty God to establish a congregation of this Church here in order that it may show forth what God can do for men."

So powerfully was Robert moved that he proposed that they pray. In prayer, Robert renewed his covenant to walk in all of God's light.

"Dear heavenly Father," he said, "we have been studying thy Word in an effort to find out which church we should

join. Lead us, guide us aright in this matter, we pray. Our souls crave spiritual communion with thy saints. Show us thy people. Plant such a Church as we have found it in the Scriptures and which we know existed in Bible times; plant a congregation of thy Church in our midst, O Father. Do not forsake us, but lead us. Amen."

## ROBERT DAVIS' BATTLES

A month passed away rapidly. Robert and Mary Davis were making arrangements to occupy the property bought from Jake Newby. Ever since the little altercation over the removal of the chicken-house, Robert had not seen much of Jake. As for Jake, he continued sour and implacable. It was very hard for any Newby to take anything from anyone, and yet, when they were on the right side of anything they were bold champions for it. Some of the best improvements fostered by the community had been initiated by them. Nevertheless, Robert considered it best to avoid any further rupture of their relations.

Jake Newby felt keenly the outcome of the debates in the Fairmount School. He did not like to see his father suffer a loss of his prestige in the community.

He nursed a secret grudge against Robert, and determined that if ever an opportunity presented itself to his liking, he would do something to humble him. He chafed especially under the implication that his father was not a Christian, and if only he could cause a downfall to Robert he would get sweet revenge.

Robert Davis was unaware of what was going on in Jake Newby's mind. He had not counted on any bitterness over their little dispute.

A few days before Robert and Mary planned to move, Robert went over to their new home to mow the yard and clean up a little. Jake Newby saw him coming, and noticed that he was alone.

"Now is my time," muttered Jake to himself. So he strode over to where Robert was.

"Do you mean that I cannot have my chicken-house, Robert Davis?" asked Jake threateningly.

"Jake, you know that the chicken-house was not reserved in our contract," said Robert.

"You are a liar," shouted Jake.

"You are mistaken, Jake," said Robert calmly, but feeling a strong impulse to strike his opponent.

"You are a liar, Davis, and you have insulted my father," said Jake, at the same time shaking his finger close to Robert's face.

Instantly, Robert's powerful right arm shot a blow directly at Jake's jaw. It caught him square on the chin, and Jake went sprawling over the lawn. Jake arose, thoroughly angry. He rushed at Robert like a demon, but Robert quickly stepped to one side and caught Jake with another blow. Jake then closed in on Robert and attempted to throw him down.

Over and across the lawn they surged, trampling under foot the shrubbery which Jake had planted to beautify the homestead. The men were about equally

matched in size and strength, but Robert's clearer brain and strategy were too much for his opponent.

At last they fell in a heap, with Jake on top, and he was raining blows upon Robert's face in token of his victory, when all at once Robert gave a sudden turn and landed Jake underneath before Jake was aware of what was happening. But by this time Robert's heart was talking to him about the fight, so he merely held Jake down until he gave up and promised to go home and not make trouble any more. Then he let him up.

Jake shook himself and started home. Robert was so upset that he could not work. He sat down on the porch of the house and took a survey of the affair. He became so engrossed in his study that he did not hear the sound of falling footsteps, until they were close upon him. He looked up quickly, and met the scornful gaze of Peter Newby's hazel eyes.

"And so you have become a fighting holiness man, have you? You were so holy a short time ago that you could insult an old man like me with your insinuating remarks. Now, maybe you will believe me when I say that man can't live without sinning," said Peter disdainfully.

Robert was so completely whipped by his own conscience that he felt no inclination to defend himself. Indeed, how could he defend himself?

"Now, young man, you ought to drop this holiness stuff, for there is nothing in it—all bunk. Living above sin, are you? Ha! ha! ha!" and the old man gave poor Robert an explosive horse-laugh.

"Good bye, holy Robert," said Peter, as he drove away.

Robert sat still on the porch. He began to wonder if this was the way he was going to dedicate his new home, and if he had destroyed his influence in the community. What would Mary think

of him! Good, quiet, godly Mary, who had always looked up to him as the embodiment of noble and manly qualities. And Mary was cherishing a little one under her heart, and preparing to receive a priceless treasure. What kind of father was he going to be, Robert asked himself. Shall I tell her, or shall I hide it? Swiftly the thoughts ran through his mind while big, cold drops of sweat stood out upon his forehead like beads of crystal. Never before had he felt so thoroughly miserable. In his youth, Robert had never been quarrelsome, but he had accepted challenges whenever they were made. Since his conversion, however, he had lived a consistent Christian life, and he had been very particular of his conduct since God had shown him light on holiness and sanctification.

(To Be Continued)

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Naaman was the captain of the Syrian army. He was a good captain, and God had used him to win battles for Syria, but he was a leper. Leprosy is a horrible skin disease that can cause death.

Naaman had a little maid who was an Israelite, and she helped his wife around the house. Naaman's wife and the maid would talk as they worked, and one day the maid told her mistress about God. "If Naaman were with the

prophet of God that is in Israel, God would heal him," she told her mistress.

A servant told the king of Syria what the maid had said and he decided to write a letter to the king of Israel to tell him to heal Naaman.

Elisha, God's prophet, heard about this and he told the king of Israel to send Naaman to him. Naaman went to Elisha's door with his horses and chariot and stood at the door, waiting for Elisha to come out and call on God so that he could be healed in a wonderful and miraculous way.

Elisha surprised Naaman. He didn't come out himself, but he sent a messenger instead, and told Naaman to go and wash seven times in the muddy Jordan River. Naaman became angry. "Why can't I go and wash in a cleaner river? And why didn't he come out himself and heal me? I won't do it!" He went away very angry.

His servants were wiser, though, and they said to him, "If Elisha had told you to do something big and grand, you would have done it. Why can't you do this little, humble thing? All you have to do is go and wash, and you can be rid of this horrible disease!"

Naaman listened to them and went to the Jordan River. He dipped himself in seven times and when he came up the seventh time, the Lord had healed him! His skin became as soft and clean as a little child's.

It pays to listen to God and do what He tells us to do, even if it's just a small, humble thing. —Aunt Grace

## Lesson 5, February 3, 1985 GOD HEALS NAAMAN

2 Kings 5:1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was a leper.

2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have herewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

13 And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if

the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

14 Then he went down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

15 And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant.

**Memory Verse:** Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel. . . . 2 Kings 5:15b.

#### Questions:

1. Who was Naaman?
2. Who told his wife about God and His healing power?
3. What disease did Naaman have?
4. Who was the prophet of God?
5. What did he tell the king of Israel to do concerning Naaman?
6. What did Naaman expect Elisha to do when he came to his house?
7. What did Elisha do instead?
8. What did the messenger tell Naaman?
9. Why was Naaman so angry? Did he want to do what the messenger said? Why or why not?
10. What did his servants say?
11. Did Naaman listen to them? Was he healed?

**Bible Search:** Why did a woman once touch the hem of Jesus' garment? Answer next week.

*Last week's answer:* Jairus' daughter. Luke 8:41, 42, 49-55.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 6

Feb. 10

## Around Old Bethany

(Continued From Last Lesson)

"I will kneel down here and pray," said Robert, out loud. This decision was his response to grim Despair, who had now put in his appearance with suggestions to give up all, go back into sin, quit professing, and be an open sinner.

"Why try it any longer?" said Despair. "You can never face your neighbors again. Give up. Give up. You have tried, and you have failed. You are a failure. Your reputation is gone. You can never live for Christ in this neighborhood. Get even with the Newby's."

No sooner did Robert resolve, with holy determination, to defeat Despair and pray, then he got upon his knees. And there, at the doorway of his future home, he poured out his heart before Almighty God, and vowed he would not go back any farther than he was, and that he would strive, with all his heart, to do God's will.

As the sun began to go down behind the hills to the west of him, Peter started home. Flecks of cloudlets began to redden, and the denser strata of clouds took on a deep purple, as the western sky blazed out in a marvel of beauty. And Robert thought, truly, that "the

heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork"; why could not man glorify Him better?

Mary saw at once that Robert wore a troubled expression on his face. Robert saw that Mary sensed that something was wrong. As soon as he could, he went in and sat by Mary's side.

"Mary, dear, I know that you will be ashamed of me, when I tell you what I have done," said Robert.

"My, Robert, what have you done?" cried Mary. "You look so troubled and gloomy."

"Mary, I am sorry to tell you what I have done, but I will hide nothing and will tell you all about it," said he. "You remember that chicken-house we prevented Jake from moving that day? Well, he met me at the place today and called me a liar and said that I had insulted his father. Before I hardly knew what I was doing I hit Jake and we had a fight. I finally beat him, and he promised to behave. I felt just like giving up, Mary, and never trying to serve the Lord any more. But I promise you, dear, that I will not go back." And great big tears of hearty contrition rolled down Robert's face, and Mary, all tears too, lovingly wiped his tears away.

"I do not know if you can have confidence in me or not, Mary, after this, but I expect to rise above it, God helping me," said Robert, when he could speak.

"I recognize that I have done wrong," he continued. "What shall I do about it?"

"You must forgive Jake and Mr. Newby, too, Robert," said Mary. "The Scriptures are plain: 'But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses' (Matt. 6:15). Can you forgive them?"

"Yes, by God's help, I forgive them. I do," said Robert.

"Should you not also make confession to Jake Newby for fighting him?" asked Mary. "And then give him that chicken-house if he still demands it? 'Therefore, if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head' (Rom. 12:20). And to break the power of the grudge, why not obey Matt. 5:23, 24: 'Therefore, if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there remember that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.' "

"Well, Jake is not a brother, Mary," said Robert, "but the Scriptures point out the best way to recover. I feel so ashamed, Mary, after standing up for a holy life and then failing this way. But I feel that following the Word of truth will be the quickest way to recovery. It is my ambition to be an example of God's keeping power. I wish to so live that holiness may be established as truth in this community. I want my life to tell for Jesus."

Robert decided that the sooner he went the better it would be; so he drove to Jake's house at once. Jake was greatly surprised to see Robert drive up and greeted him very surlily.

"Jake, I have come over to ask your forgiveness for striking and fighting you this afternoon. I did wrong. Pardon me. I am sorry I gave way, Jake. And say, Jake, if you want that chicken-house, just come and get it. It is too small for the number of chickens that Mary intends to raise, anyway. You can have it, Jake, freely, gladly. What's a chicken-house between friends?"

"The Lord made me feel very guilty over this affair, Jake," continued Robert. "At first I thought I would give up entirely, but Jake, I cannot do that. The Lord has done too much for me and my wife, and—well, others are counting on me. I want to make everything right; so you will feel perfectly free to visit me any time you wish. Praise God! I feel better, Jake. Will you forgive me?" And Robert stretched out his hand toward Jake. Jake took it, and there, in that happy twilight hour, a grudge and a sin were laid in a grave of oblivion, never to be resurrected.

## THE GOOD RESULTS OF AN HONEST CONFESSION

The confession of Robert Davis to Jake Newby set Jake's household all agog. They had never heard of such a thing before. When Jake arrived home from his encounter he told Kate, his wife, all about it, coloring it in his own favor.

"I went over to see Robert Davis and kindly asked him to let me have the chicken-house and to reprove him gently for the way he treated Dad, and, what do you think? He jumped on me as mad as he could be. I'll get even with Bob Davis, I will. The mean rascal," said Jake.

"Well, of all things, is that the way holiness men do? A pretty mess for Davis to get into," said Kate.

"I'll fix him. Wait till a good chance comes, and I'll make him sorry enough,"

said Jake. "Little good he can do in this neighborhood, living like that."

"But Jake, you are a member of the church, and you must be careful how you live," said Kate.

"Oh, yes, I suppose so," said Jake laconically.

But Jake's religion did not concern him very much. Everybody knew that. His name was on the church book, and Jake paid a little money in now and then, but as for prayer or testimony, he had none, and as for vital, personal godliness and personal salvation, to these he was a perfect stranger. In fact, the denomination to which Jake belonged did not believe in, nor teach salvation from sin. Many others in it were just like him.

While the Newby family were discussing the fight, it was to their great surprise to see Robert Davis come through the open gate.

"Well, if there doesn't come Bob Davis now," Kate exclaimed. "What do you suppose he is after? Do you suppose he is going to renew the fight, Jake? Mercy me. Help!"

But Robert knocked quietly, and Jake opened the door, and before anyone else could speak Robert made his confession, while the Newby children and Kate looked on in amazement. After Jake and Robert shook hands, and the trouble was ended, a strange atmosphere pervaded the Newby home. They had never felt just like that before. There was a peace, an awe, a holy feeling such as people have sometimes at the height of a revival meeting. If Jesus had suddenly appeared in person there wouldn't have been much more of a holy atmosphere than existed right there at that moment. They could hardly understand it. No doubt the angels of heaven were there, and the Holy Spirit was present to exert His benign influence toward the salvation of that fami-

ly. Kate began to cry great big tears of joy. Jake sat down.

"Jake, Bob Davis is a man," said Kate. "That was the most open, honest confession I ever heard. I do not know of anyone who would do such as he had done. There must be something to his religion. You know the fight you had with Tom Sawyer, and he is a deacon in First Church, Bethany. What came of it? Never a word of confession did he ever make. What kind of a man is Mr. Davis, anyway?"

*(To Be Continued)*



Dear Boys and Girls:

One day a woman came to Elisha, the prophet of God, and told him a sad story. She said, "My husband is dead, and you know how that we fear the Lord. Do you think you could help us? We owe some money to a man and we can't pay it, because we don't have any. Now he is saying that he will come and take my two sons away to make them slaves so that the debt can be paid."

Elisha felt sorry for the woman, and he knew that she believed in God and trusted Him. He said, "What shall I do for you? Well, what do you have in your house?"

The woman replied, "We don't have anything at all, besides a pot of oil."

Elisha then told her to borrow as many empty pots and containers as she could from the neighbors. "Borrow a lot of vessels: not just a few," he told her. "When you get back to your house, shut the door, and then pour the oil from your pot into all the other pots."

The woman must have wondered how one pot of oil could fill so many others when she didn't have that much oil to start with, but she went and did as Elisha had told her.

As she was pouring, she noticed that a lot of the pots were filled! She told her son, "Bring me some more pots! These are all full!"

Her son said, "Mother, there are no more pots in the whole neighborhood. We can't get you any more."

The woman was so happy and she went to Elisha and told him what had happened with the oil. He told her to go and sell the oil to pay off the debt. She did so, and there was enough left over after the debt was paid so that she and her sons could live.

I am sure that the woman was very grateful to the Lord for helping her out when she needed Him. God had done a wonderful miracle for her, and her sons were saved from becoming slaves.

—Aunt Grace

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Lesson 6, February 10, 1985

## GOD HELPS A WIDOW WOMAN

2 Kings 4:1 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.

3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbors, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.

6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said to her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

**Memory Verse:** Grant not, O Lord, the desires of the wicked. . . . Psa. 140:8a.

### Questions:

1. What sad story did the woman tell Elisha?
2. Why was the man going to take her sons away and make them slaves?
3. What did she say she had in her house?
4. Did Elisha feel sorry for her?
5. Did she trust in God?
6. What did Elisha tell her to borrow from her neighbors?
7. What was she supposed to do with the pot of oil that she had?
8. What miracle did God do for her?
9. What did Elisha tell the woman to do with all the oil?
10. Do you think that she was happy to keep her sons?

**Bible Search:** Which disciple told the rest that he was going fishing?  
*Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* She wanted to be healed. Matt. 9:21.



# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 7

Feb. 17

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"Something strange about Bob Davis," said Jake. "Said I could have that old chicken-house if I wanted. I'd be a fool to take it now."

"Jake, I believe Robert Davis is a real Christian," said Kate, as a sort of confession on her part. "Why, I do not know of a member of our church that would do the manly thing that he has done, coming up without any self-justification and asking forgiveness for his wrong. I'm more convinced than I ever was before that Robert's doctrine is right, after all. Your Dad would not own up like that even if he knew he was in the wrong. I wish I had more of Robert's religion."

"That's true, Kate," said Jake. "Dad's either too hard-headed or has not enough religion to own up to a fault."

"I begin to feel like I am not a Christian at all, Jake," said Kate. "I could not do as Robert Davis has done. No, I couldn't. I'm not much of a Christian. I believe we might as well quit our profession, Jake, if we can't live better than we are." And more big, honest tears rolled down Kate's cheeks.

"Well, I have been baptized," said Jake, and Pastor Sammons said water baptism was essential to salvation. I believed in Jesus Christ and was baptized. What else can I do? I live as good as any other member of our church. I have been in good standing for ten years. I do not know what else to do. The preacher thinks I'm all right."

"Yes, I know," said Kate. "The preacher thinks I am all right, too, but I know I am not. I just feel that I am not a real Christian."

"Well, I must confess," said Jake, "that Robert's confession puts religion in a new light to me. With Robert, religion is the main thing. He has family prayers night and morning; he is honest and scrupulous, and now when he sees he has done me a wrong he has come right over and made it right. I am not much of a Christian either, if that is Christianity."

"Jake, what good is water baptism if our lives are not changed?" asked Kate. "I have just been thinking of the members of our church, and I am not trying to ignore their good qualities, but I do not know of more than two or three that I would ask to pray for me if I were going to die. They gossip, dress in

all the latest fads, go to dances and theaters, rarely attend church, and are just like the worldly people around here who belong to no church. Is this Christianity? Why, Jake, when we had our bazaar, you remember, four of the sisters fell out and have not spoken to each other since. My, I never thought of these things before. I wonder what church Robert Davis belongs to?"

"He calls it the Church of God," replied Jake.

"The Church of God!" exclaimed Kate. "Why, what church is that? I never heard of it. But that name sounds good. If it is as good as its name it ought to be a good one."

"I must confess," said Jake, "that I never have enjoyed my religion. If it is the right kind it has done me very little good. But I can't afford to drop it, for it's all I have—at least till I see something better. Robert and Mary Davis seem to enjoy their religion. I always noticed that. I believe I shall investigate the Church of God. What do you say to calling Robert and Mary over tomorrow night and talking all these things over with them? Robert seems to know a lot about the Bible."

"Let us do that," said Kate.

Next morning Kate sent her son John to the Davis home with an invitation to come and spend the evening. They were surprised to get the invitation, but felt that it was their duty to go.

During that day both Jake and Kate were in a very humble mood. Peter Newby came over during the day and Jake told him all about Robert's confession. Jake also expressed himself as being dissatisfied with his religion.

"Ah, poof!" said Peter. "You are all right. Weren't you baptized, and don't you believe in Christ? Don't give up your religion. Would you go back on your old Dad and Mammy like that? I hope I never see the day, Jake, when

you will leave our church. Davis is no good."

But Jake was so thoroughly awakened to his own sad state that his father's speech affected him very little. In fact, it sounded hollow and hypocritical to him. Jake knew, down in his heart, that Robert had done the manly and Christian thing, and when he saw that his father did not appreciate what Robert had done, it made him feel that his father was not much of a Christian either. Jake lost confidence in his father right there.

Peter Newby sensed this change of attitude on Jake's part, and it filled him with anger. Yet he knew that he dare not show it. But the fire in his bosom compelled him to speak out.

"Jake, my son," he said trying hard to control his feelings. "I fear you are being shaken in the faith, but I hope if you are dissatisfied with our church that you will not disgrace the family by joining that holiness bunch. They are rotten. I know them of old. I would rather see you dead than for you to go with Bob Davis."

Jake saw that there was little use to discuss the matter; so he desisted and turned the conversation to pigs. But Peter turned it back to religion.

"If you go along with that Davis," Peter said, "I will disown you as my son. I will. After being a member of our church for ten years, then to own up that you are not a Christian—why, Jake, that will tear our church to pieces."

"But, Father," said Jake, "suppose that I am not a real Christian; will it do me any good to continue my profession that I am? Is that not exactly what makes me a hypocrite? My soul longs for a real experience. I know I am not ready to die or fit to live, either. I must get right with God."

Peter Newby saw that it was useless to stay longer, so he rode away, feeling very angry at Jake for the mood he was

in, and at himself for displaying such anger.

Robert and Mary Davis went to the Newbys' about nightfall and were given a cordial reception. After all was ready they all met in the parlor and discussed religion. A great many texts were read and talked over. Water baptism was investigated. Robert proved by the Scriptures that water baptism is not a saving ordinance.

(To Be Continued)

I can only do the small things,  
For I'm very young and weak,  
But I know He hears me singing,  
And I know He hears me speak.

Jesus hears me when I pray,  
He will never turn away;  
He will listen to my call,  
For He loves the children all.

—K. U.

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Elisha was with Elijah, as he was most of the time now, when the Lord told Elijah to go to Bethel. Elijah told Elisha, "The Lord has sent for me to go to Bethel; you stay here, and I'll go there." Elisha said to him, "No, I will not leave you." They both went on to Bethel.

When they came to Bethel, some men came to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take Elijah away from you?" He said, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace."

While they were in Bethel, Elijah told Elisha that the Lord had told him to go on to Jericho. He asked Elisha to stay in Bethel, but Elisha said that no, he was going to Jericho, too. He would not leave Elijah.

At Jericho, some other people came to Elisha and asked him if he knew that Elijah was going to be taken from him. Again he said, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace."

Elijah told Elisha that this time the Lord had told him to go to Jordan, and again he asked Elisha to remain there, but Elisha still would not leave Elijah.

Fifty men stood and watched as Elijah and Elisha came to the river of Jordan, and they saw Elijah take his mantle (cape), wrap it together, and then he hit the water. The waters divided, and the two men walked over to the other side. When they came to the other side, Elijah asked Elisha what he could do for him before the Lord took him. Elisha said, "Give me a double portion of your spirit, and let it be upon me." Elijah said that if he saw him taken to heaven, it would be so. If Elisha didn't see him taken to heaven, then the favor would not be granted.

