



Bible Lessons for Juniors

January 4, 2015

LOST IN THE DESERT

In March of 1962, James and I, with four children, moved to Rosarita Beach, Baja California, Mexico. Bobby was 6, Tricia 4, Tim 2, and Rosi 14 months. Three teenagers, Shirley, Mary and Rudy were staying with us that summer. In July our food supply had diminished to potatoes and split pinto beans. We had eaten the last bit of mush without milk for breakfast.

"God's going to send us money today," James said, as he drew a bucket of water from the barrel outside the three-room cabin we had rented for \$10.00 a month. He dumped the water into the tub of dirty laundry I was waiting to scrub—on an old fashion rub board.

"If He doesn't, our diet will be beans and salt. We'll devour the potatoes for lunch."

Hearing a car, I looked around and saw Bro. Harland Smith's white '59 Chevy pickup coming around the house. "I've been sick and couldn't get these supplies to the Indians. I know they are hungry. Could you take them?" He asked.

James nodded approval. He handed James some letters then came in and gave more instruction as to what we should do with the supplies. After this, he prayed, blessed each one individually then jumped into his pickup and was soon out of sight.

Immediately we began packing. There was food stored between the wall studs of the mission house

house on the Reservation and bedding for sleeping. We needed only personal things. Shirley and Mary finished the laundry while I packed and James checked our 1952 Chevy panel truck.

"It's two o'clock now; we should be there by seven," James said, as we pulled onto the main highway.

Fifty miles away, in Ensenada, we cashed the check Bro. Smith had given and filled up with gasoline. Then we bought milk for Rosi, a jug of drinking water, and sandwich fixings that we quickly ate. By 4:00 p.m. we had passed the city dump where the blacktop road ended and were traveling on the trails used for the Baja 500 Off Road Races. In some places, the road was only wide enough for one car. We prayed and honked when we topped hills or rounded blind curves.

The brown panel truck, with neither insulation nor headliner, seemed to absorb every ray of the hot July sun. Inside was like an oven. The water jug was constantly in use. To help cool the children, I put wet washcloths on their heads. James wore one across the back of his neck.

"I believe this road is rougher than ever," James said, as he swerved to miss a big hole.

"Hold the water jug," I yelled.

Rudy grabbed for it but the glass jug fell against the metal floor and broke. Our precious water poured under boxes of clothes, sacks of beans and potatoes, suitcases and bare feet. *-Continued*

The First Martyr

Acts 6: 8-10;

8) And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9) Then there arose certain of the synagogue . . . disputing with Stephen.

10) They were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

Acts 6: 12-13

12) And they stirred up the people . . . and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13) And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

Acts 6: 15

15) And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 6: 54-60

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.



And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Message

Stephen died praying God to forgive his murderers.
Paul was saved in answer to this prayer.

Questions

1. Who was full of faith and the Holy Ghost?
2. What kind of works did he do among the people?
3. Why were those who disputed with him not able to resist his reasoning?
4. What kind of witnesses accused Stephen?
5. What did Stephen's face look like?
6. How were the listeners affected after Stephen's speech?
7. Who did Stephen see when he looked up to heaven?
8. How did they kill Stephen?
9. Where did the murderers lay their clothes?

Memory Verse

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. Acts 7:60



As the church grew rapidly, the apostles were faced with the problem of taking care of the many widows. Calling the multitude of disciples together they explained, "It is not right for us to leave the word of God and serve tables. Choose seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, which we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and preaching the word."

The first man they chose was Stephen, another was Philip. Both of these men were preachers of the gospel. Little is known about the other five. After prayer, the apostles laid their hands on the seven, asking God's blessing upon their work.

Everywhere throughout Jerusalem people talked about Stephen.

Because he was full of faith and Power, he did many wonders and miracles. Then certain religious leaders argued with Stephen about his teachings. They tried to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. But God gave Stephen such wisdom to speak about Jesus that the leaders were left speechless.

They were enraged by Stephen's convincing proof that Jesus was indeed the Christ. Since they could not stop his teachings by disputing them, they hired men to go among the Jews and accuse Stephen. Wherever these men went, they lied, "We have heard Stephen speak against Moses and against God!"

The people were upset by these words; some believed they were true. As soon as the rulers

and scribes heard it, they seized Stephen and brought him before the council.

The men who had been hired to tell lies about Stephen came to the council meeting too. They were called on to tell what they knew about Stephen. They said, "This man never stops saying terrible things about the temple and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the temple and change the customs that Moses gave us."

While the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. They were amazed at his countenance—he looked like an angel! Yet they continued to tell lies about him.

Bravely Stephen stood up and faced his

accusers, telling them the familiar story of their people, beginning with Abraham. He reminded them that their fathers had also disobeyed God's laws.