All of a sudden, as they were walking and talking together, they saw a chariot and horses of fire, and Elijah was taken by a whirlwind into heaven!

Elisha saw this happen, and he took up the cape that Elijah had dropped. He went to the river, parted the waters as Elijah had done, and he went back over to the other side. A double portion of Elijah's spirit was upon him because he had seen Elijah taken away. Elisha later did many miracles through the Lord, and was a help to many.

—Aunt Grace

Lesson 7, February 17, 1985

## ELIJAH GOES TO HEAVEN

2 Kings 2:1 And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2 And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.

3 And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

4 And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.

5 And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.

6 And Elijah said unto him, Tarry I pray thee, here; for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on.

8 And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.

9 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee,

before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.

10 And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.

11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

**Memory Verse:** Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Psa. 150:2.

### Questions:

1. Who were the two men in our story?
2. Where did they go first?
3. Did Elisha know that Elijah was going to be taken away from him?
4. Did he want to leave Elijah?
5. Where did they go after Bethel?
6. What did the people tell Elisha?
7. What did Elijah ask Elisha to do each time before they left?
8. Where did they go after they came from Jericho?
9. What happened when they came to the Jordan River?
10. What was the favor that Elisha requested?
11. Did he see Elijah taken to heaven?
12. What was Elijah taken to heaven in?
13. Did a double portion of his spirit rest upon Elisha?

**Bible Search:** Who would not lift his eyes to heaven while praying? *Answer next week.*

*Answer to last week:* Simon Peter. John 21:3.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 8

Feb. 24

## Around Old Bethany

(To Be Continued)

"How could water baptism be a saving ordinance," said Robert, "when we know that water cannot have any effect, one way or another, upon a soul? And, if water baptism is essential to the obtaining of salvation, then two other things besides the blood of Jesus are necessary whenever a soul is saved. One is water, enough to be immersed in, according to your church doctrine, and the other is a man, or a preacher to baptize. Then, if one were out somewhere away from water and a preacher, he could not be saved. This will never do. It places too much in the hands of men. Peter makes it plain—read 1 Pet. 3:21."

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also 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," read Kate Newby.

"This makes it plain," said Robert. "Water cannot wash away sins except in a figurative way. It is the blood that cleanses. Read Rev. 1:5 (last sentence), and Col. 1:14."

"Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood," read Mary Davis. "This is Rev. 1:5. Col. 1:14, says, 'In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.'"

"Robert, what church do you belong to?" asked Jake finally.

"I am not a member of any denomination," said Robert, "but recently, through a study of the Bible, I have become convinced that these denominations are not right, and that we should get back to the Bible in name, faith, and practice. I do not see any church that tallies with the Church of the New Testament; so I am waiting and praying for God to establish a real New Testament Church in this community. By the way, Jake, we found that the Bible name for the Church is the Church of God. We have had a religious paper coming to us, which is published in the interests of the Church of God. Maybe this is what we are looking for. Jake, let us seek for the truth."

"I will, Robert," said Jake. "I am dissatisfied with my religion. Really, I doubt if ever I was converted."

"God bless you, Jake," said Robert. "The Lord has a real experience of sal-

vation for you. Come to Him, repent, and believe. Get under the blood. Amen."

After a blessed service of prayer and singing some of the good old soul-cheering songs, Robert and Mary Davis went home.

It was the beginning of a new era in the Jake Newby home.

## OUT OF THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW

Two months after Robert Davis arrived home, Mary took violently ill. First there was a high fever, then convulsions, then paralysis. Dr. Horton came at once to see what he could do. After a careful examination he said she had typhoid fever and progressive paralysis and that she was in grave danger. After a day or two she rallied, regained consciousness, and was able to converse with the family. Little Janet was just one month old the day Mary took sick, and Mrs. Jake Newby, now a very dear friend, took the child and nursed it.

Mary knew, as well as anyone, that she was very ill. She talked it over with Robert. Together they most earnestly prayed that God would spare her life, for Robert's sake, and especially for little Janet's sake. But though her mind remained remarkably clear, her body sank deeper into the jaws of death. Mary was led to consecrate all to God; so in a very simple and humble way she resigned her all to Him.

"The will of God be done," she said, "whether I live or die, wake or sleep, I am the Lord's, body, soul, mind, will, all. Have thine own dear way with me, Lord Jesus. Work out thy will in me. If I live I shall be always all for thee; if I die, I am thine alone. Take from my heart every selfish desire and reign, dear Jesus, on thy royal throne there. Purge me pure, O Christ, so pure that I can come into thy effulgent presence

without one fear, without one sin, but instead with great joy. I want to be able to greet thee, blessed Christ, as my dearest, sweetest friend without a doubt as to my entire acceptance with thee. Oh, come, Jesus, in all thy power to fully save me, just for thine own dear sake. Amen, amen."

Mary closed her eyes. She lay there, so quiet, as if the angel of death had claimed her for his own. A sweet smile of satisfaction spread over her face. It seemed some angel voice had whispered something ineffably sweet to her. Robert hardly knew what to do or to say. She lay there so motionless, so still, yet there was such a sweet, holy awe, such a spiritual atmosphere, just as if the room were full of angels, that it seemed he could not cry. Kate Newby was greatly affected. Her mind went back to that night in her home after Robert Davis had made his confession.

Then there came stealing over Mary's wan face a smile that broke into the sweetest laughter. "Praise the Lord," she said.

"Is everything well with you, Mary?" Robert asked.

"All is well," she said. "I am ready to go, if the Lord calls for me."

Mary continued very low for several days. She hung between life and death and at times it seemed the thread would snap and her soul would be released. All hope of recovery had fled.

"Robert, Robert, come here," she said one day. "I feel so happy. I wonder if I am going to die! Heaven must be a beautiful place, Robert. I had the most wonderful dream or vision a while ago. I thought I was in heaven and it was so rich and beautiful. I saw a little baby there; its wings were tinted in all the colors of the rainbow and its robe seemed to be of the finest, whitest silk. I just wanted to grasp the dear thing, but it eluded me and flew up into one of the trees of life.

"Robert," she continued in a low voice, "what will you and Janet do if I die? Oh, I hate to leave you here alone. Poor little Janet, she will never have Mother's hand to smooth away the care from her brow or to wipe the tears from her innocent eyes. I would so like to stay. Poor little Janet! Bring her here, Papa, and lay her down by my side so I can see her, and I want to lay my hand on her sweet, velvet face."

They brought Janet and laid her down on the bed by Mary and then Mary laid her hand over the baby's face and caressing it softly, said:

"Sweet little one, I love you. You are a part of me. Shall I leave you in this cold world with no Mama to see after you? Poor child, what will you do? But Jesus will help you if He takes me away from you. O Jesus, bless Janet, bless Papa, bless Kate, bless everybody."

Mary lay there so quiet again. Tears were flowing from the eyes of everyone in the room. Robert could hardly restrain himself. He was so broken-hearted. Kate Newby burst out in a cry of sorrow and sympathy. Then Mary, after a few moments, opened her eyes and said: "I have just been hearing the most wonderful music. Did you hear it, Robert? It must have been the angels, for they all had long white robes. Oh, it was so pretty and lovely." Then she sank away again. Everyone thought that she would soon be gone, but as night wore on she still breathed and was no worse in the morning. The month before this sickness Robert had hunted up one of the old religious papers which had then ceased coming, and had sent in his subscription. Two or three copies had already come. As Mary continued very low he had had time to read. One day his eyes were attracted to the testimony of a woman who was healed. He also found a short article on healing in which it was stated that any of the ministers of the Church of God would

be glad to pray for any sick person. It was evident that Mary was beyond the power of medicine to heal. Dr. Horton had given her up and no more medicine was being given her.

(To Be Continued)

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls:

Jesus taught the people many times when He was on earth. One day He was teaching by the sea side, and there were so many people that He had to step into a ship and teach from there. After He had finished, He told the disciples to sail over to the other side of the sea.

As they were crossing the sea, a storm came up and the wind blew very hard. It blew so hard that water came into the ship and the ship was in danger of sinking! Jesus had been so busy the past few days, as He was all the time, so He was in the back part of the ship fast asleep on a pillow. He didn't even wake up when the wind blew so hard.

The disciples were afraid and they didn't know what to do, so they woke up Jesus and said, "Don't you care that we're about to die?" Jesus got up and rebuked the wind, and said out loud to

the sea, "Be still." The wind stopped blowing and the sea became very calm.

Then Jesus spoke to His disciples and said, "Why were you so afraid? Why don't you have any faith in me?" The disciples were astonished and said to each other, "What kind of man is this that even the wind and sea obey Him?"

Sometimes it seems that everything goes wrong for us and we don't know what to do. Jesus wants us to call on Him, and ask Him to help us. Maybe we'll be very scared at some time. Jesus wants you to just talk to Him and ask Him to help you. I'm sure He will.

I think that Jesus was trying to tell His disciples something, don't you? He was trying to tell them not to worry or fret over things, but just to trust in Him and believe that He can and will solve problems. Just as He told the wind and sea to be still, He can cause our fears and worries to be still. —Aunt Grace

## Lesson 8, February 24, 1985

### JESUS QUIETS THE STORM

Mark 4:1 And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.

35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they

awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39 Then he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

5:1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

**Memory Verse:** I know that thou canst do every thing. . . . Job 42:2a.

#### Questions:

1. Why did Jesus have to go in a ship to teach the people?
2. Where did they go after He was finished teaching the people?
3. What happened after they were in the ship and on the sea?
4. Where was Jesus and what was He doing?
5. Why were the disciples afraid?
6. What did Jesus do after they woke Him up?
7. What happened to the storm?
8. What did Jesus then say to His disciples?
9. What did the disciples say to one another?
10. What should we do when we have problems we can't handle?

**Bible Search:** What did Jesus tell Mary and Joseph when they found Him at the temple? *Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* The publican, who was in the temple. Luke 18:13.



# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 9

Mar. 3

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"I wonder if any of the Church of God ministers are near Bethany," said Robert to himself. He eyes began to run over the pages in search of a minister close enough to send for. Then he saw a meeting announced for Sayersville, Oct. 1-10. Sayersville was only fifty miles north of Bethany. The minister in charge was D. W. Monteith.

The same hour a telegram was sent as follows:

"D. W. Monteith,  
Sayersville, Mo.

Come at once. Pray for my wife. Very sick.

Robert Davis,  
Bethany, Mo."

Robert was at the station at seven o'clock the next morning to meet the minister. He wondered just what kind of man a Church of God minister would be. When they met he found a plain, neat-looking man with a kind, strong face, ready to go to the bedside of his wife.

"Be of good cheer, Bro. Davis," said the minister. "The Lord has great power. He can raise up your wife. Up at Sayersville last week a man was thrown

from a train and seriously hurt, but the Lord healed him. Have faith in God."

Robert Davis thought he had never heard words so encouraging as those, nor had he seen a man who entered so heartily into his burdens. Here was a man from whom he felt the warm, free flow of Christian fellowship.

When they drove up to the house Mary was awake.

"Mary, dear," said Robert, "this is Bro. Monteith, a minister of the Church of God. He has come to pray for you."

"I'm so glad you have come, Brother," said Mary. "We need your prayers."

"Are you all the Lord's, Sister?" inquired the minister.

"Oh, yes, all the Lord's," she replied. "All given up, to go or to stay. But I wish so much to stay. See my little baby over here."

The minister breathed a short prayer for guidance. "Is it your will to heal her, Lord?" he prayed. He felt an answer that God would raise her up.

Then he took out a small vial of olive oil, anointed the brow of Mary with it, and said,

"In the name of Jesus Christ, we anoint you with this oil in fulfillment of James 5:14, 15, 'Is any sick among you?

let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up.' Now, Lord, we claim this promise in behalf of this woman. Inspire her faith. Send thy healing virtue. Destroy this disease and heal her for thy glory. Amen.

"Now, Sister, arise in the name of Jesus," he said gently.

The mighty power of God fell upon Mary in a moment of time. She raised up in bed, lifted her hand toward heaven and said, "I am healed."

The news spread over the community rapidly. Several of the neighbors had been there when she was healed. They went home telling it to all they met. Next day several people drove up to see what had happened. Mary was sitting up in a chair as happy as she could be and ready to tell all comers what great things the Lord had done for her.

The healing of Mary David made a great stir in the neighborhood. Several preachers felt it their duty to warn people against divine healing. It is mostly excitement, they said, when one is healed, as Mary Davis was. Others ridiculed it. Some said that she had never been sick, but others knew that she had been sick, and a few gave God the praise for the work done.

But this healing attracted attention to the doctrines of holiness and the Church of God that Robert Davis had been talking about. It became a topic of earnest discussion as to which church was right. Many were asking, "I wonder if Davis is not right, after all, in claiming that there should be a better, purer, more powerful, more spiritual Church than what we have here."

In three weeks the Church of God revival was to begin in Bethany, according to previous arrangements made

between Robert Davis and Evangelist Monteith. Meanwhile Robert Davis studied the church question assiduously. His study of the Bible led him to accept the Bible name—Church of God—but he knew that the right name did not necessarily make a church right that had adopted it. The church must be in and of itself the real Church and then the name would naturally apply to it.

When the evangelist came, Robert asked him the very first day, "Bro. Monteith, tell me about the Church of God. I see by the Bible that in the apostles' time there was one Church called the Church of God, but what became of it? Where is it now? All I can see is a multitude of churches. Can you tell me what happened to the apostolic Church? Tell me the full history, please."

"Very well, Bro. Davis, I shall do the best that I can to give you a brief account of the Church," he said. "The Church of God was built by Jesus Christ, organized and filled with power by the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, and was then sent forth on her glorious mission of working with Christ to save a lost world.

"The first step toward world evangelism followed the persecution of the Church in Jerusalem when 'they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.'

"The second step was taken when Paul and Barnabas, with Mark, set forth from Antioch in Syria on the first missionary tour of the early Church. On this tour several local churches of the general Church of God were raised up through salvation of Jews and Gentiles in Antioch in Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, and other places in the Roman provinces of Asia Minor.

"The third great step was taken when Paul and his companions, on the second tour, crossed the Aegean to Europe and thus began the conquest of Europe for Jesus Christ. Local churches were plant-

ed in Philippi, Thessalonica, and Corinth, to each of which Paul wrote epistles—Philippians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, and 1 and 2 Corinthians. Before Paul's death he had preached in Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire, one of the greatest empires of all time. While Paul was establishing congregations of the one Church in the West, the other apostles were raising up local congregations elsewhere.

"Everywhere this Church was known as the 'Church of God.' In the century after the apostles, the name 'catholic' which means universal, was applied to it. There was one Church. Congregations embraced thousands in some of the larger cities. Antioch in Syria is said to have had thousands of Christians within its borders.

"What a glorious Church that early Church was, Bro. Davis, as you have already seen in your Scripture investigation. With the breaking forth of the glorious light of the gospel there arose the true Church of God, spotless in her purity, glorious in her power, and adorned with the rich graces and gifts of the Spirit. And in three hundred years this Church broke down paganism and Constantine had made Christianity the religion of the Roman Empire.

*(To Be Continued)*

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Jesus did many miracles while He was here. He healed the sick, raised the dead, calmed the storm, cast out devils, fed many people from just a little food, etc. This time He helped the disciples catch fish.

One day while teaching the people, He noticed a ship and asked if He could borrow it for a while. He sat in the ship and taught the people from there. When He was finished teaching them, He told Simon (whose boat he was sitting in) to go out into the sea, and let down the nets to catch fish.

Simon said, "Master, we have worked all night and haven't caught anything! But since you told us to, I will let down the net one more time." When the fishermen did this, they caught so many fish that the nets started to break.

They shouted and called for help to their partners who were in another ship. They came, and when they were finished, both of the ships were so full of fish that they began to sink!

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' feet and worshiped Him. These fishermen had fished for many years, but they had taken so many fish that they were astonished at the power of Jesus. James and John, who were Simon Peter's partners, were also astonished.

Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. From now on you will be fishers of men." He wanted them to preach the gospel to other people and bring them to salvation. When they had brought their ships back to shore, they "forsook all" and followed Jesus.

Jesus wants us to work for Him. What do you think would have happened if Simon had not listened to Jesus and let down his nets? Why, he wouldn't have caught any fish, or course! Jesus wants us to listen to whatever He says for us to do. Then, after we have obeyed Him, He will bless us.

I believe that Jesus wants us to be "fishers of men," too, don't you? If we tell other people about God, and the miracles that He performed, and how that He died for all people, then maybe they will want to be saved, too. Let's be "fishers of men" and do all that we can for Him.

Do you know the song, "I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men. I will make you fishers of men, if you follow me. . . ." If so, maybe you could teach it to the other children and sing it in Sunday School!

—Aunt Grace

Lesson 9, March 3, 1985

## THE DRAUGHT OF FISHES

Luke 5:1 And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,

2 And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.

7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that

they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken:

10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

11 And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

**Memory Verse:** Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. *Psa. 24:10.*

### Questions:

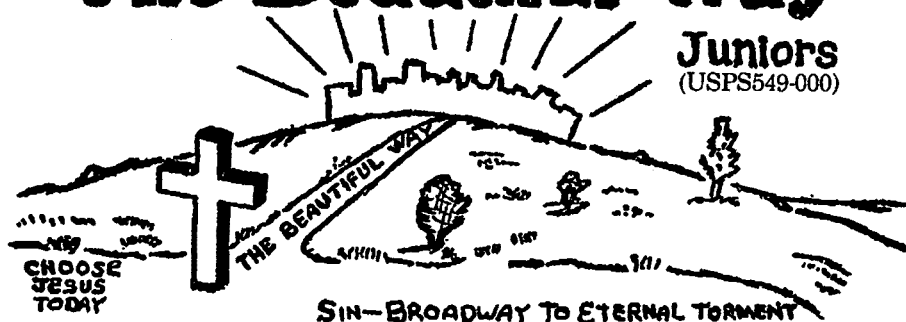
1. Why did Jesus want to borrow the ship?
2. Whose ship was it?
3. What did Jesus tell Simon Peter to do?
4. What did Simon tell Him?
5. What happened when he did what Jesus told him to?
6. Why did he call out to his partners?
7. What were their names?
8. What happened to the ships after all the fish were in them?
9. What did Jesus tell the disciples after they got back to shore?
10. What are "fishers of men"?
11. Are we to be fishers of men? How?

**Bible Search:** Whose rod burst into blossoms of flowers? *Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? Luke 2:49.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 10

Mar. 10

## Around Old Bethany

(Continued From Last Lesson)

"But," said Bro. Monteith, "the Church was not to remain glorious. Sadly, there came an apostasy foretold by the apostles. Peter foretold it (2 Peter 2:1, 2). Paul foretold it (2 Thess. 2:3, 4). And notice how far short some of the seven churches of Asia were before John's death (Rev. 2 and 3). *Marsh's Church History* says: 'Almost proportionate with the extension of Christianity was the decrease in the church of vital piety. A philosophizing spirit among the higher, and a wild monkish superstition among the lower orders, fast took the place in the third century of the faith and humility of the first Christians. Many of the clergy became very corrupt, and excessively ambitious. In consequence of this, there was an awful deflection of Christianity.' *Milner's Church History* says: 'And if the faith of Christ was so much declined (and its decayed state ought to be dated from the year 270), we need not wonder that such scenes as Eusebius hints at without any circumstantial details took place in the Christian world.'

When Constantine made Christianity the religion of Rome the apostasizing

processes were greatly accelerated. The constitution of the Church was patterned after that of the civil government. The Holy Spirit had to retire from the active government of the Church because forms and legality had taken place. The Word of God ceased to have authority, its place being taken by laws and decrees of the councils. The clergy there was a long line of graduations made in the ministry, some of these offices given much more authority than others."

"Is that the way the papacy was formed?" asked Robert.

"Indeed it was," said the preacher. "The chief minister of large cities obtained control of the ministry of that city and surrounding towns. These chief ministers were called diocesans. Ministers in still more prominent places came to have a still wider authority and were called metropolitans; those over large districts were called patriarchs, and so the grasping for supremacy went on. When the Mohammedan conquest had reduced the importance of the other patriarchates, the conflict for supremacy lay between the Patriarch of Rome and the Patriarch of Constantinople. At last the Patriarch of Rome gained the

greater prestige and authority and was called pope, and became supreme head of the Western, or Roman Catholic church.

The great apostasy lasted twelve hundred and sixty years, or until A.D. 1530. This time was foretold in Rev. 12:6; 14:17, where the woman under which figure the Church is presented, fled into the wilderness for 1260 days or 'a time, and times, and half a time,' and in chapter 13:1-10, the beast, under which figure Roman Catholicism is represented, had power to continue 'forty and two months,' (forty-two months) or 1260 days, which, taking the usual Biblical method of interpreting prophetic time (see Dan. 4:25; Num. 14:34; and Ezek. 4:6) means 1260 years.

"The Roman Catholic supremacy was broken by the sixteenth-century Reformation. The Augsburg Confession of Faith, prepared by Melancthon and Luther, was formed in A.D. 1530. This was the first Protestant creed.

"Then followed the great day of Protestantism when creeds and denominations sprang up in every direction and divided, as it was foretold in Ezek. 34:11-25. The true Church of Jesus Christ was lost sight of. It was spoken of as the invisible Church, while the denominations were the visible churches. Men joined churches because they thought it was the right thing to do.

"About the year 1880, or 350 years after the Augsburg Confession, A.D. 1530, a deep conviction seized a number of earnest, sanctified people that the denominational system was wrong, utterly unscriptural. They began to preach a pure Bible Church of which salvation alone makes men members.

"When these prophets began to teach the unity of God's people thousands saw the wrong of remaining in denominations; so they came out. In fact, Bro. Davis, God's sheep would naturally stay together if they were not induced to separate. The denominations have

good Christians in them, but there are many members who do not have an experimental knowledge of grace and these have led many churches into worldliness and formality."