Enraged by his words, the leaders were furious that Stephen would dare accuse them of doing wrong. To give him courage to face his enemies, God let him see

into heaven. Looking up, Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

At once the rulers cried out loudly. They held their hands over their ears so they would not have to hear another word Stephen said. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the city gate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at a young man's feet whose name was Saul.

As the rocks beat him mercilessly, Stephen called upon God, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then kneeling down, he cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

—Nelda Sorrell



Lost in the Desert *Continued*

Where in Baja's desert will we find more water?

After cleaning the glass from the truck and driving on about another hour, Shirley questioned rather shyly, "Cerro Colorado is to our left, shouldn't it be to the right?"

In the twilight, we could see the mountain. "I must have missed a turn. So we're on the road to El Alamo," James said. "We could spend the night there and go on in the morning."

"Yes, please," I pleaded, "we are all parched, tired and hungry."

"This doesn't look like the road to El Alamo," Shirley said. She had been to Alamo several times.

"We are going up grade. Is there a hill before getting to El Alamo?"

"No," Shirley answered.

"Dink, Mommy, dink," Rosi whined. I kissed her forehead. She felt cool. I was thankful the sun was down and the desert was cooling off.

"We are going into a canyon!" James exclaimed. Serra Colorado was on our left and the one we were descending was forming a wall on our right.

"Look! A wooden gate across the road."

"Good, there must be a house nearby," I said hopefully.

"Let's pray and let the motor rest a while," James said. "I don't know where to go from here."

We prayed, then let the children run while we discussed which direction we should go. When we

were ready to go; the truck would not start!

(To be continued next week)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Bible Drill!

The first student to find the following verses about persecution Christians will suffer and write them on the lines below is the winner!

2 Timothy 3:12 _____

Matthew 5:12 _____

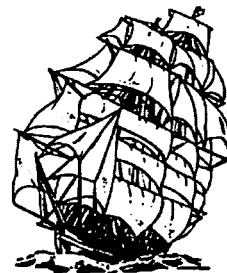
2 Corinthians 12:10 _____

Romans 8:35 _____

Answers:

1. Stephen. 2. Great wonders and miracles. 3. He spoke by the Spirit with great wisdom. 4. False witnesses. 5. An angel's. 6. They were cut to the heart. 7. Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 8. By stoning him. 9. At Saul's feet.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 1, January 4, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address.



A Night in the Desert

We were lost on the Baja California desert somewhere between Ensenada and San Felipe. And our 52 Chevy panel truck would not start! Thankfully, the July sun had gone down and the air was cooling. However, with four young children under the age of seven, three teenagers and neither water nor food, it was frightening.

We decided to push the truck down the hill, in hopes that would cause it to start. However, to our dismay the wooden gate across the road opened toward the truck. All of us together pushed the truck back up hill until we could open the gate. Then we pushed the truck to the bottom of the hill, but the motor refused to start.

"I guess we are spending the night here," James said.

"But we have no water," I protested. Two-year-old Tim leaned his head against my arm and cried,

"Thirsty, Mommy, thirsty." I patted his hot cheek. It was wet with sweat. "Let's get out into the fresh air." I handed Rosi to Mary and we got out. To divert his attention from thirst, I began pointing to the stars and the big moon.

"Let's pray again," James said. We were desperate to get God's attention, so we all knelt in the sand. As I listened to others praying, I recalled the stories my Mother had read me about God supplying food and water for the children of Israel when

they were crossing a desert. She always assured me God would do for me just as He had done for the people of Bible times; that is, if I lived to please Him.

As the children's soft voices were praying, I could hear coyotes barking. Before we were up off our knees, James said, "Better gather sticks and start a fire. There are lions and bobcats around here, too. A fire will be some protection."

"Do you think we'll be here long enough for potatoes to bake in the coals of this camp fire?" I asked James.

"We'll be here all night, the truck battery is dead."

In the darkness, the mountain on the south appeared to be a vertical wall. However, the one to the north arose more gradually. After James built a fire, he picked up the flashlight, and with Shirley, Mary, Rudy and Bobby trailing behind began climbing. They scanned the bushes continually for any sign of wild animals. At the top all five pairs of eyes searched again and again through the darkness for light that might indicate a nearby ranch house. The only light that could be seen came from the moon and stars overhead or our camp fire below.

I sat down by the campfire with baby Rosi in my arms, while Tim and Tricia huddled beside me. I sang, "I'll not be afraid for the terror by night... For the Lord whom I serve is my shield and my light ..."

—Continued

On the Road to Damascus

Acts 9:1-6

- 1) And Saul . . . went unto the high priest,
- 2) And desired of him letters . . . that if he found any of this way . . . he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
- 3) And as he journeyed . . . 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 . . .
- 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.

Acts 9: 8-11

- 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.
- 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 . . . inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

Acts 9: 13

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

Acts 9:15-18

- 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 . . . said, Brother Saul, the Lord . . . hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18) And immediately . . . he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

The Message

Saul was changed from a murderous opponent of the truth into Paul, an apostle of the gospel, by God's mighty power to save!

Questions

1. Why did Saul desire letters from the high priest?
2. What happened as he journeyed?
3. When he fell to the ground, what did the voice ask?
4. Who was speaking to Saul?
5. How long was Saul blind?
6. Who prayed for Saul to receive his sight?
7. God said Saul was a ____ vessel to bear His name before the Gentiles.
8. What did Saul do as soon as he received his sight?

Memory Verse

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17



Paul, who is introduced as Saul in the scriptures, was born in Tarsus. As a boy, he left his home and went to Jerusalem to study the Law of Moses under Gamaliel, a great teacher. Then, when Saul was older, he became a strict Pharisee.

At that time, more and more people in Jerusalem believed that Jesus was the Son of God. They did not keep the strict commandments as the Pharisees interpreted the Law. Saul was shocked. He felt that the followers of Jesus were disobeying the Law of God. He must stop them from spreading such a gospel!

In Jerusalem, Saul mistreated many believers by having them arrested. Some were even put to death for their loyalty to Jesus. While Stephen, the first martyr, was being stoned to death, Saul stood watching with satisfaction. Life became so miserable for them in Jerusalem that many believers fled to other cities for safety. Wherever they went they taught the people about Jesus.

This infuriated Saul. When he heard that there were believers in Damascus, he went to the high priest for letters of permission to go to that city and search for followers of Jesus. He planned to kill them or bring them back to Jerusalem as prisoners.

So with the letters authorizing him to arrest any who believed in Jesus, Saul started towards Damascus with a few friends. It was about noon and they were so near the city that they could see the great wall surrounding Damascus. Suddenly, a brilliant light brighter than the sun shone round

"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked fearfully.

"I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting," He answered.

Saul asked, "What do you want me to do?" Then the Lord instructed him to go on to Damascus. There he would be told what he must do.

Meanwhile, the men with him stood speechless, wondering what the voice and brilliant light could mean. When Saul got up, he opened his eyes but he could not see anything. He was blind!

Three days passed and still Saul could not see. He sat alone in his darkness. He was so troubled he could not eat or drink anything.

Then God instructed Ananias, a believer who lived in Damascus, to go to the house of Judas and ask for a man called Saul of Tarsus. "He is praying," God told him "and he has seen a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he will receive his sight!"

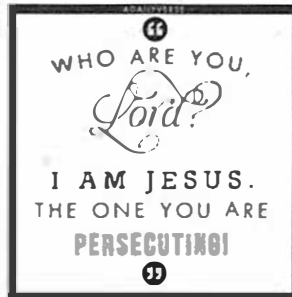
Ananias was shocked. Every believer knew and feared this man, Saul! "Lord," Ananias protested, "the chief priest has

sent him here to capture all who believe in You." But God told him that Saul was a chosen vessel and that He had a great work for him to do.

When Ananias obeyed and prayed for him, Saul's sight returned. He repented of his sins, accepted Jesus as his Savior, and was baptized. He gave his life so completely to God that He was able to use him in many wonderful ways to spread the gospel.

Have you put your life in God's hands? He has a grand purpose and plan for you, just as He did for Paul. You will never regret letting God work out His plan in your life!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



A Night in the Desert *Continued*

Inside I was shaking, but I dared not act afraid because of the children. The rest of the group seemed so far away.

A cold wind began blowing. *Just like the desert, I thought, very hot in the day and cold at night.* I went to the truck to get some old clothes to wrap around us. As I looked back toward the campfire, I saw Tricia and Timmy huddled together. They were singing, "My not be 'fraid. My not be 'fraid, de Lord who me serve is me wheel and me light." My fear left as they sang, for I knew God would not desert such trusting children.

As the others came down the mountain, I heard them singing:

"If it wasn't for the Lord,
Tell me what would I do?
Tell me what would I do?
If it wasn't for the Lord,
Tell me what would I do?
He is everything to me."
He is bread in dry places.
He is water in a thirsty land.
He is my rock and shelter.

He holds me by the hand. . . "

We sang it again, around the camp fire. After that ,no one complained of being thirsty or afraid.