"I see it," said Robert. "The Church was hidden down through the Catholic and Protestant ages and is just now again coming out and standing aloof and clear for God and her blessed founder, Jesus Christ. Oh, praise God! It is all so plain now. Thank God."

On the third night of the meeting a mob formed to frighten the minister out of town and to destroy the meeting. Old Peter Newby helped organize it. The ammunition consisted of a vast assortment of ancient eggs, also stones, brickbats, and a few clubs and sticks. The mob stormed the house about the time of the close of a powerful sermon on "A Better Testament." Windows crashed, portions of eggs bespattered many, several persons were struck by missiles, and a great hubbub was created. The evangelist was the quietest person in the house, though his clothing bore mute evidence that the egg-brigade had singled him out as their target.

The mob did not come into the house; so after a few temporary adjustments an altar call was given and seven came to the altar, among whom were old Mr. Stephenson and Charley Moss.

On the next day rumors flew thick and fast. The wildest stories were told. Some heard that the evangelist was killed, and great excitement stirred the whole community. That night some were too much afraid to go, others went out of sheer curiosity, while one partisan of the evangelist formed a band of men in favor of him, and they sent word both to the evangelist and to the mob leader that they would be on hand that night to protect the preacher. Needless to say everything was perfectly quiet and the meeting closed without further disturbance.

The last night Evangelist Monteith preached on "The Judgment Day," and he pictured the doom of sinners until the stillness of death pervaded the room. Great conviction rested upon the people. At the altar call several went forward and found glorious peace at the foot of the cross.

The last good-bye's were said with eyes brimming with tears.

"I shall see you again, God willing," said the evangelist, and the meeting closed.

### THE BABEL OF TONGUES

It is not every town that can boast of such a religious commotion as Bethany had during the next three weeks. Rumors of a strange people floated in from Picketon and Shenandoah, rumors of a strange doctrine, a new religion, a really strenuous religion that had left the old conventional churches high and dry in their formality. The members of the band who were holding the meeting could speak in "tongues," "unknown tongues" at that. And the demonstrations were wonderful. Then the news came that they were coming to Bethany.

They came. There was a band of six—two ministers, their wives, and two helpers. They rented the empty store building owned by Mayor Hempstead and began. The scenes enacted at the meeting were well-nigh indescribable. Robert Davis attended one night, two weeks after the meeting had begun, and he said to Mary when he got home:

"Mary, I never saw such demonstrations in all my life before. Would you believe it if I should tell you that I stood in front of the front pew of the seats about ten feet from the platform and that I could not hear a word that those on the platform were singing? It is a fact."

"Why did they make so much noise?" asked Mary.

"I do not know," replied Robert. "They seemed very much in earnest. Let me

tell you something more. I saw young women jiggle and jerk all over until their hair was all thrown down, and their clothing disarranged. Two or three men were running about on the platform as if they were mad, others danced more gracefully. One or two were bel-lowing. There were noises that were in-describable: screeches, howls, yells, and several gibbering syllables that no one understood. Some were shaking all over, some were lying prone and stiff, some were falling down into various attitudes. Why, Mary, it was simply awful. You would never dream of sane people doing such things."

*(To Be Continued)*

Dear Boys and Girls:

Jesus was up in a mountain with His disciples. The crowds even followed Him there, and when He saw them coming, He said, "Where can we buy bread so that these people can eat?" Jesus said this to see what Philip would say, for He knew what He was going to do; He just wanted to test Phillip's faith in Him.

Philip said, "Two hundred penny-worth of bread isn't even enough for this big a crowd! There wouldn't even be enough if each one only took a little!"

One of the other disciples, named Andrew (who was Simon Peter's brother), said, "Here's a boy who has five small loaves of bread and two fish, but what's that compared to all these people?"

Jesus said, "Have all the people sit down." Jesus then took the five pieces of bread, gave thanks, and started giving bread to His disciples. The disciples then gave the bread to those who were sitting. He did the same thing with the fish, and the disciples gave them out, too.

Jesus performed a miracle. There was enough food for all those men and af-ter all were filled, Jesus told His dis-

ciples, "Gather up all that is left over." When the disciples did so, they had filled twelve baskets with the left-over food!

Jesus cares about us. He wants us to have enough food to eat. Here he fed five thousand men (not counting the women and children!) out of five pieces of bread and two small fish. The food just multiplied, I guess, for there was plenty left over.

After He had performed this miracle, there were some who said, "This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world." The people had Scriptures which had prophesied that Jesus would come into the world, and this miracle made some of them believe in God. They believed that He was the Son of God and that the Lord had sent Him.

—Aunt Grace

#### Lesson 10, March 10, 1985

### JESUS FEEDS 5,000 PEOPLE

John 6:3 And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.

4 And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.

5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,

9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

Matt. 14:21 And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

**Memory Verse:** He shall feed his flock like a shepherd. . . . Isa. 40:11a.

#### Questions:

1. Where were Jesus and His disciples?
2. What did Jesus ask Philip?
3. Why did He ask Philip this?
4. What did Philip say?
5. Who was Andrew?
6. What did he say?
7. What did the small boy have?
8. What did Jesus do with the food?
9. How many men were fed?
10. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do with the leftovers?
11. How many full baskets did the disciples gather up?

**Bible Search:** Who told Jesus to turn the stones into bread? *Answer next week.*

*Answer to last week:* Aaron's rod. Num. 17:8.



# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb. Mar., 1985

Part 11

Mar. 17

## Around Old Bethany

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Next morning Kate Newby came over. She came in dancing, and talking in the "unknown tongue."

"Oh, I have got it, I have got it," she exclaimed.

"You have got what?" asked Robert.

"I have got the Holy Ghost; I have the 'tongues,' hallelujah!" shouted Kate.

"What has it done for you?" asked Mary.

"Oh, I have got it, I have got it!" was all the reply Kate would make.

"Did you make a complete consecration to God? Did you seek Him for the cleansing power? Were you brought near to Him? Was your heart brought very humble and yielding to God? Tell me how you prayed and what your faith took in," said Robert.

"I have got it, I have got it," was all Kate could say about her new experience. She seemed to be very happy, yet she looked as if she were in tremendous strain and lines were drawn in her face which denoted care and anxiety.

"My dear, did you come to the Lord for more of His grace?" asked Mary. "If so, we have a sure promise, but what is this 'tongues' that you have received?"

"That is proof that I have the Holy Ghost," said Kate. "Don't you know that the apostles spoke in tongues?" But Kate did not know the theology of the new religion very well.

Robert Davis was determined to know the theological basis of the new outburst, if it had any; so he went to see the ministers and asked them for their doctrinal belief.

"Very well, sir, sit down," replied one of the ministers.

"The first Scripture text is a prediction by Christ (Mark 16:17): 'They shall speak with new tongues.' The second is where the prophecy was fulfilled (Acts 2:4): 'And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.' Next in Acts 10:46: 'For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.'

"Now the doctrine is this: everybody must speak in tongues as the evidence of having received the Holy Spirit. This is the evidence. Do you have the Holy Ghost? If so, then you have spoken in tongues."

"But," said Robert, "why should one manifestation of the Spirit be any more of a witness than another manifestation?"

"Oh, you have to get the 'tongues,' " replied the preacher. "Come tonight and seek the Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!"

But Robert noticed a peculiar accent to this "hallelujah," and also that every one present seemed to be moved by one dominating, overwhelming spirit of power. Among these people there seemed to be more seeking for something to exhilarate them than seeking the face of God for more grace and love. There was an amazing brazenness about those who had the "tongues," an air of superiority, a sort of spiritual pride that disgusted him. When he attempted to reason with them, he found them unreasonably impervious to argument or logic. He finally concluded that the doctrine was based on a false claim, a misconception of the Scripture.

"No wonder," he said to Mary when he got home, "that these people have gone far beyond the line of reasonableness, when one considers that law of physics which says that the reaction goes about as far as the action. The truth is, Mary, many churches have become so formal and dead that the cry of mankind is for life, freedom, spiritual power, spiritual joy, spiritual victory. No wonder the pendulum has swung over to the other extreme. The right place is in the middle, between these two extremes. I believe we should go over and see Kate Newby."

Kate Newby had yielded herself fully to the new religious idea. Kate was emotional. When a girl she was easily mesmerized and always took everything that was going, diseases and all. However, she was a good woman, and true, and conscientious. During the week after she got her new experience she had dreams and visions, spoke in tongues, read the Bible, and shouted at every meeting, danced, and became a willing worker.

Along toward the end of the week she began to feel depressed. A stray thought or two forced its way into her excited

brain as to the propriety of some of the demonstrations going on. There were some extremes which her soul could not approve. She began to pray earnestly for divine guidance.

Kate was somewhat in this frame of mind when Robert and Mary Davis went over to visit her. At once she asked Robert what he thought of the "tongues."

"Kate," answered Robert, "if the Bible says that speaking in a tongue is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit it is plain that all should have that evidence. But listen, Kate, are you ready to believe that for all these years, yes, for centuries back, God's children have not had the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Can you believe that D. L. Moody and John Wesley and George Whitefield and men like them did not have the Spirit?"

"Let us note, Kate," he continued, "that the Bible nowhere says or intimates that speaking in tongues is the essential evidence of the reception of the Holy Spirit. Speaking in tongues is a gift of the Spirit. Paul asks, 'Do all speak with tongues?' (1 Cor. 12:30). The inference is plain that he did not think they did. These gifts are distributed to advantage, being given to every man as God wills (1 Cor. 12:4-11). The idea that speaking in tongues is the essential evidence of the reception of the Holy Spirit is chiefly responsible for the fanatical extremism that these folks exhibit. Why, Kate Newby, you know that this is not New Testament Christianity, this wild, riotous, noisy thing! It cannot be.

"You see, when one decides that he must speak in tongues as the evidence of the Holy Spirit's baptism, he becomes so eager to do so that he often receives a mental or spiritual deception which he considers the real evidence of the Holy Spirit baptism."

"I am beginning to see the deception of it," said Kate. "Yesterday, I believe the good Spirit of God was talking to

me. I felt that something was wrong. While I professed to be very happy, still there was a feeling that I was not right after all. But I thrust the thought aside as not coming from God and held on. But, honestly, I am not happy. I did not consecrate. I just fell in with the spirit of the meeting and got the 'tongues' in a few moments. I doubt if God had any connection with it at all."

The next day the town marshall was called to the home of Mrs. Jane Smith. She had embraced the new religion and was losing her mind. The new teaching had so upset her that her weak mind could not stand the strain. She was taken to the asylum, where she remains to this day.

When Kate Newby heard of this she became more convinced that there was something wrong with the theory and she thoroughly renounced it.

The "tongues" meeting left Bethany in the worst spiritual condition that the town had ever been in. Families were torn apart, many persons became skeptics, and there were debates, and arguments, and violent clashes almost daily.

## A MODEL CHURCH ESTABLISHED

Jesus Christ brought the grandest conception of human brotherhood that the world has ever heard. He intended to create a perfect society, and to establish principles of social justice in the earth. He planned that sin, with its accompanying maladjustments, should be destroyed and that man should live in harmony with man and with the infinite Creator. Nothing less than the transformation of society was His goal. His plan of rejuvenation was based on the truth that all men are of one blood, created by one God, whose children they all are by virtue of that creation. All should have equal claims upon His mercy, goodness, and love, and upon

the material blessings which the earth affords. Divisions into rank, classes, and strata are not the will of God. Jesus put all on one common level when He invited all to come unto Him and rest, when He said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

*(To Be Continued)*

### Dear Boys and Girls:

As we have said before, Jesus performed many miracles while He was on earth. In Matthew 8, we have found where He came to this certain place called Gergesenes. There He and His disciples met two men who were possessed with devils. They came out of the tombs and were very fierce and wicked. The people who lived around that area were all afraid to pass by that place, because no one knew what these men would do. Everyone was afraid of them.

Anyway, they came out and saw Jesus. They recognized Him as the Son of God, and cried out, saying, "What have we to do with you, Jesus? We know you are the Son of God, and are you come to torment us before the time?" They knew that at the end of the world on the Judgment Day, they would be punished and they were wondering if Jesus was going to punish them before then.

From where they were standing, the men could see a herd of pigs in the distance. The devils in the men asked Jesus if they had to be cast out, could they go into the pigs? Jesus said, "Go," and all of a sudden it looked like the herd of pigs had gone crazy! The two men were delivered from those awful spirits, but now the herd was possessed with them, and they ran violently down a steep place and just threw themselves in the sea! They all drowned, of course.

The people who had taken care of the pigs and the field around them saw what had happened, and they went into the city and told everything about the

devils being cast out. They told about the fact that the two men whom everyone had been afraid of, had now been healed and delivered from these devils.

Soon everyone knew and they came to meet Jesus and were afraid of Him. They asked Him if He would go away from there. Jesus did so, and went back to His own city. —Aunt Grace

## Lesson 11, March 17, 1985

### DEVILS CAST OUT

Matt. 8:16 When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.

18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side.

23 And when he was entered into a ship, the disciples followed him.

28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding.

31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

32 And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.

33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that would depart of their coasts.

9:1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

**Memory Verse:** How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38.

### Questions:

1. Had Jesus cast out devils before this?
2. Where did Jesus and His disciples go when they saw the big crowds?
3. Who met Jesus on the other shore?
4. What was the matter with these two men?
5. Why was everyone afraid of them?
6. What did they say to Jesus when they saw Him?
7. Where did the devils want to go when Jesus cast them out of the men?
8. What happened to the pigs?
9. Who saw what Jesus had done?
10. What did they do after they saw the pigs drown?
11. Why did the people of the city ask Jesus to leave?

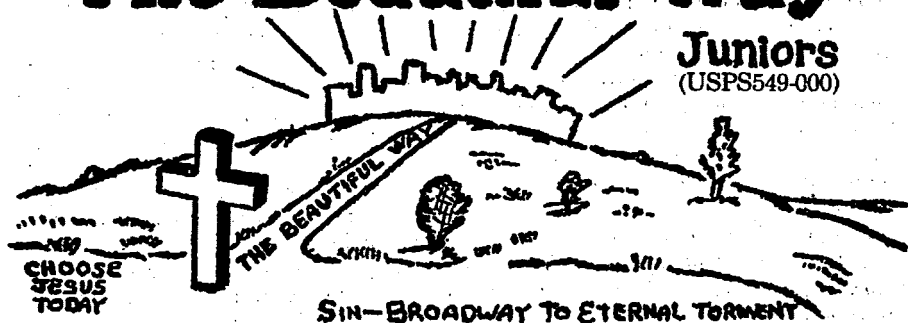
**Bible Search:** Who was called the friend of publicans and sinners? Answer next week.

Last week's answer: The devil. Matt. 4:3.

# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 12

Mar. 24

## Around Old Bethany

(Continued From Last Lesson)



This work of reforming society goes on like yeast working in dough, particle by particle, a little at a time, but at an accelerating rate. At first there were the twelve apostles and a few others. By and by there were more. But always and ever Christ carries on His great work through His people. First one man is enlightened and saved; he then becomes a missionary to enlighten others. They in turn lead others to Jesus until there are enough to establish a congregation of the Church of God at whatever point they live. This local congregation becomes then, a model in miniature of what society would be if all were Christians. Vast responsibilities rest upon a local congregation. They represent God. They show forth the power of God and exhibit to the world the blessed state of the saved. They are responsible to make their society attractive, so that sinners may be convicted of their lack and be persuaded to become members of it. The next several months of our narrative embraces the time when God raised up a Church, a society of the saved, in Bethany.

One year after the "tongues" revival, Evangelist Monteith began the second revival of the Church of God in Bethany. He was accompanied by three helpers. Robert and Mary were sanctified wholly. So also were Jake and Kate Newby, old Mr. Stephenson and Charley Moss. Thirty-five were converted, and twelve besides the ones named were sanctified. Mrs. Thomas Jones was healed of tuberculosis and Dr. Horton, who had been her physician for three years, met her one day and was much surprised at her appearance.

"Why, Mrs. Jones, whatever has happened to you?" he said. "You look so well."

"Hadden't you heard about my healing, Doctor?" she replied pleasantly. "At the meeting held by Bro. Monteith recently, the Lord touched my body with His healing power and I do not cough any more, the fever is gone, and I am gaining two pounds a week."

"My, if you folks keep on I will starve to death practicing medicine," said the doctor.

"Probably we should not spend money for drugs, Doctor, but there will still be things you can do for us," said Mrs. Jones. "We are still under physical laws

and your knowledge will be of great help to us in keeping well."

In the advertising matter which Robert Davis published at the beginning of the second revival he publicly repudiated Mormonism, Russell's "No-hellism," Adventism, and announced that the meeting was under the auspices of the Church of God. The meeting itself was so sane, yet so spiritual, that it commended itself to everyone who attended.

On Sunday, the last day of the meeting, the evangelist preached on "The Church; the House of God," and in the afternoon he preached on "The Church, Its Divine Ordinances," after which thirty-nine were baptized in the river which flowed close by. The minister stood on the banks and said:

"We have met here this beautiful afternoon, friends, to administer the ordinance of baptism. Jesus commanded His ministers in Matt. 28:19 and 20—'Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world: Amen.'"

"Baptism does not save a sinner, but it is the answer of a good conscience, as Pet. 3:21, says. Baptism represents our death to sin and our resurrection to righteousness. As Paul, the great apostle says: 'Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.' The whole idea of baptism is beautifully pictured in Rom. 6:3, 4: 'Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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.'"

"Once these dear ones were dead in sins, but through repentance and faith they now are saved. They are, therefore, fit subjects for baptism."

It was a very solemn occasion. A holy awe covered the crowd, a holy atmosphere was prevalent among the people. One by one the minister led the candidates down into the typical grave of water and when they arose out of the water there were praises and thanks given unto Him who had loved them and washed them from sin in His own blood. So affecting was this scene that three persons asked for prayer that they might be saved.

At 6:00 p. m., the ordinances of foot-washing and the Lord's Supper were observed. When the congregation was assembled, the minister said:

"Jesus, on the night of His betrayal, ate the last Passover supper in the upper room with His disciples. Before this supper was ended He took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, and said: 'If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet: ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done unto you . . . If you now these things, happy are ye if ye do them' (John 13:14, 15, 17). We shall follow Jesus in this ordinance. It symbolizes true Christian humility and service one to another. It symbolizes one of the most tender relationships one person can hold with another, that of mutual helpfulness in little things. A very deep lesson it teaches, one that has not been very well learned by Christians yet."

Then they separated, the men going to one place, the women to another, and participated in the blessed ordinance.

Afterward, they assembled for the Lord's Supper in the remembrance of Christ's death for them, and received a blessing for their participation.

*(To Be Continued)*

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Heb. 2:1.

## Do You Measure Up?



"School days, school days, good old Golden Rule days. . ."

You may not major in mathematics, but you should know the formula for the Golden Rule:

What's wrong with stating it this way: "Do unto others as others do unto you"?

The answer to that one is easy. As a rule, it doesn't measure the full twelve inches, and it isn't pure gold.

Do you like being ignored, ridiculed, talked about, or insulted? Put yourself in the place of:

Pete, who just moved into town and has no friends at Junior High.

Marilyn, who doesn't dress as well as some of the students, and who never gets an invitation to birthday parties.

Jack, who enjoys studying and asks questions in class because he wants to learn.

Connie, who could use some help with her algebra problems.

Bart, who sits by himself every day in the lunchroom.

Jesus said, "As ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also to them likewise."

Don't ever leave the Golden Rule at church, or at home, where you first received it. It was made to be used at school, too. Get it out and dust it off.

You say, "But I'm just one. What can one do?"

One can be an example to others to show what it means to be a Christian.

Think of what a pleasant place your school would be, if every one used the Golden Rule, including you.

—Selected

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lesson today, Jesus and His disciples were passing by a certain place when they saw a blind man who had been blind ever since he was born. Jesus' disciples asked Him who had sinned for this man to be born blind. Jesus answered, "This man didn't sin, and neither did his parents. This blindness is so that God can be glorified." Then He spit on the ground, and made a little lump of clay. He put the clay on the eyes of the blind man, and told him to go and wash in a certain pool named "Siloam." The man did so, and came back seeing!

The neighbors around there who had seen this man and knew that he had been blind, were puzzled: "Isn't this the man who was blind and used to beg?" they asked themselves. Some said, "I'm sure it is," but others said, "No, it's just someone who looks like him."

Finally they came over to him and asked him. He said, "I'm the same one who was blind." Then they asked him how he was able to see and he said, "A man called Jesus told me to go to the pool of Siloam after He applied clay to my eyes. When I did, I was healed!"

They asked him, "What do you think of the man who could do this for you?"

He said, "I believe that He is a prophet. We don't know where He came from,

but we do know that I was blind, and now I see. Ever since the world was created, we haven't heard of a man who was born blind and then healed. If this man were not of God, He couldn't do anything. He must be of God."

Later, Jesus came to the blind man and asked him if he believed in the Son of God. The man didn't know who the Son of God was, but he said, "Who is He, so that I can believe?" Jesus told him who He was, and the man then worshiped and was grateful to Jesus for opening his eyes. God's miracles are wonderful!

—Aunt Grace

## Lesson 12, March 24, 1985

### A BLIND MAN HEALED

John 9:1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet.

30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes.

32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind.

33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.

**Memory Verse:** The Lord openeth the eyes of the blind. . . . Ps. 146:8a.

### Questions:

1. Who did Jesus and the disciples see as they were passing by?
2. What did the disciples ask Jesus about the blind man?
3. What was Jesus' answer?
4. What did He do to the blind man?
5. What did He tell the blind man to do after He put the clay on his eyes?
6. What happened when the man did what Jesus told him to do?
7. What did the neighbors say to the man?
8. Who did he think Jesus was?
9. Later, what did Jesus say to him?
10. Did the man believe that Jesus was the Son of God?