(To be continued)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

On the Road to Damascus:

Crossword Puzzle

E	B	O	U	T	T	K	S	S	T
N	T	L	U	K	X	A	L	U	D
F	T	U	I	H	I	W	I	C	J
L	U	X	C	N	Y	Q	G	S	U
K	A	B	A	E	D	W	H	A	L
N	A	N	Y	R	S	V	T	M	J
D	A	G	Y	T	W	R	I	A	F
N	A	T	F	Z	H	Q	E	D	B
I	V	O	L	T	B	F	V	P	E
J	E	U	R	D	D	C	H	L	E
I	X	B	E	W	R	S	N	S	M
J	D	S	A	N	O	M	A	N	A
J	W	X	N	D	L	U	W	C	Q
V	O	I	C	E	L	F	V	F	Q
L	U	A	P	E	B	F	Q	M	S

PERSECUTE	SAUL	PAUL	ANANIAS
DAMASCUS	ROAD	VOICE	BLIND
LIGHT	LORD		

Answers:

1. So if he found any believers he could bring them bound to Jerusalem. 2. A light from heaven shined around him. 3. "Why are you persecuting Me?" 4. Jesus. 5. Three days. 6. Ananias. 7. Chosen. 8. Arose and was baptized.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 2, January 11, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Smoke from a Chimney

The truck would not start and there was no help in sight. It was evident—this is where we would spend the night! With unwashed hands, we ate the dry baked potatoes, peeling away the dirt and ashes. Miraculously nobody asked for a drink!!!

We put more wood on the fire. One by one the children fell asleep. We put them inside the panel truck for the remainder of the night while the rest of us kept singing and talking around the fire.

About midnight we began nodding. "We'll need to keep this fire going all night to keep wild animals away. Whenever anyone wakes up, be sure to put more wood on it," James said. Then we lay over in the sand and slept. Throughout the night I could hear the coyotes' ferocious howls. They seemed to be getting nearer and nearer.

As the first bit of light came over the mountain from the east, I awoke and put more unwashed potatoes in the coals. As soon as it was light enough, we read the Bible and prayed together. Then James went to work on the truck. The teenagers and Bobby climbed the mountain again in search of a house.

"There's smoke rising from a clump of trees!" they shouted. James raced up the mountain.

"It looks like smoke from a chimney! See that red? It might be the roof of a house," he said.

Shirley could speak a little Spanish so we sent her to investigate. "Take this compass, and be sure

to follow its direction," James explained.

"According to it, that house is directly east. When you come back, come directly west and you won't get lost, even if the compass is not exactly right."

Mary went with her. As I watched them disappear, I said, "Please, Lord don't let anything bad happen to them!" I checked the time. It was 7:30, they should be back by 9:30 or 10:00.

While James checked out the truck, the children were playing contentedly in the shade of a tree. Although it had been 14 hours since having a drink, no one asked for water! Nor had Rosi cried for her bottle!

By 10:00, Shirley and Mary still had not returned, so I climbed the mountain hoping to spot them. I saw nothing of the girls and was almost back down when James called. "Come here, I need your help."

"We're going to pretend this truck is a lawn mower," he said. "I've jacked up the rear wheel and taken off the tire. Now we will pull this rope that I have coiled around it. Rudy, you sit in the cab. Push the choke in when the motor starts."

James took the end of the rope and said. "Everyone line up in front of me and grab the rope. When I say 'pull', everyone pull at the same time. Okay, let's go. One, two, three, PULL!"

We pulled; it slipped and James sat down hard. I fell on his lap and Bobby on mine—all five of us in a stack!

Continued

Saul Escapes in a Basket

Galatians 1:17

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 9:20-31

20) And straightway he (Paul) 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.

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.

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

26) And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, 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.

28) And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

29) And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

30) Which when the brethren knew, they brought



him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

31) Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

The Message

When Paul gave his life to serve God the unbelievers wanted to destroy him, just as they had tried to destroy Jesus.

Questions

1. What did Saul do in the synagogues?
2. What did he preach?
3. How did his listeners react?
4. What did he prove to the Jews?
5. When the Jews took counsel, what did they decide to do?
6. What did they do to prevent Saul's escape?
7. How did he escape?
8. In Jerusalem, who brought Saul to the apostles?

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)



The Jews of Damascus were amazed when they found Saul worshipping with the disciples of Jesus. They thought that he would rid Damascus of all believers. Instead he became one of them!

They were even more astonished when they saw him stand up before all the people in the synagogue and boldly preach that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God! The people listened and asked one another, "Isn't this the man who imprisoned and even killed many people in Jerusalem because they believed that Jesus was the Christ? Didn't we hear that he was coming to Damascus to arrest the believers and take them back to the high priest in Jerusalem?"

After Saul left Damascus, he disappeared into Arabia to be alone with God. He felt a deep need to know the truth for himself and be so thoroughly convinced that he could teach it to others with authority. Later Saul could write, "I have received of the Lord that which I also delivered unto you." (I Corinthians 11:23)

There, out in the desert, shut off from the noise and confusion of life, Saul let God free him from a lifetime of wrong thoughts and the bondage of Jewish law and tradition. As he restudied the Scriptures and meditated on the great doctrines, they became real and clear to him. Now he saw clearly that Jesus of Nazareth, whom he had once despised, was indeed the Messiah! He learned the blessedness of talking with God as with a dear Friend. He learned the voice and will of God. His only purpose in life then was to always live in God's favor.



Modern day city of Damascus

Now he longed to teach others, to establish churches, and to strengthen them. He had killed others in his ignorance of Christ. Now with Christ in his heart, he would offer his life in exchange. He would gladly face death for Jesus' sake. He felt calm and strengthened as he left the desert of Arabia to return to Damascus.

Once more in Damascus he preached in the synagogues with boldness and conviction. Even the Jewish teachers who did not believe in Jesus could not prove that Saul's teaching was wrong. Many of the Jews who listened came to believe in Jesus.

This enraged the Jewish rulers. Meeting in a secret council, they made plans to kill Saul. They placed guards at each city gate with orders to kill him if he tried to leave the city. At any cost they must get rid of this traitor!

Saul soon heard about their plans. Believers urged him to run for his life. So, waiting for the dark of night, they took him to a building on top of the city wall. There they secured a strong rope to a large basket. Saul climbed into the basket and his friends slowly lowered him to the ground outside the city. This time he made his escape!

With a strong desire to tell how Jesus had changed his heart and life, Saul headed for Jerusalem. As soon as he reached the city, he went to find the apostles and believers. But they remembered all too well his persecutions. They were afraid of him!

Finally, Saul found a friend in kindhearted Barnabas. Barnabas took him to the apostles and told them all that had happened to Saul on the road to Damascus, how that the Lord had spoken to him and changed his life completely. After this the church received Saul gladly.

—Nelda Sorrell

Smoke from a Chimney *Continued*

We pulled on the rope and fell on top of each other again—then again and again. But the motor only coughed!

Finally at 11:15, the girls came back with a little short dark Mexican man and a team of beady-eyed horses. "Caballos ayudan?" he asked.

James looked at the pair of nervous wild-eyed horses and knew it wouldn't do to hook them just six feet behind the tail pipe of the noisy truck.

"Caballos, no," James answered. "Hombre, si." He pointed to the man and then to the rope. "Now if everyone will help pull, I think this rig will start."

This time there were nine in the line, and James was working the choke. Everyone pulled backwards as hard as possible. The little ones soon wore out, but the others kept pulling and pulling. On about the twentieth try the motor started! "Thank the Lord!" we all shouted.

The helpful man led us down the road to a fresh water spring where watercress grew around the edges. "Please God, make this water pure for us," James prayed as he filled cup after cup and handed it to the thirsty children. I filled a clean bottle for Rosi and added her formula.

(To be continued) —*Sis. Charlotte Huskey*

Saul Escapes in a Basket

How should we react when we are persecuted? Fill in the blank to find out.

Matthew 5:44

But I say unto you, _____ your enemies,
_____ them that _____ you,
do _____ to them that _____ you,
and _____ for them which _____
use you, and _____ you;

Proverbs 25:21

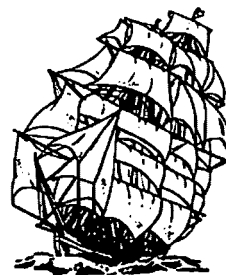
If thine _____ be _____, give him
_____ to eat; and if he be _____,
give him _____ to _____

Matthew 5: 39

But I say unto you, That ye _____ not evil:
but whosoever shall _____ thee on thy
right _____, turn to him the _____ also.

Answers:

1. Preached. 2. That Christ is the Son of God. 3. They were amazed. 4. That Jesus was Christ. 5. Kill Saul. 6. Watched the gates day and night. 7. At night the disciples let him down over the wall in a basket. 8. Barnabas.



Bible Lessons for Juniors

January 25, 2015

Stuck in the Sand

Water! What a wonderful blessing when our new friend led us to a nearby spring of water. After washing in the cool water, we sat in the shade and munched sprigs of watercress. The man looked puzzled then said, "You people different. You are lost, broke down, in a strange country, yet you aren't afraid."

"We are children of God," Shirley helped James explain. "God is our father. He has kept us from being hungry or thirsty. Our baby usually drinks a bottle of milk every five hours. It's been 17 hours since she had one, and she hasn't cried. Would you like to serve a God like that? I have a book that will help you get acquainted with Him." He took a New Testament from the truck and gave it to the man.

"Gracias," the man exclaimed, then said something to Shirley. Shirley told us he said, "I've been wanting one of these books for a long time."