**Bible Search:** Who is the true vine?  
*Answer next week.*

*Last week's answer:* Jesus. Matthew 11:19.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1985

Part 13

Mar. 31

## Around Old Bethany

(Continued From Last Lesson)

The effects of this meeting on the people of the town were profound. Some wondered, some scoffed, some were deeply convicted, but many were stirred to the point of discussion and earnest Bible-searching to see if these things were so. Mr. Johnson, the bookstore man, sold more Bibles the next month after the revival than he had in the whole previous year.

The congregation raised up began at once to lay plans for a suitable church-building. A lot was donated by one of the new converts, and many volunteered their services on the new building.

The zeal of the Church led them to hold meetings in the neighborhood surroundings, one of which was held in the neighborhood of the Fairmount School, where the debates had taken place. Peter Newby had spent considerable time in Bible study since those debates, but what his conclusions were, nobody knew. One Sunday the church announced an all-day meeting and basket dinner in a grove near Peter's house. There were many present, but one person, whose eye glistened with the fire of energy, was conspicuous.

"Why, there is old Peter Newby," said Mary to Robert, and they ran over and greeted him cordially.

The evening was given over to a testimony and experience meeting. Many testified to full salvation. It was to the surprise of Robert and Mary Davis, as well as the others, when Peter Newby arose and said:

"Friends, let me tell you something," and he looked around in that same quizzical way and poised his head as he used to do. "I am convinced." And he stopped again. Everybody listened most attentively. "I fought Bob Davis over there ever since he came into this neighborhood. I fought holiness. I fought divine healing. I fought the Church of God. I really thought, friends, that the Bible said, 'He that saith he liveth and sinneth not is a liar and the truth is not in him.' But I never found it." And the old man stopped again.

"I have watched this Church of God come up in this neighborhood, and I must confess it has done more for this community than anything that has ever happened to it since I have been here. It has lifted up several of my neighbors out of sin. It has brought peace to many homes.

"I am sorry that I fought this work. God forgive me. I was wrong and I was stubborn. But I know now that if a man is a Christian he will not commit sin." It was almost overwhelming to Robert and Mary Davis. Tears of joy flowed down their faces. They ran over to old Peter, grasped his arm, and said, "God bless you, Bro. Newby, we knew you were honest at heart."

That day Jake Newby recovered the confidence he used to have in his father.

These were the beginnings of the Church at Bethany, the Church of God. A church-house was then built and the Church was organized by the Holy Spirit into a working body of saints. Robert Davis soon afterward felt the inspiration to teach and exhort and he was much used in this way. By and by he preached occasionally until his gifts were recognized by the Church by the laying on of the hands of the ministry.

There was a true catholicity of spirit in this congregation which caused them to make all Christians feel at home there. They maintained unity by keeping close to God. Their Sunday School soon was the largest in the town. Three missionaries went from it to foreign, heathen lands, and colporteurs carried the literature of the Church into every home in the town. The reputation of the Church spread far and wide. It became noted for the honesty and humility of its members. The business men of the town had the utmost confidence in the Church. It became the greatest power for righteousness in the town, and everyone came to look upon it as the living exponent of the best and highest in civic life and in social uplift as well as in religion. Zion became a praise in the earth, as the prophet had said.

The events narrated occurred many years ago. Last summer there was a reunion of the Davis family in the old home at Bethany. One son had become

a minister in the Church, the other was the editor of the local newspaper. One daughter was home on a furlough from China, while the other was married to a Christian brother of the town. Robert Davis, in the meantime, had preached the whole gospel. He had been instrumental in raising up several congregations.

"Dad, what is the most interesting experience you ever had in your life?" asked Marie one day.

"The most important experience of my life occurred right here, my girl, when Janet was a baby," he replied. "Here is where your mother and I first became seekers. Here I debated for the truth before I fully understood it, but I felt it was essential to stand up for what I knew was truth. Here your mother was healed when life seemed almost gone and the last ray of hope had died in the gathering darkness. Here I first learned of the Church of God. Here that good religious paper first came to my notice, bringing rays of light to my mind and soul.

"Those were the beginnings, humble ones indeed, but they were the beginnings of my life of service. My days are about over. My work is about done. My eyes are dim, and my strength is failing. My race will soon be over. I have seen the Church in Bethany grow into the place of influence it now has, from the very humblest beginnings. I have seen thousands flee to the cross of Jesus for mercy and pardon, and I have heard the shouts of hundreds that have been sanctified wholly. And I have seen many, many sick persons healed.

"My children, be true to God, be true to the cause of truth. Carry these precious truths to the next generation, unadulterated, as pure as they come from the Bible. Invest your all in God's cause; you will receive a hundredfold now and hereafter.

"May you ever champion the cause of truth which Jesus Christ came to establish. The Church He built shall stand till the mighty Gabriel declares that time shall be no longer, till the Judgment Day comes, yea, and afterward she shall live in the heaven of heavens eternally with her founder and Lord.

"Press on, children, all heaven watches the race you run. Do not become negligent, nor worldly, nor lovers of luxury, nor of ease. Live as good soldiers of Jesus Christ and be crowned victors and conquerors at last."

A holy awe filled the room as this aged saint gave them his benediction. And they said:

"By the grace of God, we will, Father."

**THE END**

### THE CHURCH BELL

It was Sunday morning. The church bell was ringing.

Jerry heard the bell. He got up slowly. He stretched and said, "It is Sunday. Good! Now I will have time to do all the things I have been wanting to do. I will finish reading my book, and then I can work on my model airplane."

Joe heard the bell. He quickly got out of bed and started dressing. He said, "It is Sunday! Good! Now I can go to the park to play ball with the boys. I will dress fast, and eat my breakfast, and then I can go."

Tom heard the bell. He turned over in his bed and pulled the covers up over his head. He said, "It is Sunday! Good! There is no school today. Now I can get some extra sleep."

Jim heard the bell. He got out of bed and started dressing. He said, "It is Sunday! Good! I am going to Sunday School and church. There I will see my friends and my Sunday School teacher, and my pastor. There I will sing the songs I love so much. There I will hear God's Word."

Jim finished dressing. He hurried downstairs and ate his breakfast. Then, with his Bible under his arm, he started to go to church. He was the happiest little boy in town! —Sel.

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Jesus went with His disciples into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. As they were there, a Canaanite woman saw Him, and cried out, "Oh, Lord, son of David, please have mercy. My daughter is possessed with a devil." Jesus didn't answer her, and His disciples said, "Send her away, for she is bothering us."

"Jesus said, 'I was sent to the lost sheep of Israel.' The woman caught up with them and fell down to bow before Jesus. She said again, 'Lord, help me.'"

Jesus said to her, "But it's not proper to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs." He meant that He had come to the Jewish nation, and that she was a Canaanite. He was testing her faith.

The woman answered Jesus by saying, "That's true, Lord, but isn't it possible for the dogs to eat the crumbs that fall from the table?" She acknowledged that she was not of the Jewish nation, but asked Him if He would still heal her child.

Jesus then said, "You have a lot of faith. Your daughter will be healed as you asked." When the woman arrived home, she found that her daughter had been healed from the very time that Jesus had said she would be! How happy she must have been!

We can learn an important lesson from this. When we come to Jesus, we should believe in Him and know that He can do miracles. This woman didn't stop after the first time when Jesus ignored her. She kept right on calling. Sometimes it seems that we don't get an answer right away from the Lord, but we should keep on asking like this woman did.

Even the disciples asked the Lord Jesus to tell her to go away, but she kept on following Jesus, and asking her favor. When things are going wrong all around us, and we think that maybe no one else cares, just keep on following Jesus. Let's always follow the Lord—He loves His children and will answer by and by.

—Aunt Grace

Lesson 13, March 31, 1985

## A WOMAN'S DAUGHTER HEALED

Mark 7:24 And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it; but he could not be hid.

Matt. 15:22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away, for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Mark 7:29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

Memory Verse: And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. Luke 7:23.

### Questions:

1. Where did Jesus and His disciples go?
2. Who called out to them, and why?
3. Why didn't Jesus answer the woman the first time?
4. What did the disciples say to Jesus?
5. What did Jesus tell the disciples?
6. What did Jesus tell the woman at first?
7. What was her answer?
8. What did Jesus say then?
9. What important lessons should we learn from this woman?

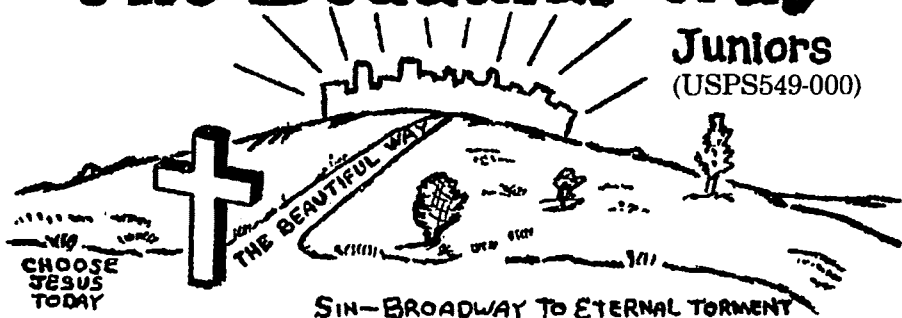
### Bible Search:

Last week's answer: Jesus Christ. John 15:1.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 1

April 7

## CHANGE IN PAPER



Dear readers: Sis. Dorothy Wilkins who has been editing the *Beautiful Way* paper in the past is unable to do so any longer. For this quarter we have gone back and reprinted some papers from the past that Aunt Marie Miles edited. With the 3rd qtr. of this year Sis. Charlotte Huskey will begin the editorship. Beginning at that time the paper will undergo a change in the format. The paper will be a little bit larger in size. The primary paper will be enlarged from a two to a four page paper, which will allow

for two pages of "busy work". The new paper will have several different colors along with some new regular feature columns. We believe this will make the paper very interesting. The subscription price will go up to \$4.00 per year. The price will be payable per quarter. As always this will include both a primary and a junior paper. (52 papers per year) You will continue to receive the paper until your current subscription runs out, at which time the new price will be in effect for you. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this change.

—Wayne Murphey

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

Gen. 35:18: "She called his name Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin." Ben-oni means "the son of my sorrow." This child was about to occasion the death of his mother, and therefore she gave him this name. She was sorry to

leave her husband, her family, and her friends; and this feeling of sorrow led her to call his name Ben-oni.

"But his father called him Benjamin." Benjamin means, "The son of a right hand." Our right hand is a great comfort and blessing to us. What could

we do without a right hand?

Now, every child that is born into this world will be either a Ben-oni or a Benjamin. There is not much difference between these two names, but there is a great deal of difference between the natures which they represent.

Now, the great question, for us to consider is, what are the marks of a Ben-oni, or of a Benjamin?

We shall mention four things which may always be considered as the marks of a Ben-oni; and the opposite of these, of course, will be the marks of a Benjamin.

### ILL-TEMPER

The first mark of a Ben-oni—"a child of sorrow"—is ill-temper.

There were two little boys in a Southern city whose names were Augustus and Eugene. They were playing top, and had but one between them, which they spun alternately. At first they played very pleasantly, but soon became very angry and began to speak unkindly. Eugene said, "It's my turn to spin the top now."

"No, it's not; it's mine!" said Augustus.

Then they grew very angry about it. Augustus then said to Eugene, "You lie!"

Then Eugene struck him, and Augustus struck him back again. They seized each other in great rage, and in the scuffle, Eugene took a long sharp knife from his pocket and stabbed Augustus, so that he died in a few moments. Augustus lost his life, and Eugene became a murderer, merely to decide whose turn it was to spin a top. There was ill-temper; and what a Ben-oni that ill-temper made him to his parents, and to the family to which he belonged!

(to be continued)

### Eva Grant

Most of you boys and girls have read the book, *Trials and Triumphs of Eva*

Grant. Maybe it would be of interest to you to know that I knew her when I was a teen-ager.

One time she went with us in a Model T Ford car to campmeeting at West Frankfort, Ill. It was a summer day and we had the whole top folded back. At that time the road was just wide enough for one car. Mary, the wife of the couple with whom we went, wanted to drive. She was just learning, so after she took the wheel she started to pull back on the one-way slab of pavement. The tires being small, and she not knowing how to handle the car, turned it over. All four of us got out and set the car up again. We drove on down the road, singing songs and praising God that no one was hurt.

Sis. Eva Grant was a young minister and she preached at this meeting. She was so frail from going through many hard things, that after telling some of her experiences, the people would just flock to the altar.

—Edith Wall

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



### Early Christian Martyrs

Dear Boys and Girls:

I trust that on this Sunday you will remember about the resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. We wanted to finish up our lesson for last quarter and start another series of lessons, on Paul's life, this quarter, but it is very

important to know that Jesus is sitting on the right hand of God today, interceding for us and is not a dead Christ. He did not stay in the tomb as many other leaders have, but arose.

In this quarter we are going to study about the life of the Apostle Paul. We know that in our first record of him in Acts, he was called Saul but after his conversion his name was changed to Paul. Saul and Paul are the same person. Today's lesson brings out his background and what kind of a man he was before he was saved from sin and became a follower of Jesus Christ.

Paul was a decendent of Benjamin, the son of Jacob, who was called Israel. In his youth he was trained in the laws of Moses and prided himself in strictly keeping and defending them. He was a native of Tarsus, in Cilicia. There he learned Greek and he also knew the Hebrew language. At an early time in his life his family moved to Jerusalem. There he was taught by the famous teacher, Gamaliel, who belonged to the school of Hillel, and apparently had great influence in the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was the supreme council of the Jewish people. Paul was a Pharisee by descent and by training, also by conviction. He truly believed that he was supposed to kill those who believed in Jesus Christ and tried to stop the spreading of the gospel. He caused people to be arrested, regardless of age or sex, and had them brought and thrown into prison. He had the Sanhedrin behind him, also the high priest and others in authority. They condoned his bloodthirsty ferocious, murderous spirit. He had an intense devotion to the Law and was sincere in his actions in defending it.

Boys and girls, let us take note that even though Paul was sincere in his evil works, they were wrong. He acknowledged his guilt, as he says in our lesson that even though he did evil he

"obtained mercy." He was obeying his conscience at that time, yet he was wrong. Some boys and girls might say they don't feel bad if they do something that the Bible says is wrong. By this, they think it's all right, but conscience will never be a right guide. If the Bible says a thing is wrong, it is wrong even though you feel it is all right.

One man was very sincere in thinking that he saw a log lying across a creek on a moonlight night. He stepped on it and fell into the water. He found that it was only a shadow of a tree instead of a log. He was sincere in his actions and thoughts, but they were wrong. Boys and girls, guide your life by what God says and you will be ready for heaven. —Aunt Marie

—————○—————  
Lesson 1, April 7, 1985

## PAUL'S BACKGROUND

Acts 22:3 [And Paul said] I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city [Jerusalem] at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

25b 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 centurion 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.

Gal. 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews'

religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

Phil. 3:4b If any man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

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.

Acts 26:9 I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

I Tim. 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

**Memory Verse:** This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. I Timothy 1:15.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Paul born and who taught him the law of Moses?
2. Who reminded those who were going to scourge Paul that he was a

Roman because he was born in Tarsus? (This was after Paul was saved from the mob and asked if he could talk to the crowd from the top of the castle stairs.)

3. What did the centurion do?
4. What did the chief captain ask Paul?
5. Did the centurion have to pay a sum for Paul's freedom?
6. Paul refers to his conduct in writing to the Galatians. What did he say that he did to the Church of God? (Discuss who are in the Church of God.)
7. Did Paul mean that he was a greater persecutor or defended the Mosaic law more than others, when he said he "profited above many my equals in mine own nation"?
8. Would our being willing to die for a wrong religion or wrong ideas, cause us to be ready for heaven? What are we to base our life by to be ready for heaven?
9. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, what tribe of Israel and what sect did he say he belonged to?
10. What did Paul say about his zeal? (Zeal means that which a man loves so earnestly he is careful to see that it is honored, and is grieved when it is dishonored.)
11. Was Paul's zeal wrong and how was it wrong? What is a good zeal?
12. What did Paul tell the council in Acts 23:1 and also in Acts 26:9?
13. In writing to Timothy, what did Paul say he was like before he was put in the ministry?
14. Even though he did wrong in persecuting the Church of God and injuring many, he said he "obtained mercy." Why?

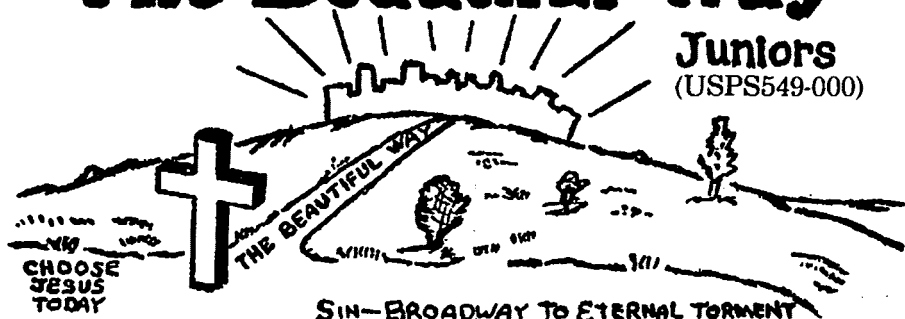
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# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 2

April 14

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

### ILL-TEMPER

(continued from last issue)

There was a rich nobleman, in England, who had a little daughter, named Anne. They were very fond of her; for she was a fine little creature, very lively, merry, affectionate, and exceedingly beautiful. But she had a very ill-temper. When anything vexed her, she would fly into a rage, and turn and strike anyone who provoked her. After every fit of anger she would be ashamed and sorry, and resolve never to do so again. The next time she was provoked it was all forgotten, and she was as angry as ever. When she was between four and five years of age, her mother had a little son—a sweet little tender baby. Anne's nurse, who was thoughtless and wicked, loved to tease her, because she was so easily irritated; and so she told her that her father and mother would not care for her now, because all their love and pleasure would be in this little brother, and they wouldn't notice her. Poor Anne burst into a flood of tears, and cried bitterly, saying, "You are a naughty woman to say so! Mamma will always love me; I

know she will, and I'll go this very moment and ask her." She ran out of the nursery and hastened to her mother's room. The servant called after her:—"Come, miss, you needn't go to your mother's room; she won't see you now." Anne burst open the door, but was instantly caught hold of by a strange woman, she had never seen before. "My dear," said this woman, "you cannot see your mother just now"; and she was going on to tell that it was because she was very sick, and could not be disturbed. But she was too angry to listen; and she screamed and kicked at the woman, who was obliged to take her by force and carry her back to the nursery. When she put her down she gave the servant a charge not to let her go to her mother's room. This added to her rage. The thoughtless, wicked servant, instead of trying to soothe and quiet her, burst out into a laugh, and said, "I told you that, miss. You see your mamma does not love you now." Then the poor child became mad with fury. She seized a smoothing-iron, and darting forward, threw it upon the baby's head, as it lay in the cradle. The child gave one struggle, and breathed no more.

Anne's mother died that night of grief. Anne grew up in the possession of great riches. She had every outward comfort about her, that money could procure; but she was a very unhappy and miserable woman. She was never known to smile. The thought of the terrible consequences of that one outburst of passion pressed upon her like a heavy burden all her days. Ah! what a Ben-oni this girl became! She was a child of sorrow to her parents. Her ill-temper made her so. If you give way to such tempers, my dear young friends, you will certainly be Ben-onies; but if you strive and pray against such feelings and try to be gentle, kind, and pleasant to those around you, then you will be Benjamins—children of the right hand to your parents. See, now, how differently such children will act.

A gentleman was walking on the Battery in the city of New York, one day, and, as he passed a little girl, who was cheerfully rolling her hoop, he said to her, "You are a nice little girl"; to which she replied, patting her little brother on the head, "And Bobbie is a nice little brother, too." Here was a good temper, which would make this dear child "a child of the right hand" to her parents, and cause her to be loved by all who were about her.

A mother who was in the habit of asking her children, before they retired at night, what they had done to make others happy, found her young twin daughters silent.

She spoke tenderly of habits and dispositions founded on the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Still, these bright little faces were bowed in silence. The question was repeated. "I cannot remember anything good all this day, dear Mother," said one of the little girls; "only one of my classmates was happy, because she had gained the head of the class, and I smiled on her, and ran to

kiss her. She said I was good. That is all, dear Mother."

The other spoke still more tenderly: "A little girl who sat with me on the bench at school, lost a little brother; and I saw that, while she studied her lesson, she hid her face in the book and wept. I felt sorry, and laid my face on the same book, and wept with her. Then she looked up, and was comforted, and put her arms around my neck; but I do not know why she said I had done her good."

These were children of good tempers—children whose pleasant dispositions would make them children of the right hand to their parents—real Benjamins indeed.

(to be continued)

## Don't Lose Your Temper

"Say, David, my mother told me that my temper is very valuable," said Joe.

"How does she figure that," wondered David. "I don't know," replied Joe, "But she said that it was so valuable that I should never lose it. She said that if I did I would get in trouble." —W. M.

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



The Stoning of Stephen

A good character is the best tomb-stone; those who will love you and were helped by you will remember you when forget-me-nots are withered. Carve your name on hearts and not on marble.

-----o-----

Dear Boys and Girls:

First, we want to notice in our lesson that Paul is called Saul. He had two names and *Paul* in Latin means "little," thus letting us know that Paul must have been a small child. We will call him Saul until in Acts 13:9, where we read that they changed his name to Paul.

The background of our lesson is a sermon by Stephen to the Sanhedrin. That was, the governing body of the Jews with seventy-one members. Stephen started his sermon with the call of Abraham and ended it with Christ, whom the Jews had killed. This indeed stirred up the Jews and they were ready to kill him for implying that Jesus was the "Just One" who was to come as the Messiah to the Jewish people. Saul was about thirty-five years of age at this time and went back and forth at different times from Tarsus to Jerusalem.

The early church had grown and many were believing upon Jesus. There were about 1500 saints and this angered the Jewish religious leaders. They wanted to stop this growth. They had false witnesses come against Stephen who brought him to trial before the Sanhedrin. Some think that Saul may have been a member of the Sanhedrin at that time but after they dragged Stephen out of the city to stone him, their garments were laid down at the feet of Saul. Boys and girls, there was a seed of truth planted in the heart of Saul by what he saw and witnessed, that bore fruit later.

Let us think about Stephen. Notice that it says he was "full of the Holy Ghost." Boys and girls, we can be

overcomers in the severest times of trouble, if we will keep full of the Holy Ghost. God has power for us to be an overcomer. We notice that Stephen "looked stedfastly into heaven." He looked away from those who hated him and didn't try to dodge the stones, but "looked stedfastly into heaven." He knew from where his help would come. If he had dodged them, it only meant a little longer time of trouble. He knew they were going to kill him. He only thought about God and his need, so "he looked stedfastly into heaven." The heavens opened. What did he see? Oh, the Lord never fails! He saw something wonderful! He saw Jesus standing up looking down at him. We read where Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God, but he could not sit down and watch Stephen being stoned for His sake, but stood up. Oh, how He loved him! Through those opened "heavens," there poured down all the grace, love, forgiveness, forbearance, calmness, peace, etc. that Stephen needed at that time. Stephen was so moved that he knelt down in reverence before Jesus. As the stones fell upon him, he prayed that the Lord would not lay the sin to the charge of those who were stoning him. And then, through those "opened heavens" the spirit of Stephen passed to forever be safe from any trouble, and from his enemies. How precious! We too can be ready to die.

-----o-----

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, April 14, 1985

### SAUL CONSENTING

Acts 7:50 Hath not my hand made all these things?

51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have

slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and

haling men and women committed them to prison.

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

**Memory Verse:** But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Luke 12:5

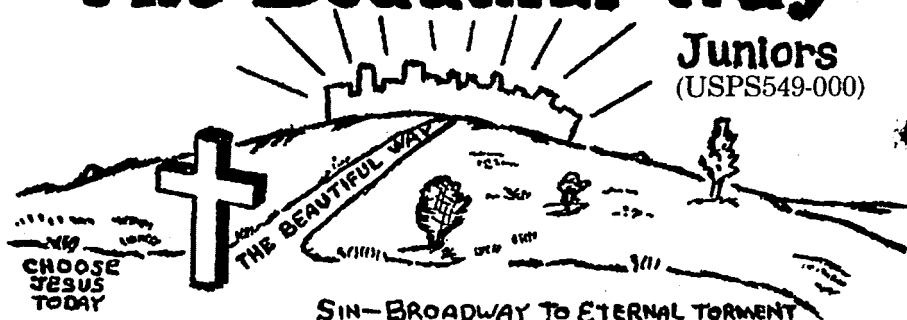
### QUESTIONS:

1. Who made all things in the world?
2. To whom was Stephen talking and how had they resisted the Holy Spirit?
3. Can you think of some of the older prophets who were mistreated for doing right and keeping God's laws?
4. Who was the "Just One" they had murdered?
5. Had the Jews kept the law as it read, or did they keep only the parts they wanted to keep?
6. When the Jewish council or the Sanhedrin heard all that Stephen had said, what did they do?
7. Of what was Stephen full?
8. Where did he look, and what did he see?
9. Where should we look when we are in trouble and what will we receive from those "opened heavens"?
10. Did Stephen tell those who stoned him what he saw?
11. At whose feet were Stephen's garments laid?
12. Did Stephen's death bear fruit?
13. What prayer did Stephen pray as he knelt and the stones hit his body?
14. Was the church scattered through the persecutions?
15. What did Saul continue to do at this time?

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# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 3

April 21

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

### IDLENESS

The second mark of a Ben-oni is idleness.

Idle children love to lie in bed in the morning; they love to do nothing all day, if they can help it, but play.

It is a great trouble to get them to study, to read, or to work. Now, idle children always make idle men; for the habits which children form while they are children will surely remain with them, when they grow up to be men and women.

John Alsop was about fifteen years of age when his father, who had just moved into a new settlement, was clearing land. One day the father and a neighbor were engaged in building a log fence, which was made of trunks of trees that were cleared of the lands. First, they laid the fence one log high, with the ends of each length passing a little way by each other. Notches were cut in the ends, and a block was laid cross-wise, where the ends lapped, and then another tier was laid on the cross-pieces, until the fence was high enough. To roll up the top logs they would lay

long poles, called skids, one end on the top of the logs, and the other on the ground, and roll up the logs on these. But, as the logs were very heavy, they were obliged to stop several times to rest, or to get a new hold; and it was John's business, when they stopped, to put a block under the log, to keep it from rolling back. Having given a hard lift, and tugging with all his might, the father called out, "There, Johnny! put under your block!—quick!" Johnny started nimbly, and snatched up his block, when suddenly the chirp of a little squirrel struck his ear. Instantly, down went his block, and away he ran after the squirrel, leaving his father, and the other man, to hold the log until he came back. He was an idle boy. He had no fondness for work; he was not willing to follow any one object, or pursuit, long enough to accomplish anything. Thirty years after this, a gentleman, who had known him in his youthful days, inquired about him, of one of his neighbors, who related this anecdote, and added, "He has been running after squirrels ever since." He never was steady and persevering in the pursuit of anything. When he was a young man, he never could make up his mind

decidedly what employment to follow. He had no industry; he would try one thing a little while, get tired of it, and then take up another; but followed no business long enough to get well acquainted with it. He has always been hunting the squirrel.

Now, we are to remember, dear children, that God is busy at all times, and almost everything that God has made is busy. Look at the sun; it is always at work, shining and shining and shining from one year's end to the other. In the daytime it is shining in our part of the world, and when it is night to us, it is shining in the opposite part of the world. And so it is with the moon—always shining, in one part of the world or the other. So it is with the sea; its waves are rising, and falling, and rolling, and flowing, continually. So it is with the rivers; they are continually running from the fountains where they spring, on to the ocean. And so it is with the little birds, and little fishes, and the bees, and the ants: none of these are idle.

Idleness always leads to ignorance and poverty and uselessness, dear children, and idle persons never do anything good, to themselves or to others. They never succeed in business; they never get on in life.

A gentleman in England had an estate which was worth about a thousand dollars a year. For awhile he kept his farm in his own hands, but at length, found himself so much in debt that he was obliged to sell one-half of his place to pay up. The rest he let out to a farmer, for several years. Towards the end of that time, the farmer, on coming to pay his rent, asked him whether he would sell his farm. The gentleman was surprised that the farmer should be able to make him an offer for his place. "Pray, tell me," said he, "how it happens that, while I could

not live upon twice as much land, for which I paid no rent, you are regularly paying me five hundred dollars a year for the farm, and able in a few years to purchase it?" "The reason is plain," answered the farmer; "it lies in the difference between 'go' and 'come.' " "I do not understand you," said the gentleman. "I mean," said the farmer, "that you sat still and said, 'Go'; I get up and say, 'Come.' You lie in bed, and enjoy your ease; I rise early in the morning, and attend to my business." In other words, this was an industrious man; there was no love of idleness about him, and this led to his success in life.

(to be continued)

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#### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



The Conversion of Saul

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing."

Psalms 92:12-14.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Saul was still "breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord." He decided that he would go to some foreign cities where some of the scattered disciples had gone. The Jews could not have authority over those who lived in Damascus but the Sanhedrin could control the synagogue in the farthest city. Damascus was about one hundred and fifty miles away. He went on his way with letters, which gave him power to bring "any of this way, . . . men or women, . . . bound unto Jerusalem." His journey, if made on foot, would take about six days. He could not travel on the Sabbath or Saturday because of the Jewish religion. Maybe he had time to think, as he traveled on the dusty road or lay down upon his pallet at night. Surely God caused him to think about Stephen and maybe his angelic face would appear before him. I wonder if he thought about the prayer that Stephen prayed and the solid faith Stephen had in Christ as he died. Surely Stephen's lack of fear and the perfect trust showed Saul that he had something that was not in his own heart. As the stars shown down and the night was still, he may have heard the sounds of suffering men and women whom he had dragged before the council and noted their triumphant death. Questions arose in his mind no doubt, and again and again he wondered about the Christ whom they loved, yet he would brush those thoughts away in his firm belief that he must stop this new

religion which was destroying the Jewish religion. I wonder what the men said who traveled with him? Did they wonder and speak of Jesus, that maybe He could be the coming Messiah?

I wonder if Saul repeated some of his thoughts he expressed in Romans 7th chapter while traveling on that road? In verse 15 he said, "What I hate, that I do." "I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin, which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Verse 23,24.

Suddenly a light came from heaven and Saul fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Saul asked, "Who art thou, Lord?" Jesus answered, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks" of your conscience. That inner guilt, that he had often crowded out of his mind, and tried to crowd out of his life by working hard at defending his religion, at last was brought to his attention by Jesus.

Saul hit the ground a sinner but after his conversation with Jesus, and his soul was bared before the great Judge, he saw himself lost and cut off. He saw himself a sinner and in need of a Saviour. He submitted himself to the Christ and sought forgiveness from his wretched state and when he arose he was a saved man, willing to obey any command from the Lord. He obeyed and went into the city as Jesus told him to do. Obedience brings peace and comfort to the soul.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, April 21, 1985

### SAUL'S CONVERSION

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the

disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

Rom. 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I

myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

**Memory Verse:** The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. Romans 8:16.

### QUESTIONS:

1. How far had the saints scattered after the persecutions in Jerusalem and where did Saul go with letters to bring them to Jerusalem?
2. What did our lesson mean when it said that Saul was bringing in men and women of "this way"?
3. As Saul traveled that 150 miles, which took about six days, what do you think he was thinking about?
4. What happened as he neared Damascus?
5. As he fell to the ground, what did a voice say to him?
6. What did Jesus mean when he asked Saul why he was persecuting Him?
7. When you do wrong, what pricks you?
8. What did Saul ask Jesus?
9. What did Jesus tell him to do?
10. Did Saul arise to obey the Lord, a changed man or did he continue to the city to bring the saints bound to Jerusalem?
11. How did the men who traveled with him react?
12. Could Saul find the way alone to the city of Damascus?
13. How long did he go without eating or drinking?
14. When Saul was in sin could he do the right, or was there a law within him that warred against the law of righteousness?
15. What did he declare that he was?
16. Through whom was he changed?

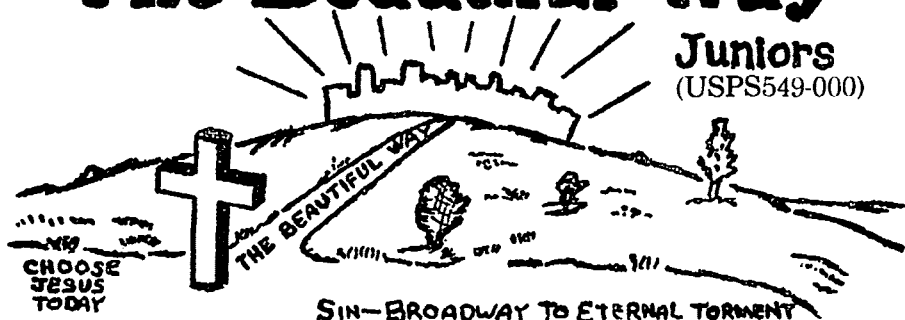
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Juniors

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Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June 1985

Part 4

April 28

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

### IDLENESS

(continued from last issue)

I remember another anecdote, which plainly shows the advantages of industry.

There was once a young man who was commencing life as a clerk. One day his employer said to him, "Now, tomorrow, that cargo of cotton must be got out, and weighed and we must have a regular account of it." He was an industrious young man—a man of great energy. This was the first time he had been intrusted with the superintendence of work like this. He made his arrangements the night before, spoke to the men about their carts and horses, and resolved to begin very early the next day. He instructed the laborers to be there at half-past four o'clock in the morning. They set to work, and the thing was done; and about ten or eleven o'clock the master came in and saw the young man sitting in the counting house, and looked very black at him, supposing his commands had not been executed. "I thought," said he, "you were instructed to get out that cargo this

morning!" "It is all done, sir," said the young man, "and here is the account of it." This one act made that young man's fortune. It fixed his character. It gave his employer a confidence in him that was never shaken. He found him to be a man of industry, a man of promptness, and he very soon found that he was one that could not be spared; he was necessary to the concerns of that establishment and became one of the partners. He was a religious man, and went through a life of great benevolence, and at his death bed was able to leave his children an ample fortune. His industry made him a Benjamin indeed.

Just, as idle boys will grow up to be idle men, so will idle girls grow up to be idle women. They will be of no use to themselves, and of no use to anybody else. But those who form early habits of industry will certainly rise to honor, usefulness, and happiness.

Miss Rachel Cowe was the daughter of a wealthy man, engaged in an extensive business. He lived in Aberdeen, Scotland. But, in that country, the females of many families in the higher ranks of life, as well as those in middling circumstances, were in-

structed in some branch of business suited to their strength and capacity. An excellent custom; for whatever may be our circumstances today, we know not what they may be tomorrow; riches are no sure dependence, for they often "take to themselves wings and fly away."

Rachel Cowe was early put to learn a branch of the millinery business. This she industriously acquired, though she knew not that she should ever need it. After awhile, her father's business began to decline, and at length he failed. He gave up to his creditors every thing but their wearing apparel, and a few books. Both her parents were left with no means of support, in their old age. There was no one now but herself, on whom they could depend. When Rachel saw the decline of her father's business, she obtained his consent to set up her own. She had a small sum of money, and she borrowed a little more, from a friend, to begin with. She began her business, praying that God would prosper it, and keep her from the new temptations to which she would be exposed. She was successful. In a few months she was able to pay what she had borrowed, and to furnish a house for herself. When her father's business completely failed, and her parents were thrown upon the world, destitute of the means of support, she was prepared to receive them into her own house. She supported them by her labors, she nursed them, with the utmost tenderness, in their illness, she attended them in their last sickness, and saw them die in the hope of glory. What a child of comfort was this industrious girl to her parents! This is not all. While they lived, she would listen to no proposals of marriage; but after their death, she became the wife of preacher Milne, and accompanied him on his mission to

China, where she was a great solace and comfort to him, and a helper to him in his labors. Thus, the industrious girl became the industrious woman; and I would have you all, my dear girls, to follow her example.

Yes; idleness is the second mark of a Ben-oni.

(to be continued)

## Correcting A Lie

When Evodna, my little girl, was small I had a teen-age girl taking care of her in my home. She was living with us while she was in high school.

One day I gave Evodna and her some graham crackers. Later when I went into the kitchen I asked what had become of all the crackers. The girl answered me, "Evodna ate all of them."

About forty years later I received a letter from her asking my forgiveness for telling me a lie in saying that Evodna had eaten all the crackers when she, the girl, had eaten them.

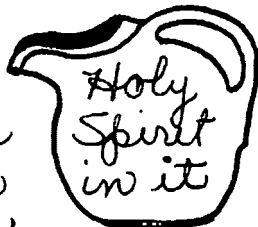
Boys and girls, the Bible says, "All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Rev. 21:8.

Even though time may pass, never forget to repent of all lies you may have told and correct them. The Lord is faithful to bring all things to our minds so we can repent of them when we are in a condition so He can talk to us.

—Edith Wall

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Paul  
was a  
chosen  
vessel



Dear Boys and Girls:

Historians tell us that Damascus was indeed a beautiful place. Some who lived in that city thought that it was the place where the Garden of Eden had been.

God looked down upon the saints in that city and He knew all about their needs. He saw Saul on his way to bring them bound into Jerusalem. The Lord stopped the devil's plan and I am sure that if the saints had not been living very cautiously they would have heard about it sooner. Saul could not see and had been without food and water for three days. God knew that Saul needed someone to pray for him and instruct him in the ways of Christian living. Ananias, a servant of God lived in this city of Damascus and God called to him in a vision. As little Samuel of old, he said, "Behold, I am here, Lord." He was ready to listen. The Lord told Ananias to go to the street called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for Saul of Tarsus. "You will find him there, praying." What a shock this was to Ananias! "Why, this is the man who has done a lot of evil in Jerusalem and he is here with letters of authority from the chief priest to bind all who call upon Thy name and are Christians!" No doubt, Ananias was in hiding at that time and did not even dare go out on the streets. Now the Lord was wanting him to go right down to the house where Saul was. Ananias had to know more about this man. It seemed that at first he didn't understand that the Lord had already told him that Saul was praying, so the Lord told him more. He told Ananias that Saul was a "chosen vessel" and that he would bear Jesus' name before the Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. Then the Lord added, "For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." This made a lot of difference to Ananias.

He no longer was fearful nor timid. He knew that God had spoken and that Saul was a changed man. He bravely went out on the street and went to Judas' house, as he had been directed. There he found Saul. He walked right in and met the man whom all of the Christians had feared. Why be afraid of a man who was praying? He called him "Brother Saul." He knew he was a child of God and his brother in the Lord. He laid hands upon him, prayed, and Saul received his sight. Then we are sure that Ananias preached him a sermon on his need of being baptized and also of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Ananias knew that Saul was to face the Sanhedrin and also other officials. He would need power from God to stand true. Saul was ready to get all that God had for him. The experience of salvation was indeed wonderful. After he was full of the Holy Ghost, and had been baptized, it was all too wonderful to keep. Now we see the persecutor out preaching Christ in the synagogues. He wanted others to know the joy of having salvation. Many of the Jews tried to resist his teaching, but we read that he proved to many that Jesus was truly the Christ, or Messiah, that was to come which had been foretold by the prophets in the Old Bible.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 4, April 28, 1985

### THE PERSECUTOR TURNED PREACHER

Acts 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews

which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

**Memory Verse:** For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. Acts 9:16.

### QUESTIONS:

1. What disciple at Damascus did the Lord appear to in a vision after Saul entered the city blind?
2. Who in the old Bible said, "Here am I," when called of the Lord?
3. What was the name of the street and at whose house did Saul abide?
4. What was Saul doing there besides not eating and drinking?
5. Did the Lord tell Saul that Ananias was coming, would put his hands upon him, and say unto him to receive his sight?
6. What did Ananias first think about going to see Saul and for what did he tell the Lord that Saul had come?
7. What did the Lord tell Ananias about Saul and what his future work would be?
8. If we want to be a "child of the king" what will we have to be willing to do?
9. What did Ananias do after the Lord told him what His plans were for Saul?
10. After a person has been saved from their sins, what else do they need from the Lord?
11. Did Saul wait a long time to be baptized or filled with the Holy Spirit?
12. After Saul ate meat, whom did he visit?
13. Where did he first preach?
14. Were the people amazed in the synagogues and what did he try to prove to them?

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 5

May 5

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

### PRIDE

The third mark of a Ben-oni is pride.

Some children are proud of their clothes. This is very silly indeed; for the butterflies have much more beautiful clothes than we, and yet they are never proud of their dress. Some children are proud of their families. This, also, is very silly, for we have all sprung, at first, from one father. Some children are proud about their houses. This, too, is very silly, for by and by they will all crumble into the dust from which they have been taken, while the grave is the one house to which our bodies must all come to at last to await the judgment.

Proud children feel and think themselves better than others, and are often unwilling to engage in honest and honorable employments.

Listen to what I am going to tell you.

Chief-Justice Marshall was a great man; but great men are never proud. He was not too proud to wait upon himself. He was in the habit of going to market himself and carrying home his purchases. Often he would be seen returning, at sunrise, with poultry in one

hand, vegetables in the other. On one of these occasions, a fashionable young man from the North who had moved to Richmond was swearing violently, because he could find no one to carry home his turkey. Judge Marshall stepped up, and asked him where he lived. When he heard, he said, "That is on my way, and I will take your turkey home for you." When they came to the house the young man inquired, "What shall I pay you?" "Oh, nothing," said the Judge; "you are welcome; it was all on the way, and it was no trouble to me." "Who is that polite old gentleman who brought home my turkey for me?" asked the young man of a by-stander. "Oh," said he, "That was Judge Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States." "Why did he bring home my turkey?" "He did it," said the by-stander, "to give you a rebuke, and teach you to attend to your own business."

True greatness, never feels above doing anything that is useful; but especially the truly great man will never feel above helping himself; his own independence of character depends upon his being able to help himself. The great Dr. Franklin, when he first established himself in business, in Philadelphia,

wheeled home the paper, which he purchased for his printing office, upon a wheelbarrow with his own hands.

Pride, then, bear in mind, children, is the third mark of a Ben-oni.

(to be continued)

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## A Wrong Made Right

As a teen-ager I had a girlfriend whose father had a player piano in his place of business. A person could put a coin in this piano and it would play a desired song.

One day my girl friend and I wanted to go down to the ice cream parlor and get us an ice cream soda.

We didn't have money to buy any and we wondered what we were going to do. All of a sudden my girl friend said, "Oh, I know where we can get some money! How about us getting some money out of my dad's player piano?"

The player piano was in the parlor of the hotel. We peaked in and there was no one in the parlor, so we slipped over to the piano and took off the bottom part of it and found the box that held the money. She reached her hand into the box and took out a number of coins. We quickly put the bottom part back on the piano and hurried out the door. Down the streets we went, and did we have fun buying and eating our ice cream sodas! But boys and girls, the Bible says, "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell." Proverbs 9:17,18. Even though you might enjoy the wrong that you do, always remember the Scripture said the end is hell.