Following the man's instructions, we went back the same way until we came to a fork in the road where we took the right. At 1:15 p.m. we came upon a ranch and stopped to affirm the direction given by the man. A short plump woman met us at the door and invited us to sit down. Hurrying back to her oven, she brought a pan of hot biscuits. She motioned for us to take some. They tasted somewhat like sugar cookies. Then she brought out nine tall glasses and filled each one with milk from a bucket sitting on the table. We had been warned

never to drink unpasteurized milk in Mexico, but we could not refuse the children such a treat when they were so hungry. We bowed our heads and thanked God for bringing us to this generous home and asked Him to bless her and the milk.

In broken Spanish we explained to the woman how we had broken our water jug the day before. She graciously gave us another one filled with good water. We tried to pay her but she shook her head no and began talking excitedly in Spanish. Shirley understood her to say that she was happy to have someone visit her. Sometimes almost a week would pass without a car passing.

"Muchas gracias," we all told her. Then James wrote our names in a New Testament and gave it to her. She smiled happily and said, "Muchas gracias."

Soon we were on the hot desert road which was only 2 ruts in loose sand. Before we had gone 5 miles, a truck met us. We pulled to the right to let him by and immediately found ourselves STUCK IN THE SAND. We were hidden by the dust of the truck. It was soon out of our hearing.

I knew the children would be overcome by heat if I didn't get them out soon. There were no trees in sight, so I took the suit jackets and spread them over a nearby mesquite bush, and then I spread other jackets on the sand to keep it from burning their feet.

—Continued

Barnabas and Paul in Antioch

Acts 11:19-30

19) Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

20) And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21) And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22) Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

23) Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24) For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25) .. departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26) And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

27) And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

28) And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

29) Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

30) Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.



Acts 12:24-25

24) But the word of God grew and multiplied.

25) And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

The Message

When persecution scattered the believers from Jerusalem they preached the gospel wherever they went. God turned their trouble into a blessing for many.

Questions

1. Who were the only ones the believers preached to at first?
2. Whose hand was with them?
3. How many believed?
4. Who was sent to Antioch?
5. What did he exhort the believers to do?
6. What kind of man was Barnabas?
7. Who did Barnabas look for in Tarsus?
8. Where were the disciples first called Christians?

Memory Verse

... he ... exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. Acts 11:23



As persecution increased in Jerusalem, more and more people who believed in Jesus moved away. Some went beyond the borders of Palestine into foreign lands. A great number went to Damascus. Others continued until they reached Antioch, the beautiful capital of Syria, three hundred miles north of Jerusalem.

But wherever they went these believers told about Jesus. At first they told the good news to the Jews only, but people of other nationalities began to inquire when they saw the joy and peace the believers enjoyed. Soon they preached to Jews and Gentiles alike, and many that heard believed and turned to the Lord.

When the church at Jerusalem heard about the believers at Antioch, they sent Barnabas to visit them. It took him several days to get to Antioch. As soon as he reached the city, he hurried to meet the believers. As they came together he could not help being impressed with the great number of Gentiles who now believed in Jesus. What a great change this made in their lives! Barnabas was glad for what he saw and encouraged them to always stay true to the Lord and serve Him with all their hearts.

The believers brought their friends and neighbors to hear Barnabas preach, and many more people were won to the Lord. The church at Antioch was growing so fast that Barnabas needed more help. He remembered that God had called Saul to preach to the Gentiles. Saul was now in his hometown of Tarsus, which was not far from Antioch. Barnabas decided he would go find Saul.

It had been years since Saul and Barnabas had seen each other, and they were glad to meet again. Saul listened attentively as Barnabas told him about the great work that had begun in Antioch. The more he heard the more sure he was that this was a door God was opening for him. He agreed to leave at once.

For a year, Saul worked with Barnabas at Antioch. He spoke with deep conviction and earnestness, and the Lord made his preaching and teaching successful. It was not long before more believers lived in Antioch than in Jerusalem because the church in Antioch had peace.

People began to notice a sharp contrast between themselves and the believers. They were kind even when someone did them wrong and never returned the evil. It seemed that Christ was always the main theme of their teaching, their preaching and their conversation. Soon the people had a name for these peculiar people. It was in Antioch that the believers were first called 'Christians' which means 'like Christ'.

Prophets from Jerusalem came to visit the church at Antioch. They said God had shown them that there was to be a great famine throughout all the lands.

After some time a great famine did come. Word reached the church at Antioch that the believers in Judea were hungry and in need. At once the Christians at Antioch purposed to help. Each man gave as large an offering as he could. Then the church chose Barnabas and Saul to take this offering to the saints at Jerusalem.

When the two got ready to go back to Antioch, Barnabas and Saul invited John Mark to go with them. He accepted at once and later became a fervent gospel worker.

—Nelda Sorrell



Barnabas and Paul in Antioch

How should Christians act in a city filled with unbelievers? Color the ways Christians should act green and put an x over the words that do not describe Christians.