In later years, God brought this to my mind and I wrote the girl's mother and sent her much more money than we had taken. I asked her forgiveness. I

already had asked God's forgiveness. She sent the money back to me and let me know that I was freely forgiven and told me to give it to my church. I sent it to Faith Publishing House to help get the printed gospel out to others so they can know the great plan of salvation.

—Sis. Edith Wall

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## A Bag of Tools

Isn't it strange  
That princes and kings,  
And clowns that caper  
In sawdust rings,  
And common people  
Like you and me  
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools,  
A shapeless mass,  
A book of rules;  
And each must make—  
Ere life is flown—  
A stumbling block  
Or a stepping stone.

—R. L. Sharpe

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls:

Shortly after Saul's conversion at Damascus he went into Arabia. How long he remained there we cannot be certain. It was there that the Lord

taught him the doctrines that He wanted Saul to teach. We note that God worked the same way with Moses. He spent forty years in the wilderness tending sheep. No doubt God taught him many things during that time. We do not hear much about Jesus until He was thirty years of age. God wants His workers to have a message to give to the people when they go forth. It must come from God.

Saul returned to Damascus from Arabia and preached Christ in the synagogues. After many days the Jews became angry with his teachings and sought to kill him. Saul really was in trouble now. The Sanhedrin and the high priest wondered what had happened to Saul and the letters he had carried with him to Damascus to bring the saints there bound to Jerusalem. In those days when walking was the main means of transportation, news traveled slow. Today we may hear of the events on the other side of the world within minutes of their occurrence, but in those days, months could pass and no word of events. Finally, after many days, the Jews got together and plotted to kill Saul. Now Saul experienced what the saints had faced. He was being hunted to be killed. Was he afraid? Did he boldly face them? No, he hid from them. Sometimes the Lord will tell a person to face their enemies, and at other times He will tell them to run. It seems that at this time the Lord felt it best to let Saul run. He couldn't run through the gates as they were being watched daily. The governor, under King Aretas, kept the city with a garrison (II Cor. 11:32,33). Since the city was surrounded with a high wall the only thing he could do was to go over the wall. A search was made for a basket big enough to hold Saul. Finally when it was found, they fixed it with ropes and watched for their chance to let Saul down at night through a window down over the side of the wall.

Oh, I am sure that Saul had many anxious moments as he prayed and asked for protection from his enemies. God took care of him. Although he was reaping what he had sown, he now had the God of heaven to help him do that reaping. I am sure he ran for his life after getting out of that big basket.

Saul then went to Jerusalem to seek out Peter. When he tried to join himself to the disciples they were afraid of him but Barnabas took him to the apostles, (Peter and James, the Lord's brother), with whom he abode fifteen days. He wanted to become acquainted with him and learn about Jesus Christ from someone who had walked with him. Don't you know that Peter was happy to tell Saul all about how Jesus arose from the grave and ascended into the heavens and that now He was alive, sitting at the right hand of God. Oh, what a wonderful message that is to us and I am sure it was to Saul. I am sure that Peter told Saul all about the miracles that Jesus performed and about the unfair trial that He was given, but that it was all planned of God and all came to pass just as the old prophets had foretold. Maybe you can tell other things that Peter would have told Saul about Jesus.

At Jerusalem Saul only saw Peter and James, the brother of the Lord Jesus Christ, but he didn't see any of the other apostles. Then he went to Syria and Cilicia. I am sure he was busy preaching Christ to all he met. It was told from person to person in Jerusalem that the one who persecuted them at one time was now preaching Christ.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 5, May 5, 1985

### LET DOWN IN A BASKET

Gal. 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

Acts 9:22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. (II Cor. 11:32,33).

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

Gal. 1:18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days.

Acts 9:26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him [Saul], and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

Gal. 1:19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

20 Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not.

21 Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia;

22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judea which were in Christ:

23 But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed

24 And they glorified God in me.

**Memory Verse:** And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. Matt. 16:17.

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did Saul prove to the Jews who dwelt in Damascus?
2. What did the Jews decide to do with Saul?
3. Did Saul hear about it? Did he slip through the gates of Damascus?
4. At what time did Saul escape and how?
5. Does the Lord sometimes tell us to run and other times tell us to face the enemy?
6. Did Daniel run when they told him he would be put in the lions den if he continued to pray?
7. What did God call Saul to do?
8. When Saul was called to preach did he confer or go up to Jerusalem and ask the disciples if he should preach and what to preach?
9. Where did he go from Damascus? How long did he stay there?
10. Who did Saul see in Jerusalem?
11. Can you tell something that Peter would have told Saul about Jesus?
12. Who else did he see at Jerusalem and where did he go from there?
13. What did the churches in Judea know about Saul?
14. What did they do when they heard that Saul had changed?



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 6

May 12

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

### DISOBEDIENCE

The fourth and only other mark that we shall speak of is disobedience.

There is nothing on which the comfort and happiness of parents and families depend more, than on the obedience of children.

My dear children, if you want to plant thorns on the pillows of your parents and plunge daggers into their bosoms, be disobedient. If you want to make them as uncomfortable as they possibly can be in this world, then be disobedient. This is the chief mark of a Ben-oni.

I remember reading, not long ago, of a gentleman in England who had two sons. He was a kind, excellent, pious man, and did everything for the comfort of his children, that he thought it right to do. Sometimes the boys were anxious to do things which their parents were not willing that they should do. One Sunday, the oldest boy went to his father and asked permission to take the carriage and go riding in the afternoon, instead of going to Church.

His father told him he could not. The boy was very much displeased because his father would not let him go riding, as some of the boys in the neighborhood had been allowed by their parents to do. He was so wicked about this that he determined no longer to stay at home because his father would not let him do just what he wanted. So, the next day, he persuaded his brother to go with him, and they went down to Portsmouth, a town by the seaside, intending to go to sea.

Before going, however, they called on the Mr. Griffin, to assist them to get a situation, on board a man-of-war. This good man perceiving that they were not accustomed to the mode of life in which they were about to enter, inquired of them their object in going to sea. The eldest boy frankly told him they were going in order to spite their parents! Then he told him the story of what had taken place at home—of his father's unwillingness to allow him to ride on Sunday instead of going to church, and said he was going to sea in order to make his father feel sorry for refusing to gratify him. The good clergyman tried to show them the guilt, and folly of the course they were about to pursue, and to

set before them the unavoidable consequences that would result from it. The younger son was impressed by the counsels, and advice of the clergyman and went home, but the older son resolved to go on in his evil course.

Some twelve or fifteen years after this had taken place, the same clergyman was called to the prison in the town of Portsmouth, to see a sailor who was condemned to be executed, and, who was going to be hanged in a few days.

When he entered the cell of the prison he saw a wretched, miserable, squalid-looking creature, sitting by a table in the cell. The prisoner looked up to him as he entered, and said, "Do you not remember me, sir?" "No," said the clergyman; "I do not recollect that I ever saw you before." Then the poor man recalled to him the story of the boy who went from home in order to spite his parents. "And are you the miserable man," asked the clergyman, "who did this?" "Yes," said the poor culprit; "I followed out my own plan; I went on the course which I had chosen, contrary to your advice, and to my own convictions; I plunged into all sorts of wickedness, and sin, and finally became involved in a robbery, and murder, for which I am now about to suffer the penalty. All this, in consequence of my disobedience to my parents!" The clergyman wrote to the father of this unhappy man, who came to visit his son in his last hours, and who had the unspeakable anguish of standing by and seeing him suffer the penalty of the law, and reap the bitter fruits of his disobedience.

What a Ben-oni that son was to his father!

(to be continued)

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Heb. 2:1.

## Being Honest Pays

Jim kept his heart tender toward the Lord all through college, even though he did have some persecutions. God brought him through. Jim has become a successful business man. He had worked for different oil companies in Canada as well as in the United States as a mechanical engineer. He has now been out of college over twenty years and is the head of the engineering department of a Libian government owned oil company in Tripoli, Libya, N. Africa.

He has kept saved and today all of his children are saved.

Boys and girls, even though you suffer for Christ's sake and are persecuted, you can still be successful in what you want to do in life to make a living. Jim has been honest and upright in all of his dealings and we know that in the world honest people are hard to find and are appreciated.

—Edith Wall

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

It seems that Saul had gone to Tarsus in Cilicia, his home town, and was not

heard of for some time; but I am sure he was busy for the Lord. Sometime during this time of Saul's absence from Jerusalem, Barnabas went to minister to the church at Antioch and many people were saved. Barnabas then left Antioch to seek out Saul in Tarsus. They both returned together to Antioch where they stayed with the church for a whole year. Next we see them going down to Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled their mission in Jerusalem they returned again to Antioch taking with them Barnabas's cousin, John Mark. This is where the Scripture portion of our lesson starts for today.

Different ones were mentioned who were prophets and teachers. Simeon was called Niger to distinguish him from Simon Peter, the Apostle, and also Simon the Canaanite. Lucius of Cyrene is supposed by some to be the writer of Luke and the book of Acts where our lesson is found. It is also supposed by some that he was a cousin of Paul. Then we have Manaen mentioned and no doubt his mother was the nurse of Herod the tetrarch and he was brought up with him. Barnabas was a native of Cyprus. He was held in high esteem at Jerusalem and had lately come to Antioch on a mission for the church. Many of the saints had gone there because of the persecutions of the church and they were scattered abroad.

God had called and qualified Barnabas and Saul to go as missionaries to the Gentiles. As the church fasted and prayed the Holy Ghost also revealed this same knowledge to them. Therefore, they had the backing of the church through the ordination of laying on hands and prayer.

Saul and Barnabas sailed from Seleucia which was sixteen miles from Antioch to the port of Salamis on the island of Cyprus. They preached the Word of God there and then went

across the island to the city of Paphos which was about one hundred miles on the west coast of Cyprus. Paphos was the city where the goddess Venus was worshipped and many evil things were done in that place.

Paul was filled with the Holy Ghost and he was able to know what spirit was working in others. When the deputy called for him to come and was wanting to know the doctrines, we find that the sorcerer Elymas was there. No doubt he had been hindering the work of God and Paul had warned him about it, but he did not heed the warning. The Apostle Paul called him a child of the devil who was full of all subtlety and mischief, and an enemy of all righteousness. He pretended to work through supernatural powers but he only used a "sleight of hand" means to deceive the people. Paul pronounced a judgment upon him right in the deputy's presence. He said that a mist would come upon his eyes and he would be blind for a while. We see God showing mercy in his judgment. The deputy saw the work of God and he believed upon Jesus Christ as his Saviour.

Many times God will send judgment upon people to awaken them to their need of God. This is the great mercy of God, not wanting any to perish but wanting all to come to repentance. Sad to say, not too many will heed the warnings.

—Aunt Marie

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## Lesson 6, May 12, 1985

### PAUL AND BARNABAS BECOME MISSIONARIES

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets

and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a

mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

**Memory Verse:** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark. 16:15.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Saul's home town?
2. How long did Paul and Barnabas stay at the church in Antioch before going to Jerusalem?
3. Where did they go after fulfilling their mission in Jerusalem? Who did they take with them?
4. What were the names of the teachers and prophets at Antioch?
5. What did the Holy Ghost say to the prophets and teachers as they ministered to the Lord?
6. Were Saul and Barnabas already called of God to go as missionaries to the Gentiles or did they go because the church had sent them?
7. Where did they go?
8. When they arrived at Paphos who did they first meet? (Verse 6).
9. Was he a servant of the Lord and what nationality was he?
10. What was the name of the deputy of the country?
11. Why did he call Barnabas and Saul to come and see him?
12. Who stood by to withstand Saul and turn the deputy away from God?
13. What did Saul say that Elymas was?
14. What judgment fell upon Elymas?
15. What mercy was given to Elymas?

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 7

May 19

## The Dangers of Ben-onies DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

I have another story to tell you, of a disobedient son, in order to illustrate the point of which we are now speaking.

The youth, of whom I am about to speak, was the son of a sea-captain. His father had been absent from home on a long voyage. During his absence his child had grown, from being an infant, into a rough and careless boy. He was becoming restive, under his mother's control; her gentle voice no longer restrained him. He was often willful, and sometimes disobedient. He thought it showed a manly superiority, to be independent of a mother's influence.

About this time his father came home; and it was very fortunate that he did return. He soon perceived the spirit of disobedience that was stirring in his son. The boy saw that it displeased his father, although for a few days he said nothing about it.

One afternoon, in October, a bright, golden day, the father told his son to get his hat and take a walk with him. They turned down an open field, a favorite playground for the children in the

neighborhood. After talking cheerfully on different topics for awhile (said the boy, who gives this history himself), my father asked me if I observed that great shadow thrown by a huge mass of rock that stood in the middle of the field. I replied that I did. "My father owned that land," said he; "it was my playground when a boy. The rock stood there then; to me it is a beacon, and, whenever I look at it, I recall a dark spot in my life—an event so painful to dwell upon, that, were it not as a warning to you, I should not speak of it. Listen, then, my dear boy, and learn wisdom from your father's experience.

"My father died when I was a mere child. I was the only son. My mother was a gentle, loving woman, devoted to her children, and beloved by everybody.

"I remember her pale, beautiful face, her sweet, affectionate smile, her kind and gentle voice. In my childhood I loved her sincerely. I was never happy apart from her; and she, fearing that I was becoming too much of a child, sent me to a high school in the village.

"After associating for a time with rude, rough boys. I lost, in a measure, my fondness for home, and my reverence for my mother; and it became more

and more difficult for her to restrain my impetuous nature. I thought it indicated a want of manliness to yield to her control, or to appear penitent, although I knew that my conduct pained her.

"The epithet I most feared was giriboy. I could not bear to hear it said, by my playmates, that I was 'tied to my mother's apron strings.'

"From a quiet, home-loving child, I became a wild, boisterous boy.

"My mother was very anxious to induce me to seek happiness within the precincts of home. She exerted herself to make our fireside attractive; and my sister, following her self-sacrificing example, sought to entice me, by planning games, and diversions, for my amusement and entertainment. I saw all this, but did not heed it, until it was too late.

"It was on an afternoon like this, as I was about leaving the dining table to spend the intermission between morning and evening school, in the street as usual; my mother laid her hand on my shoulder and said, mildly but firmly, 'My son, I wish you to come with me.'

"She put on her bonnet and said to me, 'We will take a little walk together.' I followed her in silence, and, as I was passing out of the door, I observed one of my rude companions, skulking about the house, and I knew he was waiting for me. He sneered as I passed by him. My pride was wounded to the quick. He was a very bad boy, and, being some years older than myself, he exercised a great influence over me.

"I followed my mother, sulkily, until we reached the spot where we now stand, beneath the shadow of this huge rock.

"Oh, my boy, could that hour be blotted from my memory, which has cast a dark shadow over my whole life, gladly would I exchange all that the world can offer me for the quiet peace

of mind I should enjoy! But no! Like this huge, unsightly pile, stands the monument of my guilt forever.

"My mother, being in feeble health, sat down, and beckoned me to sit down beside her. Her look, so full of tender sorrow, is present to me now.

"I would not sit, but still continued standing beside her.

" 'Alfred, my dear son,' she said, 'have you lost all your love for your mother?'

I did not reply.

(to be continued)

## The Selfish Birds

One day I saw two birds that fussed

About a piece of string—

Each held one end fast in his bill

And pulled like everything:

And Grandma said, "Just watch those birds!

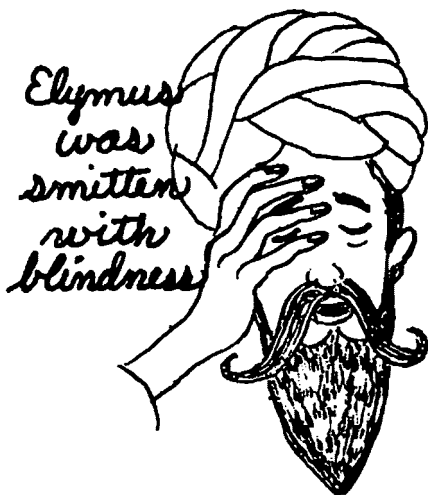
Because I'm sure you'll see

How impolite it is

To act so selfishly.

—Sel.

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"Do you know how 'a little maid' became known all over the world? She just told of her Lord and what He could do. Her story and the good results can be found in the 5th chapter of II Kings, if you are interested in it."

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Dear Boys and Girls:

We have not heard much about John Mark but he left Paul and Barnabas after they had set sail across the Mediterranean Sea over to Perga from Paphos. Maybe the hardships and also the chance of facing robbers discouraged him. His act was not honorable in the eyes of Paul but Mark was young and had much to learn.

Paul and Barnabas pushed on over the mountains from Perga to Antioch in Pisidia. The 120 miles of the long, tedious climb with yawning chasms and robber-infested mountains tested their courage and burden for the Gentiles. Far beyond them was a city of 500,000 people who were steeped in a corrupt, sinful religion. They desperately needed to hear that Jesus truly saves from sin.

When they arrived in Antioch in Pisidia (a different Antioch than the one they had just come from), they went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. Paul was asked to speak which was just what he was wanting. Since there were mostly Jews in the synagogue, Paul addressed them as "men of Israel, and ye that fear God." Paul started his sermon at the point when the children of Israel were in Egypt and brought out the way God had wonderfully delivered them from Pharaoh and brought them out to the wilderness. Then God brought the children of Israel into the land of Canaan after destroying seven nations and the land was divided between the tribes of Israel. God then gave them judges for about 450 years and then gave them Samuel, the prophet. Later he gave

them a king named Saul and then later David was their king. God told David that he would raise up from his family a Saviour whose name would be Jesus. Paul referred to John the Baptist who went before Jesus and preached to the children of Israel. Then Paul brought the fact directly to the Jews in the synagogue; that salvation had come to those who were the children of Abraham and feared God. He then told them about how Jesus was brought up before the rulers at Jerusalem and although they found no cause for His death they sought permission from Pilate that He be slain. It had been prophesied thousands of years before that Jesus would be taken down from a tree and put into a sepulcher or grave, and now it had been fulfilled. Paul declared that Jesus did not stay there but He arose from the grave and was seen by many, and that witnesses were still living to prove the fact. Paul declared to them that the promises to their fathers had been fulfilled. Jesus did not stay in the grave nor see corruption; but He arose from the grave and His body did not go back to dust. This was foretold by David who said, "Thou wilt not . . . suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." Psa. 16:10. Then Paul told them that through this Man they could have remission of their sins and be forgiven.

Today we are thankful that because Jesus arose we, too, will arise. Our bodies will go back to dust, but if we live for God we will arise with a new body.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 7, May 19, 1985  
**PAUL PREACHES AT  
ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA**

Acts 13:13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John

departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogues sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.

26 Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.

32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,

33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.

35 Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

37 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

**Memory Verse:** I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Psalms 2:7.

#### QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you suppose John Mark left Paul and Barnabas?
2. Paphos was on the island of Cyprus. Where did Paul and Barnabas go from there?
3. What does history tell about the roads they traveled from Perga to the second Antioch which was in Pisidia?
4. Where did Paul and Barnabas go first?
5. How did Paul start his sermon after being asked to speak to the Jews and others?
6. What was brought to all who feared God?
7. What kind of glad tidings did Paul bring to them from the Jew's fathers?
8. Why is the fact that Jesus arose from the grave good news?
9. Where had it been written that Jesus was not to stay in the grave nor was His body to see corruption which meant that it would not go back to dust?
10. Did David's body see corruption or go back to dust?
11. Will our bodies go back to dust?
12. When will our bodies arise again? (I Thess. 4:16,17).
12. Through whom can we find redemption for our sins?
14. If we believe are we justified?



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 8

May 26

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

### DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

" 'I fear you have,' she continued; 'and may God help you to see your own heart, and me to do my duty!'

"She then talked to me of my misdeeds—of the dreadful consequences of the course I was pursuing. By tears, entreaties, and prayers, she tried to make an impression upon me. She placed before me the lives and examples of great and good men. She sought to stimulate my ambition.

"I was moved, but too proud to show it, and remained standing in dogged silence beside her. I thought, 'What will my companions say if, after all my boasting, I should yield at last, and submit to be led by a woman?'

"What agony was in my mother's face when she saw that all she had said, and suffered, failed to move me!

"She rose to go home, and I followed at a distance. She spoke no more to me until we reached our own door.

" 'It is school time now,' she said; 'go, my son, and once more let me beseech you to think upon what I have said.'

" 'I shan't go to school,' said I.

"She looked astonished at my boldness, but replied, firmly—

" 'Certainly you will go, Alfred; I command you.'

" 'I will not,' said I, with a tone of defiance.

" 'One of two things you must do, Alfred. Either go to school this moment, or I will lock you up in your room, and keep you there until you are ready to promise obedience to my wishes.'

" 'I dare you to do it,' said I; 'you can't get me upstairs.'

" 'Alfred, choose now,' said my mother, who laid her hand on my arm. She trembled violently, and was deadly pale.

" 'If you touch me, I will kick you!' said I, in a terrible rage.

" 'Will you go, Alfred?'

" 'No,' replied I, but quailed beneath her glance.

" 'Then follow me,' said she, as she grasped my arm firmly.

"I raised my foot—oh, my boy, hear me!—I raised my foot, and kicked her, my sainted mother!

"Oh, my head reels as the torrent of memory rushes over me! I kicked my mother, a feeble woman, my mother!

"She staggered back a few steps, and leaned against the wall. She did not look at me. I saw her heart beat against her breast.

" 'Oh, heavenly Father,' she cried, 'forgive him! he knows not what he does!'

"The gardener just then passing the door, and seeing my mother pale, and almost unable to support herself, he stopped. She beckoned him in.

" 'Take this boy upstairs, and lock him in his own room,' she said, and turned from me.

"Looking back as she was entering her own room, she gave me such a look!—it will forever follow me. It was a look of agony, mingled with the deepest love. It was the last unutterable pang from a heart that was broken.

"In a moment I found myself a prisoner, in my own room. I thought, for a moment, I would fling myself out of the window and dash my brains out; but I felt afraid to die. I was not penitent. At times my heart was subdued, but my stubborn pride rose in an instant and bade me not to yield. The pale face of my mother haunted me. I flung myself on my bed and fell asleep. I awoke at midnight, suffering with the damp night air, and terrified with frightful dreams. I would have sought my mother at that moment, for I trembled with fear; but my door was fast.

(to be continued)

## A Boy In Prison

I had a good father and mother, although when I was but nine years of age my father died, and for two years afterwards I was sent to school. The third year I refused to go to school, and got in company with two bad boys who coaxed me to go with them to steal apples, and next to go at night and get some grapes,

and so on until one night they said they would open the window of a store if I would go in and get some candy and tobacco. I did so, and repeated the act two or three times. The store belonged to my uncle and he caught me at it and gave me a whipping.

Soon after this I broke into a store and post office and stole some things and left the place, went to Indianapolis and worked in a hotel, where I stole a watch and chain and left the city. Wandering about from place to place, I soon went to stay with a man who led me into all kinds of meanness for three years.

After leaving this place I stole a pair of shoes and started out with a country bummer for awhile, but things did not go well with me, and I left him and went from place to place, most always getting into trouble before leaving. After living with my guardian two years, I went to stealing, and broke into a store where I stole some money and left the country.

Thus my life was spent rambling from place to place until finally I broke into another store and stole some things. I covered my tracks, and for some time felt all was safe, but in some way it was

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



found out that I was the thief who did the stealing. I was arrested and taken to jail, and sentenced to a term of three years' hard labor in the penitentiary. I was not yet twenty-one years of age, but was behind the bars in the State's Prison in Indiana. Boys, do not follow the course I did.

—L. M.

-----o-----  
"For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother . . ." Matt. 15:4.  
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Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson today starts out with more of the sermon that Paul was preaching to the Jews and others in the synagogue. He had already told them about Jesus who had come to this world to live, die, and rise again for our salvation and urged them to believe on Him. He continues in our first verse to refer to the prophets in the Old Bible. At that time they only had the Old Bible. The New Testament had not been written. Paul wanted them to know that the prophets of old time had foretold of the events that came to pass concerning Jesus. Paul said that unless they believed on Jesus they would fulfill what Habakkuk 1:5 had said. If they refused to believe even though it be declared unto them, Paul explained that God would then turn to the Gentiles. Because they would not believe they would perish. How sad that they would not believe even when it was pointed out to them. Today we find people doing the same. They will not believe even if the Bible tells them what to do, and they know that it comes from God.

Many of the Jews wanted to believe and they wanted to hear more the next Sabbath. Many of the Gentiles also were anxious to hear more. This pleased Paul and Barnabas and they encouraged them to continue in the "grace of God." The next Sabbath

nearly the "whole city" came out to hear the "word of God." When the Jews saw this they were moved with envy. They were not fully persuaded this teaching was right and didn't want the people to accept it. When they saw so many coming, they boldly spoke against Paul and his teachings and argued with him. Finally it came to the point of blaspheming. How sad. Paul boldly told them that they would turn to the Gentiles. He reminded them that God had chosen him as a light to the Gentiles that they should hear about Jesus and His plan to save them. Oh, this pleased the Gentiles and they rejoiced! How glad they were that they had been included in the plan of salvation. Many of them believed unto eternal life.

The Gentiles told others and the word of the Lord was published throughout all of that region. The devil was stirred. The men couldn't do enough to stop the teachings about Jesus and His power to save. The men asked the women to help them. They chose the devout and honorable women to help. They began to persecute Saul and Barnabas. Finally they put them off their coast. Paul and Barnabas shook off the dust of their feet against them. They departed and came to Iconium, but those who believed were filled with joy and with the Holy Ghost.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 8, May 26, 1985

## THE EFFECT OF PAUL'S SERMON AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA

Acts 13:40 Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;

41 Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise

believe, though a man declare it unto you.

42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto

Iconium.

52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

**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. Romans 1:16.

## QUESTIONS:

1. The first verse in our lesson is a part of a sermon preached by who and to whom?
2. What does the word *beware* mean?
3. What did the prophet Habakkuk say in verse 41 to which Paul referred the Jews and others?
4. Habakkuk said, "I [or God] will work a work in your days." Is this referring to the time when God sent Jesus to the world to live, teach, die, and arise again?
5. Did Habakkuk say that God made him know that not many would believe on Jesus?
6. How did the Jews and the Gentiles take the sermon of Paul?
7. What did Paul tell the Jews and the religious proselytes who followed him?
8. How many came to the synagogue the next sabbath?
9. Did this make the Jews upset and were they moved to — — — ?
10. What did they do when Paul spoke to them this time?
11. What did Paul tell them in verse 46?
12. What did Paul tell them that they should be to the Gentiles and to others in the world?
13. How did the Gentiles take this and what did the Jews do about it?
14. What did Paul and Barnabas do before they left and went to Iconium?

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 9

June 2

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

### DISOBEDIENCE

(continued from last issue)

"With the daylight my terrors were dissipated, and I became bold in resisting all good impulses. The servant brought my meals, but I did not taste them. I thought the day would never end.

"Just at twilight I heard a light footstep approach my door. It was my sister, who called me by name.

" 'What may I tell Mother for you?' she asked.

" 'Nothing,' I replied.

" 'Oh, Alfred, for my sake, and for all our sakes, say that you are sorry; she longs to forgive you.'

" 'I won't be driven to school against my will,' I replied.

" 'But you will go if Mother wishes it, dear Alfred?' my sister said, pleadingly.

" 'No, I won't,' said I; 'and you needn't say another word about it.'

" 'Oh, brother, you will kill her! you will kill her! and then, you can never have a happy moment!'

"I made no reply to this. My feelings were touched, but I still resisted their influence. My sister called me, but I

would not answer. I heard her footsteps slowly retreating, and again I flung myself upon my bed, and passed another wretched and fearful night. Oh, God, how wretched—how fearful—I did not know.

"Another footstep, slower and feebler than my sister's disturbed me. A voice called my name. It was my mother's.

" 'Alfred, my son, shall I come in? Are you sorry for what you have done?' she asked.

"I cannot tell what influence, operating at that time, made me speak adverse to my feelings.

"The gentle voice of my mother, that thrilled through me melted the ice from my obdurate heart, and I longed to throw myself upon her neck; but I did not. No, my boy, I did not! But my words gave the lie to my heart, when I said I was not sorry.

"I heard her withdraw. I heard her groan. I longed to call her back, but I did not.

"I was awakened, from an uneasy slumber, by hearing my name called loudly, and my sister stood by my bedside.

" 'Get up, Alfred; oh, do not wait a moment! Get up and come with me;

mother is dying!"

"I thought I was dreaming, but I got up mechanically, and followed my sister.

"On the bed, pale and cold as marble, lay my mother. She had not undressed. She had thrown herself on the bed to rest. Rising to go again to me, she was seized with a palpitation of the heart, and borne senseless to her room.

"I cannot tell you my agony, as I looked upon her. My remorse was tenfold more bitter from the thought that she would never know it. I believed myself to be a murderer. I fell on the bed beside her. I could not weep. My heart burned in my bosom; my brain was all on fire. My sister threw her arms around me and wept in silence. Suddenly, we saw a slight motion of mother's hand. Her eyes unclosed. She had recovered consciousness, but not speech. She looked at me, and moved her lips; I could not understand her words.

"My mother," I shrieked, "say only that you forgive me!"

"She could not say it with her lips, but her hands pressed mine. She smiled upon me; and, lifting her thin white hands, clasped my own within them, and cast her eyes upward. She moved her lips in prayer and thus she died.

"I remained still kneeling before that dear form until my gentle sister removed me. She comforted me, for she knew the heavy load of sorrow at my heart—heavier than grief at the loss of a mother, for it was a load of sorrow for sin.

"The joy of youth had left me forever."

My father ceased speaking, and buried his face in his hands. He saw, and felt, the bearing of his narrative upon my character and conduct.

I have never forgotten it; and I would say to boys who spurn a mother's control, who are ashamed to own that

they are wrong, who think it manly to resist her authority, or not to yield to her influence: "Beware! Lay not up for yourselves bitter memories for your future years."

That was a Ben-oni indeed—a child of sorrow to his parents, to his sister, and to all around him. His disobedience made him such.

(to be continued)

## Tell The Boys

George Adams was a boy of sixteen years of age. One day he was taken very ill. The doctor came every day only to find him growing worse.

"Do you think I will ever get well?" whispered George to the doctor as he sat by his bedside.

The doctor replied: "I am sorry to tell you, my boy, there is no hope for you. You cannot get well."

"Was it the cigarettes?" asked George.

"Yes," answered the doctor sadly.

When George could speak again he said, "Send for our pastor." The minister came. With his dying breath George

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



*Stand upright  
on thy feet*

said: "Call in all the boys. Tell them how I died. Tell the boys not to smoke cigarettes. Have my Sunday school teacher tell the boys. Oh, tell the boys!"

Those were his last words. George was dead. Cigarettes killed him. Will you tell the boys not to smoke cigarettes?

—Selected

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"Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." Col. 3:20.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we notice in our lesson when Paul and Barnabas came to Iconium that the unbelieving Jews came too. They were very unhappy because a great many of the Jews there believed on the Saviour, Jesus Christ. A lot of the Greeks, who are Gentiles, believed on Jesus, also. The unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and told things about Barnabas and Paul that caused the Gentiles to turn against them. This is a terrible thing to do. Boys and girls, it is wrong for you to tell things just to get someone to hate or not like a certain person. If you can't say something nice about a person, don't say anything; but it is wonderful to be kind and say nice things about others. It will cause people to like you better. No one likes anyone who is always running down another boy or girl.

Paul and Barnabas didn't let what the unbelieving Jews said affect them. They continued to preach about Jesus and His power to save everyone from their sins who believed. Many signs and wonders were done by the Apostles. The city was divided; some believed and some did not believe. Some stood with the unbelieving Jews and some stood with Paul and Barnabas. Finally the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles went to the rulers and wanted them to stone

Paul and Barnabas and despitely use them. When Paul and Barnabas heard about this, they fled from Iconium to Lystra and Derbe. These were cities of Lyconia. They preached there and at the other places around those cities.

While they were at Lystra, a man who had been a cripple from his birth was listening to the gospel. Boys and girls, it pays to listen to God's Word as it goes forth. You can be blessed in your soul. No doubt on this day Paul was preaching about Jesus and His plan to save and also how He had healed those who were crippled. (Can you tell of someone whom Jesus healed that was crippled?) The crippled man who had never walked was "stedfastly beholding" Paul. Hope sprang up in his heart. "Oh, can I be healed? Oh, yes, I can be healed! Jesus can heal me just like he healed others. Oh, I want to be healed!" About that time Paul looked at him. Paul saw the faith glowing on his face. Paul said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on thy feet." The man arose from the ground and he leaped and shouted, walking about. Oh, how wonderful! Faith brings results. We can be healed if we will only believe. Oh, it pays to listen to God's Word, doesn't it?

When the people saw this they were amazed. They worshipped idols and they thought that their gods, Jupiter and Mercurius had come down in the forms of men. They wanted to honor and worship them so they brought out garlands and oxen to do sacrifice to them. Next Sunday we will find out what happened. —Aunt Marie

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Lesson 9, June 2, 1985  
**PAUL PRAISED AND PAUL STONED**  
Part I

Acts 14:1 And it came to pass in I-co-ni-um, that they went both together

into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.

2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren.

3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

4 But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.

5 And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully, and to stone them,

6 They were ware of it, and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Ly-ca-o-ni-a, and unto the region that lieth round about:

7 And there they preached the gospel.

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and

garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

**Memory Verse:** For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. II Corinthians 1:5.

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who believed when Paul and Barnabas went to Iconium and preached the gospel?
2. What did the unbelieving Jews do about so many believing on Jesus?
3. They boldly preached that Jesus had come to save from sin all who would believe. How long did they abide there?
4. Did God work any miracles and wonders there?
5. Did everyone in the city enjoy having the apostles there or just how was it?
6. What did the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles do about what Paul and Barnabas were doing?
7. When they found out about it what did they do?
8. Where did they preach the gospel?
8. Who was listening intently to Paul's sermon at Lystra?
10. What did Paul see in his face as the crippled man listened to Paul's message?
11. What did Paul tell the crippled man and what did he do?
12. Will we be blessed if we listen to God's Word when the minister is preaching?
13. What did the people do when they saw how God had healed the crippled man?
14. Who did they think Barnabas was?
15. Who did they think Paul was?



# The Beautiful Way

**Juniors**  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 10

June 9

## The Dangers of Ben-onies

(continued from last issue)

### MARKS OF BENJAMIN

Let us look now, at one or two examples of an opposite character.

William Hale was an obedient son. He was spending some time with his mother at the Saratoga Springs, and had become acquainted with a number of boys of his own age there.

One day some half-dozen of the children were playing on the piazza, and one of them heard exclaiming—

"Oh, yes, that's capital! So we will; come on, now! Where's William Hale? Come on, Will! We are going to have a ride on the circular railroad. Come with us."

"Yes, if my mother is willing," said William. "I will run and ask her."

"Ah, ah! so you must run and ask your ma! great baby-boy!—run along to your ma! Ain't you ashamed?"

"I don't ask my mother," said one.

"Neither do I," said another.

"Neither do I," said a third.

"Be a man, Will, and come along," said the first boy, "if you don't wish to be called a coward as long as you live; don't you see we are all waiting?"

William was standing, with one foot advanced and his hand firmly clenched, in the midst of the group. His brow was flushed, his eye was flashing, his lip was compressed, his cheek was changing—all showing how the epithet, "coward," rankled in his bosom.

It was doubtful for a moment whether he would have the true bravery to be called a coward rather than to do wrong; but, with a voice trembling with emotion, he replied.

"I will not go without asking my mother; and I am no coward either. I promised her I would not go from the house without her permission; and I should be a base coward if I were to tell my mother a lie."

When William returned to his mother, to ask her permission to go, and told her of what had taken place, she threw her arms around his neck and exclaimed—

"God bless you, my dear child, and give you grace always to act in this way."

Ah, my dear children, he was a Benjamin, a child of comfort to his mother; and doubtless he grew up to be her support, and comfort all his days.

After the surrender of Cornwallis, and the victory achieved by the American

army, George Washington, when the war was over, returned in triumph to his mother's home. Everybody was honoring him, and praising him, as the saviour of his country and the greatest man of the age. When he reached the place of his mother's abode, a large concourse of the people had met, to greet him, and welcome him to his home. In the center of the assembled crowd stood his mother; and, pushing his way through the crowd around him, he hastened to pay her his respects; and, as she threw her arms around his neck, and kissed him, she said to some who were congratulating her upon having so noble a son, "George always was an obedient child."

He was indeed a Benjamin, a son of comfort, to his mother, and a blessing to the country, and to the world. The spirit of obedience, early learned, and early practiced, was that which went to make him what he was.

In conclusion, my dear children, let me ask you, which of these two, do you desire to be? Will you be Ben-onies—children of sorrow and grief—to your parents, or will you be Benjamins—children of joy, comfort, and blessing to them? If you would be the latter, Benjamins indeed, then you must watch, strive, and pray against all the evil of which we have been speaking. Watch against these four marks of a Ben-oni:—watch against ill-temper, watch against idleness, watch against pride, watch against disobedience; and pray God to enable you each to overcome all these evils—to erase these marks of a Ben-oni as they are beginning to fasten themselves on your character, and to earn for yourself the character of a Benjamin indeed.

—Richard Newton

The Fruit of the Spirit is  
LOVE, JOY, PEACE . . .

## Jim Did Not Change

When my son, Jim, became draft age, he was in college at Houston, Texas. He was saved and felt that he could not go into the U. S. Armed Forces and take up arms to kill his fellow man.

Jim's father was not saved and when I told him of Jim's decision he could not understand it and was deeply hurt. He said that Jim would be made fun of all his life.

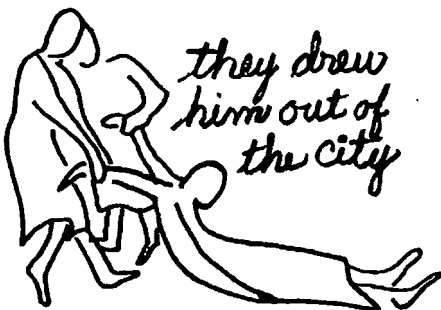
He wanted to go to the college and try to change Jim's mind. He wanted me to go with him as he was afraid that I would call Jim and coach him as to what to say. On the way, God gave me such victory over this that I sang most of the way down there.

While I stayed in the car, my husband went up to Jim's room to talk with him. Soon both returned to the car in a happy mood and we went out to eat. Later, we left Jim at his room. As we started back home, Jim's father said there was no need for him to try changing Jim's mind as he already had it made up to be a conscientious objector.

—Sis. Edith Wall

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."  
Proverbs 15:3.

### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



## Let All You Do be Done in Love.

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Dear Boys and Girls,

In last week's lesson we closed with the priest of Jupiter in Lystra bringing oxen and garlands to sacrifice to Barnabas and Paul. The Apostles were preaching the gospel and a crippled man was healed. The people thought that Paul and Barnabas were Jupiter and Mercury (two of the Roman gods), who had come down in human flesh to them. Our lesson today begins with Paul and Barnabas giving their answer to the people for this. It is precious to think about what they said to them at this time. Those people worshipped the gods of Roman mythology and they seemed to be glad that what they worshipped had really come to pass before their eyes. Paul and Barnabas were true men of God and did not want to be praised by men. They could have accepted this and could have become great men in that city, but they would have lost their salvation, and God would have been very displeased with them. They only wanted to please God and not men.

Paul and Barnabas ran among them and rent their clothes, crying out, saying that they were only men, not gods. They told them that there is only one God. He is the living God who made the heavens, earth, sea, and all things that are in the world. He is the One who is to be worshipped. He has allowed men, women, boys, and girls to walk in their own ways and choose if they want to serve Him or not, but He left Himself a witness. In so many ways God has expressed Himself in showing goodness to all on the earth. He sends the rain and the sunshine upon the just and the unjust. He gives us fruitful seasons, so we can have food. He gives gladness to our hearts. Praise our God who is so very great and wonderful! I

love Him so much and I know that you do, too.

Finally Paul and Barnabas refrained the people from praising them. Notice how quickly the people changed. Jews from Antioch and Iconium who hated Paul and Barnabas, came to Lystra. They stirred up the people against them, they stoned Paul, and drew him outside the city, supposing that he were dead. How terrible! Poor Paul. No doubt he remembered Stephen as he was being stoned, and how he stood by the clothes of those who slew Stephen, thus consenting to his death. God in His mercy raised Paul up as the brethren prayed. He went back into the city and the next day he and Barnabas left, going through the cities where they preached the gospel. They ordained elders in every church, exhorting the saints that they should continue to serve the Lord and that through much tribulation they would enter into the kingdom of God. When they returned to their home church in Antioch they told the saints how the Lord had blessed and worked through them on the trip. —Aunt Marie

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Lesson 10, June 9, 1985

## PAUL PRAISED AND PAUL STONED Part II

Acts 14:14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

24 And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

25 And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:

26 And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

28 And there they abode long time with the disciples.

**Memory Verse:** For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake. Philippians 1:29.

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did Paul and Barnabas do when they knew that the people wanted to do sacrifice to them because they thought they were gods? thought they were gods?
2. Whom did they tell the people to worship instead of worshipping their Roman gods?
3. What did they say that our God had made?
4. Does God allow nations to "walk in their own ways"?
5. What kind of a witness has he left us, making us know that He is truly God?
6. Did they finally get the people to quit trying to make sacrifice to them?
7. Who came down from Antioch and Iconium, who hated Paul and Barnabas, and what did they do?
8. What did the people who were at one time wanting to honor Paul do to him now?
9. What happened to Paul when the disciples or his followers were standing around him outside the city?
10. Where did Paul and Barnabas go and what did they do in the three cities mentioned?
11. What did they do to the elders in the churches?
12. Name some of the other cities where Paul and Barnabas preached.
13. When they sailed to Antioch, their home church, what did they do there?

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 11

June 16

## What Neglect Will Do

The boys were playing ball in a vacant lot next to their home. It was a nice place to play, and they were having a fine game. Several of their friends were playing with them. As Mrs. H. looked across from the porch, her heart was glad to see them so happy. How wonderful childhood was with its opportunities to be happy!

The little girls were busy playing with their dolls on the lawn. They were playing in rather a grown-up fashion, and Nellie was serving refreshments. "A story will not be necessary," thought Mrs. H. as she leaned back in her chair. "I will have a chance to rest and enjoy the beauty of the evening and to think." This was the burden of her thoughts: "O Lord, how easy it would be to become neglectful and careless of the precious lambs that Thou hast entrusted to my care! How easy it would be for me to fall asleep and not see the enemy when he comes to creep into my fold! Help me, Lord, to keep awake, and ever ready to protect my flock until they become old enough to realize the dangers that await them in the world. Help me to understand how to keep their interest and confidence, and

to make them feel that I care how they are getting along." Here her reverie was broken by the sweet voice of little Ethel beside her saying:

"Oh, Mama, can't you tell us all a story as you did the other night? Won't you, please?"

"A story for all my little girls? Well, yes, I guess I could," said Mother, drawing the little form closely to her and reaching with the other arm for Nellie. "I will tell you a story about some girls who were invited to a wedding party. There were ten of them, and each one of them was expected to be ready, with a lighted lamp in her hand, to go and meet the bridegroom. No one knew just the time when the bridegroom would come, but they were told to be ready, for he might come at any time.