Stuck in the Sand *Continued*

James, the teenagers, and I did everything we knew to get the truck out. The sand burned our feet through our shoes, and our wash cloth hats kept falling off. "We have done everything we can except pray," James finally said.

"Oh, God," he begged with bowed head, "I don't need to tell you how badly we want your help. We're hot and helpless..." Before he finished praying we heard a rumbling sound. Across the desert toward the south we saw a cloud of dust. As we watched, the cloud got nearer and nearer. "It's a pick-up!" Rudy shouted from his lookout point on top of the panel.

It pulled up beside us and the driver shouted, "¿Que pasó?" (What happened?)

James pointed to the truck buried to the axle in hot sand. The man quickly hooked a chain to our truck and pulled it backward out into the ruts again.

"You're lucky we came along," the driver said in Spanish, then sped away.

"This wasn't luck," James said. "God sent him along to help us."

(To be continued)

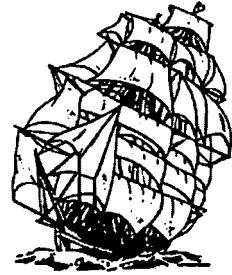
—Charlotte Huskey

Jealous	Loving	Giving
Hating	Gossiping	Joyful
Teaching the Gospel	Peaceful	Angry
Forgiving	Gentle	Kind
Stealing	Cheating	Lying
Patient	Unselfish	Fighting
Merciful	Selfish	Content
Cursing	Unforgiving	Discerning

Answers:

1. The Jews. 2. The Lord's. 3. A great number. 4. Barnabas. 5. To purpose in their hearts to always stay true to God. 6. A good man full of the Holy Ghost and faith. 7. Saul. 8. In Antioch.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 4, January 25, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 1, 2015

Home At Last

El Alamo is a picturesque village that nestles at the foot of the Sierra Madre Mountains in Baja, California. There is an old gold mine at the West side. Of the many homes that dot the landscape, only a few are occupied.

In the days of the gold rush, El Alamo had five active gold mines around the city and a population of over 5,000; now scarcely 100 people live there. Bro. R. J. Elliott (companion of Bro. D.S. Warner) preached in El Alamo about 1900. He came into the town tired and hungry after walking 26 miles and was treated rudely by the American miners and the owner of the mines. A Chinese cook saw it and gave him a piece of pie, brought a blanket, and let him sleep on the table. The American mine workers were rough and godless, but when Bro. Elliott preached they showed respect and listened. The Mexicans seemed hungry for the Gospel and bought all the Bibles and New Testaments which he had carried in on his pack donkey. There were also many Chinese men working the mines.

Bro. Elliott was disheartened because the people rejected the Gospel. When leaving the city he prayed, "Lord, let there someday be a Church of God in this place." Some seventy years later those prayers were answered when a group of saints led by Bro. Harland Smith raised up a congregation there. For several years camp meetings were held with large attendance. The church building and

mission house were at the east edge of the town.

From El Alamo, it was another hour's drive to Santa Catarina, the Indian settlement. The Indians went to buy their provisions at the store in El Alamo unless they were fortunate enough to get a ride to Ensenada. El Alamo's store had two small shelves of canned food, unwrapped bread, packaged crackers, and soaps for bath or laundry. There were the usual staple foods such as flour, sugar, salt, cereal, and of course, chili pepper. One could also purchase hardware items, such as buckets, wash basins, tubs, ropes, knives etc. and gasoline for their pick-ups from the gasoline barrel that was outside.

Darkness was settling over us when we drove up in front of the church. We made a "poor man's feast" from canned vegetables we found in the mission house and things James bought from the store. After supper, James visited some homes and discovered several were sick and wishing for prayer. Now we knew, at least in part, why God allowed us to miss the road and end up in El Alamo.

The next morning, after visiting the sick again, we started out for Santa Catarina and arrived without any trouble. What might be called the center of the reservation was the one-room school house, the three-room mission house, and three family dwellings near the dam which Harland Smith and Barney Wittenborn had constructed.

Continued

The First Missionaries

Acts 13:1-12

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 Bar-jesus:

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.

The Message

As Jesus promised, the Holy Ghost was faithful to direct His followers in spreading the gospel.

Questions

1. Who spoke to the followers of Jesus as they fasted?
2. Who did He say should be separated for a special work?
3. What did they do before they sent these two away?
4. Who ministered with Saul and Barnabas?
5. The deputy, Sergius Paulus, was what kind of man?
6. Why had the deputy called for Barnabas and Saul?
7. Why did the sorcerer withstand Barnabas and Saul?
8. What happened after Saul (Paul) told him he would be blind?

Memory Verse

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.