"Five of these girls went to a store and bought some more oil; for they did not want to be without oil, and they might become sleepy and not waken in time to go later. But the other five neglected to get any oil. They thought; 'Oh, there is plenty of time. We will take a little nap, and then we can run to the store if it is necessary.' Little did they think that the bridegroom was going to delay his

coming and that the oil that was in their lamps would grow less and less.

"After awhile all the girls became weary. Slowly the eyelids drooped over their eyes, and at last unable to keep awake any longer, all ten of them slept. How long they slept I do not know, nor does it matter. They slept until the watchman cried with a loud voice. 'Behold the bridegroom cometh!' How that cry pierced the midnight air!

"When the maidens awoke, their first thought was of their lamps. It was not hard to see by the flickering lights that they were going out. As quickly as possible each girl began to trim her lamp, but only those lamps would burn which were supplied with more oil. 'Oh, give us some of your oil!' the foolish maidens cried; but the wise replied, 'We have none to spare. Go to the store and buy for yourselves.'

"Did they go," asked Nellie?

"Yes, they went," Mother replied; "but when they returned they were too late to meet the bridegroom. He had arrived at the home of the bride; he and those who were ready entered, and the door had been closed. Although the maidens outside rapped and begged to be admitted, they could not enter. The bridegroom said that he did not know them, that they could not enter. How much better it would have been had the foolish maidens not neglected to do their work at the proper time.

"There are many people and some little boys and girls, who neglect to do their work at the right time and sometimes get into trouble on account of it. Just now I remember a story that my grandma told me when I was a little girl. It was about herself. She once neglected to do her duty because she was sleepy and afterward was very sorry."

"Oh, tell us about it!" said Ethel eagerly.

"Well, girls, I will. But you had better sit down. You must be very tired," Mother said, releasing her arms from about them. They had been so interested in the story that they had remained standing beside their mother.

(to be continued)

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### A Child's Hymn

God, make my life a little light  
Within the world to glow—  
A little flame that burneth bright  
Wherever I may go.

God, make my life a little flower  
That giveth joy to all,  
Content to bloom in native bower,  
Although its place be small.

God, make my life a little song  
That comforteth the sad—  
That helpeth others to be strong  
And makes the sinner glad.

God, make my life a little staff  
Whereon the weak may rest,  
That so what health and strength I have  
May serve my neighbors best.

God, make my life a little hymn  
Of tenderness and praise—  
Of faith that never waxeth dim,  
In all His wondrous ways. —Sel.

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### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and and thy faithfulness every night."

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Dear Boys and Girls:

I am sure that you understand that there are two Antiochs spoken of in our lesson. The first Antioch was in Syria, from where Paul and Barnabas were sent out as missionaries. They also visited another town called Antioch which was in Pisidia. Now they had returned to Antioch in Syria and were there teaching and working for God. While there, some men came down from Judea and were boldly declaring that unless the Gentiles were circumcised they could not be saved. Circumcision was a certain thing that was done to each baby boy which marked him as a Jew. This was a commandment of the Jewish religion and of the Mosaic law. Paul and Barnabas declared that the Gentiles who were saved did not have to have this mark put upon them. A great discussion arose. It grew into a great problem that disturbed the peace of the church. Since they could not settle the question they decided to send Paul and Barnabas down to Jerusalem to have the apostles and elders settle the question.

On the way to Jerusalem Paul and Barnabas and others who were with them, stopped by the churches in Phenice and Samaria and told them how God was working among the Gentiles, saving many of them. There was great joy among the brethren. When they arrived in Jerusalem they were received by the church, apostles, and elders. They declared to them all the things that God had been doing among the Gentiles and what God had done for them. They also presented the problem about circumcision that had arisen in

the Antioch church. There rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees who declared that it was needful that each of the Gentiles be circumcised as they needed this mark upon them to be in accordance with the law of Moses. It was necessary for a meeting to be called for the apostles and elders to come together to consider this problem. After much discussion and disputing, Peter arose and told how God had chosen him to preach to the Gentiles some time in the past. You can read about this account in the 10th chapter of Acts. Peter had gone to the house of Cornelius, who was a devout man of God, a Gentile of the Italian band. While there he preached to the Gentiles and God wonderfully blessed. While he preached, the Holy Ghost fell upon them and all were filled with the Holy Ghost. At that time, those of the Jews who had been circumcised, were amazed that God had poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost upon those who were not circumcised or who were Gentiles.

Peter ended his discourse by saying that we should not "put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear." He told them that only through the grace of God are we to be saved. After Peter sat down the whole group kept silent and listened to Paul and Barnabas tell about the miracles and wonders that God had worked among the Gentiles on their missionary trip.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 11, June 16, 1985

### **Antioch Church Seeks Counsel**

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judea [to Antioch] taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation

with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and

wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

**Memory Verse:** In the multitude of counsellors there is safety. Prov. 24:6b.

### QUESTIONS:

1. Paul and Barnabas were at Antioch when they first went forth on their missionary trip. Who came down to the church and said that all the Gentiles needed to be circumcised or go through this Jewish rite?
2. Paul and Barnabas did not agree with them nor did most of the church. What did the church decide to do about the problem?
3. Where did Paul and Barnabas stop on their way to Jerusalem and what did they tell the churches?
4. Were they received at the church in Jerusalem and what did they tell the elders, apostles, and the church?
5. Did the apostles and elders come together in a counsel to decide what to do about the problem in Antioch?
6. After much talking what did Peter stand up and tell them?
7. In what Gentile home was Peter preaching when the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the Word? (Acts 10:22,23).
8. When the Holy Ghost comes into the heart, what does our Scripture tell us happens? (Verse 8,9).
9. Did Peter think that the Gentiles should have to bear the "yoke" of circumcision which was hard even for the Jews to bear?
10. Verse 11 tells us that through whom and what shall we be saved?
11. Who arose to speak after Peter?
12. What did Paul and Barnabas tell them? Tell something that had happened to them on their missionary trip that they could have told?



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 12

June 23

## What Neglect Will Do

(continued from last issue)

"Grandmother lived in a country far over the sea. She was a little Scotch lassie, and when very young she went to live with her grandparents. The first work her grandmother taught her was knitting, and she soon learned to knit long stockings, socks, and mittens. Every day she had to knit, and she was soon able to do her work well by looking at it only now and then.

"When she was old enough she was sent to herd the cows in a distant pasture. So each morning, with her lunch, knitting, and old Shep, the dog, she would take the cows to their pasture for the day and spend the time in the open air. It was very pleasant work, and while the cows ate the soft, green grass, she would sit in some shady nook and knit.

"When the summer days came on and the weather grew warm and sultry, she would often get drowsy and sometimes would lie down and take a short nap. Little by little the nap was lengthened, for Shep was trusty and kept the cows from straying too far away. Then she found that by knitting all the way home

she could accomplish nearly as much as she had been doing through the days when she did not sleep. But Grandmother must not know about her naps. There was nothing that displeased that dear old lady more than idleness, or neglect. So the girl carefully concealed the fact from her. There is no harm in sleeping, she reasoned, and no one need know anything about it. Poor little girl! How little she knew that there is always One (God) who knows all that is done; that although she might succeed in hiding it for a while, her hiding it was doing her harm. "Be sure your sins will find you out."

"One morning when the huckleberries were ripe, a basket was given her and she was told to fill it with the berries during the day. The task was not a hard one, for the woods were full of the berries; the part that she dreaded was keeping awake when her sleepy time came on. I'll keep awake she thought, and not take my nap today. As she ran along after the cows, she swung the basket in her hand and laughed gaily as she thought of the praise she would receive when she returned with it full in the evening. With these thoughts still in her mind, she left the cows quietly feeding in the rich pasture lands below

and began picking the berries which grew in clumps all through the woods. She had not picked long, however, until she realized that the day was very warm and that she was getting sleepy. The more she tried to resist going to sleep the more drowsy she became. At last she thought, I'll lie down just a few minutes, and I shall still have plenty of time to fill my basket."

"Lying on the grass, the balmy air fanning her face, she found it easy to sleep. Now and then the inquisitive sun peeped at her through the openings in the branches of the trees, but she did not see his beaming face, so deeply was she sleeping. Shep, now and then growled at a provoking fly, or ran to change the cows from their notion of straying away; but on and on the little girl slept. Late in the afternoon, just as a fly settled itself upon the tip of her nose for a quiet rest, she frightened him away by opening her eyes and reaching for her knitting. Not until her fingers touched the basket beside her did she realize that her knitting was not there, and that she had been asleep for many hours.

"She was fully awake in an instant, and looking at her nearly empty basket she wondered what to do. The day was nearly gone. She must soon start home with the cows. What would her grandmother say? Suddenly the troubled look changed to a smile. Springing to her feet, she quickly filled her basket with leaves and covered them with her berries she had already gathered. The little joke might make her grandmother good-natured so that she would not think of punishing her for her neglect.

"With her basket on her arm the little girl, the cows, and Shep were soon wending their way toward home. I will tell Grandmother everything thought the little girl, but I'll wait until she empties my basket and finds the leaves. As they were turning into the barn lot her grand-

mother came out of the house and seeing the full basket upon the little girl's arm, she eagerly reached for the berries. With many tender remarks to her granddaughter she carried the basket into the house. Placing them carefully upon the table, she called in the other members of the family to look at them. As each praised the little girl for her work, her courage sank more and more. Oh! what was she going to do?"

(to be continued)

## God Heals and Saves



When I was about 19 years of age I worked for a candy company. I had charge of ordering and shelving one counter. One day, all of a sudden, I became very sick and my heart began to skip beats. They took me home. During the night my heart seemed to just stop beating. I would have to shake myself to get it to start again. I was so frightened that I called for Mother to come. She prayed for me. The next morning she called the minister and others to pray for me.

I had always been very tender toward the Lord and if I had grieved Him I would ask His forgiveness right then. This day when the ministers and others came to pray for me I looked earnestly to the Lord, not only for healing but for any soul-need I had. When they prayed, I yielded to the Lord and just emptied out my heart and life before Him. He not only healed my body but blessed me especially in my soul. I felt so relaxed and peaceful that I just wanted to sleep and sleep. I never before in my life had such a wonderful experience.

The minister asked my parents if I could go home with them and go to the campmeeting at West Frankfort, Ill. They gave their permission. While I was there I was baptized.

At the baptism, a young man about my age, who was the son of the druggist made fun of me and ridiculed the baptism. This was a great trial to me, as a young Christian, but I was glad I was obeying the Lord. Boys and girls, it doesn't pay to make fun of God's people or His plan. This boy didn't live to be very old and as far as I know he never got right with God. —Edith Wall

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“Study to shew Thyself approved unto God.” II Tim. 2:15.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

We are not including the letter that was sent to the Antioch church, but someone can read it from the Bible.

You remember that last Sunday we studied about the question that was brought to Jerusalem which could not be settled in the Antioch church. Paul and Barnabas were settled on the subject, but others wanted more counseling from the elders and apostles in Jerusalem. The council came together. Last Sunday Paul had just finished telling about his and Barnabas' experiences with the Gentiles, and how God had saved and filled them with the Holy Spirit, just as he had the Jews. Our lesson today begins with the Apostle James rising to his feet and taking the floor. We note that all held their peace when he arose. First, he referred to what God had shown Peter, that He was no respecter of persons but that the Gentiles were to be saved as well as the Jews. This was a great revelation to the Jewish Christians, since in past centuries the Jews had no dealings with the Gentiles. It took God to break down this wall between them. He then went on to say that God wanted to take out of the Gentiles a people that would love and serve Him through Jesus Christ. We can just see James walking over to the big

scroll, which had the words of the Old Testament, turning to Amos 9:11 and also to Isaiah 54:1-5, and reading what was written. Boys and girls, it is important that we know what the Bible teaches. We need to use it for our guide and then we can be sure we are right.

After James read these Scriptures he said that he didn't think they should trouble the Gentiles about circumcision but that they be instructed not to eat meat offered to idols, which he called the pollutions of idols. Also not to drink blood or eat meat from animals that had been strangled and the blood had not been drained from it, nor to commit fornication. The heathen had ungodly practices during their idol worship. This was a stench in the nostrils of God. The heathen had become very corrupt but God definitely teaches cleanness in thought and actions. God has created our bodies for a sacred purpose, but many have misused them; and have become so vile that they will surely be punished. God is not pleased with this and those who partake in such practices will surely be punished. Boys and girls, keep clean thoughts in your mind.

After they came to a decision they wrote a letter. Paul, Barnabas, and others took it back and it was read at the Antioch church. They rejoiced to know that the Holy Spirit had revealed the truth to them and they accepted it. We notice in the letter written, that they had sent it after they had all come to “one accord”; they also said that the Holy Spirit had made this known to them. We need to be led by God's Spirit.

—Aunt Marie

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Lesson 12, June 23, 1985

### GOD USES JAMES

Acts 15:13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

19 Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle:

31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them.

**Memory Verse:** For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things. Acts 15:28.

### QUESTIONS:

1. The council met at Jerusalem. Paul and Barnabas had presented the question from the church in Antioch. Who arose to speak in the first of our lesson?
2. What did the people at the council do when James arose?
3. What did James tell the people was the reason that God had visited the Gentiles by His Spirit?
4. Can you tell something about Simon Peter's visit to the Gentiles through Cornelius?
5. To what did James refer to after he spoke about Simon Peter's visit to the Gentiles?
6. What two verses in our lesson were written in the scroll from which James read?
7. Did they have the New Testament to read in this council?
8. Was it foretold in the Old Bible that the Gentiles would be included in the plan of salvation?
9. What did James say after he had read from the Old Bible?
10. What four things in verse 20 did James feel should be required of the Gentiles?
11. Did this please the whole church?
12. Read the letter that was written to be sent to the church in Antioch. (Acts 15:23-29).
13. Did the church rejoice and were they pleased with the letter sent to them from the church in Jerusalem?
14. What did Judas and Silas, who had gone back to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, do while there?

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS547-000)



Vol. 36, No. 2

April, May, June, 1985

Part 13

June 30

## What Neglect Will Do

(continued from last issue)

"Bedtime came at last, and still no one but the little girl knew what the basket contained. She went for a drink and as she passed her grandmother, she gave her an affectionate pat on the head. As she drew the water from the well, her conscience whispered, 'Now is a good time to confess'; but her grandfather was coming along so she hurried off to bed. She knelt beside her little bed, but her prayer was short. Getting up hurriedly she said to herself, 'I'll tell her the first thing in the morning.' During the night she dreamed about the berries and she was glad when it was time to get up.

"Dressing quickly she went down to the kitchen. There sat the basket. The berries seemed like tiny, dark eyes looking right into her very soul. Oh, how could she explain! Again she hastened past her grandmother, and took the path leading to the barn. 'Better go tell your grandmother,' sang the saucy rooster from his perch on the barnyard fence. 'Oh dear!' thought the little girl, 'Everything seems to know it! I wish Grandma knew.' At breakfast she did not engage in her usual merry chatter; she felt a longing to

hurry and get started away with the cows before the basket was emptied. Neglecting to tell her fault at once and take the consequences was making it harder for her all the time.

"Finally everything was ready for her to set out for the day, but just at the last minute one of the cows broke away from the rest. Darting past both Shep and the girl, the cow ran through the garden. A wild chase followed during which several tender vegetables were trodden down. When at last the unruly animal joined the others the little girl saw her grandmother coming with a stick in her hand. It was easy to imagine what was about to happen."

"Did she get a whipping?" asked Ethel.

"Yes," said Mother, "a hard one. Her grandmother whipped her not only for being neglectful and careless but also for deceiving her about the berries. It was a good lesson and one that was not soon forgotten. Her grandmother explained that some harm might have befallen the little girl while she slept, and the cows might have strayed away. Again the child was given an empty basket which was filled with good berries upon her return.

"When we have a duty to do we should always try to perform it as quickly as

possible, for we never know what is going to happen. Neglecting one's duty is nearly as bad as not doing it at all; for when we neglect it once we find it much easier to neglect it the next time. The first thing we know our time is gone and other duties claim our attention.

"Had the five foolish maidens (virgins) listened to their companions, and got oil and not neglected, they could have gone into the marriage feast with the others (Matt. 25:1:12). If the little girl had listened to her conscience and explained everything to her grandmother, instead of trying to deceive her, it would have been much better for her. Thus it is with us all. Our conscience is given to tell us what to do."

"What is the conscience?" Nellie asked thoughtfully.

"It is a gentle little voice within us that speaks when Satan tempts us to do wrong. It does not speak loud or long, but it warns of danger as long as anyone will listen to its voice. But as soon as its warnings are neglected it becomes fainter and after awhile ceases to speak at all.

"Neglect becomes a habit and in a very short time becomes a naughty, careless, willful habit; so be careful never to neglect your duty." —Sel.

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## The Truthful Boy

"Johnny, it is time for you to go to the pasture and drive home the cows," said a farmer to his little boy.

Johnny was playing ball with several of his young companions, and the pasture was a long way off; but he was always obedient to his parents, and so off he ran, without a word of objection.

Being in a hurry to get back to his play, he only half let down the bars, and then hurried the cattle through, when one fine cow, in trying to crowd over, stumbled and fell and broke her leg.

Johnny stood by the suffering creature and thought to himself: "Now what shall I do? That was the finest cow we had, and it will be a great loss to father. What shall I tell him about it?"

"Tell him," whispered the wicked tempter, "that you found the bars half down, and the cow lying there with her leg broken."

"No, I can't say that, for that would be a lie," said Johnny.

"Tell him that while you were driving the cows that big boy of Farmer Brown's threw stones and hurried the cows so that this one fell, and so injured herself," whispered the tempter again.

"No, no; I never told a lie, and I won't begin now. I will tell my father the truth. It is all my fault. I was in a hurry and I frightened the poor creature, and she fell over the bars that I ought to have taken down, and so broke her leg," said Johnny.

So, having taken this right and brave resolution, Johnny went straight to his father, and told him the whole truth, taking all the blame to himself alone. What did his father do? He laid his hand on Johnny's head, and said, "Thank God, my dear son, that He has led and enabled you to tell the truth. I would rather lose every cow that I own than that my boy should tell a falsehood. Always be truthful, in the fear of God, my child, and His blessing, and the blessing of your father will ever be with you." —Sel.

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"A small lad had only two little fish and some small cakes; yet when they were given to the Lord, He so blessed them that over 5,000 hungry people (a big crowd) had all they could eat. Read about it. John 6:5-13."

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"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith." Proverbs 15:17.

"The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies." Psalms 25:9,10.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson begins by saying that those who came with Paul and Barnabas back to Antioch with the letter stayed there for awhile and then went back to Jerusalem, but Silas didn't go; he continued in Antioch.

As time went on, Paul and Barnabas talked again about taking a trip to encourage those who had become new converts on their first missionary trip.

John Mark was a nephew of Barnabas. He was the son of Barnabas' sister, Mary, at whose house the Church one time met to pray for Peter when he was in prison. (Acts 12:12). It is also generally thought that he was the one who wrote the Gospel of Mark, since he lived in Jerusalem. In an earlier lesson we studied about how John Mark had gone with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. On the Isle of Cyprus at Paphos they ran into a false prophet who gave them trouble. Upon reaching the seaport of Perga, we see John Mark departing from them and returning to his home in Jerusalem. (Acts 13:5,13). This act of departing from them had a great affect upon Paul. When embarking upon this second missionary trip to the same places they had gone before, Paul did not want to take Mark. We do understand why he felt this way. He surely had good cause in refusing to take him. Not knowing all the reasons, we can only wonder. It might have been that Mark had become homesick, the trip was too rigid, or that he was full of zeal and didn't want to tarry so long in some places, etc. Barnabas had tender feelings toward

Mark and wanted to take him along. Both were steadfast in their convictions or decisions. Barnabas wanted to take him but Paul didn't. How do you think Mark felt at this time? No doubt he didn't understand it at all, but he kept humble. He still held his love for God and for Paul through it all. He wasn't going to let this cause him to lose confidence in Paul but took it in the right manner. He endeavored "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Boys and girls, a person needs to be willing not to go every time they want to. Then another thing, it is good to take corrections in the right manner. Because Mark took all of this in the right way, later we read in our lesson where Paul had some good things to say about Mark. This proves that he took what Paul had to say about him with humility. Boys and girls, if you are hurt about something, it is best to just pray and ask the Lord to help you. Keep a good feeling toward others and learn the lesson of humility. It will prove to be a blessing to you now and in later years.

Even though Paul and Barnabas separated, we find in I Cor. 9:6 that Paul refers to Barnabas as being a teacher worthy of the fullest confidence of the churches. —Aunt Marie

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### Lesson 13, June 30, 1985 PROBLEM WITH JOHN MARK, A YOUNG MINISTER

Acts 15:33 And after they [messengers who brought letter] had tarried there a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles [at Jerusalem].

34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still [at Antioch].

35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do.

37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.

38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

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

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Col. 4:10 [Paul writes later] Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus [Mark], sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him).

11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.

II Tim. 4:11 [Paul says later] Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring

him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

**Memory Verse:** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Tim. 2:15.

### QUESTIONS:

1. How long did the messengers stay at Antioch, and then where did they go?
2. Who stayed at Antioch?
3. What did Paul and Barnabas do at Antioch?
4. Where did Paul and Barnabas decide to go?
5. Who did Barnabas want to take along with them on the trip?
6. When did we hear of John Mark before? Tell something about him.
7. Did Paul give in and agree with Barnabas to take Mark?
8. Did Barnabas agree with Paul that it would not be good to take Mark?
9. Whom did Paul take with him on the trip?
10. Where did they go and what did they do?
11. In our lesson in Ephesians we read some instructions about how we should do when we have disagreements or problems arise. How are we to walk to keep saved?
12. What does it mean to be meek and have longsuffering with others?
13. How can we "forbear others in love"?
14. What did Paul write later about Mark when he wrote to the Colossians?
15. What did he write to Timothy about Mark?
16. Does it pay to be humble and take reproof or be humble when we are left out?