Acts 13:2



The church at Antioch continued to prosper. It grew so large that it took several teachers to minister to the people. These teachers often met with Barnabas and Saul to pray for the work of the church. One day as they fasted and prayed, the presence of God was felt in a very special way. The Holy Spirit spoke plainly telling them, "Set Barnabas and Saul apart for the special work to which I have called them." They all understood that God wanted Barnabas and Saul to go preach the good news of Jesus' love to others.

This was a new venture and though the church at Antioch hated to see Barnabas and Saul leave they knew God had a special work for them. After a time of prayer and fasting the leaders laid their hands on the two and sent them on their first missionary trip. John Mark went with them.

The first stopping place was at the island of Cyprus. As soon as they had found a place to stay, they went first to one synagogue, then to another, telling the story of Jesus to the Jewish leaders. Then they traveled on across the island until they came to the city of Paphos on the west coast.

Sergius Paulus had been sent by Rome to govern the island and made his home in Paphos, the capitol city. When the governor heard about Barnabas and Saul he sent for them hoping to hear the new doctrine they taught. Saul spoke boldly telling how Jesus had come to save the people from their sins. But a sorcerer named Bar-Jesus who was also called Elymas, began to dispute the truth. Saul could see that the devil was using Elymas to keep the truth from the governor.

The Holy Spirit directed Saul to warn him, "You child of the devil and enemy of all righteousness, will you always oppose the ways of the Lord? And now the hand of the Lord is upon you and you will be

blind for a while.

"From that moment the man could see nothing and had to ask for someone to lead him about by the hand. The governor looked on in amazement. He knew he had seen the mighty hand of God bring judgment against this rebellious man and he was convinced this was the true God. The governor believed and was numbered with the Christians. This greatly encouraged the missionaries. God had honored their ministry already and given them the leading man of the island. As Saul continued to work among the Gentiles, he was called Paul, the Roman form of his name. "Saul" was a Jewish name and somehow stood for all he had been as a Jew and Pharisee. "Paul" stood for the new man and his new work. From this time to the very end of his life he used this Roman name in signing all his letters.

—Nelda Sorrell



Sis. Nelda Sorrell has been faithfully contributing material for the junior papers for 14 years.

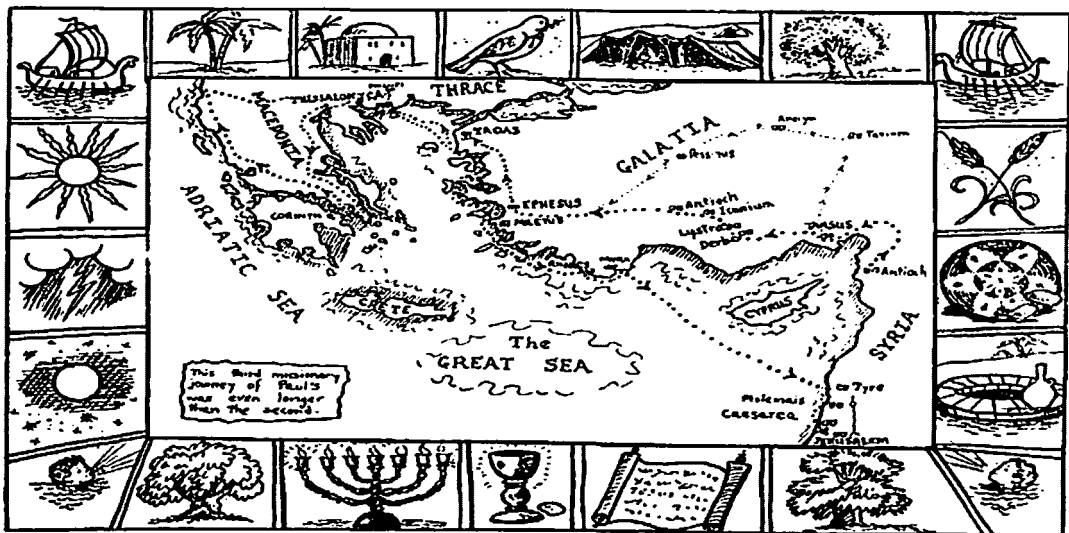
Home At Last Continued

Immediately, James and Rudy began visiting the people and delivering the beans and potatoes. Homes, made from adobe blocks or sticks plastered with mud, were scattered among miles of rolling desert hills. Because their houses were so far apart it took all of the remaining day and most of the next day to distribute food to each family.

Thursday we said good-bye to our Indian friends and started back to our home in Rosarita Beach. The trip home took a little over five hours.

As we were getting unpacked, one of our neighbors brought our mail. There were letters from each of our parents, Alvin and Mabel Hightower and H.P and Agnes Huskey. There was also a letter from a friend, as well as one from a stranger which had a check in it for enough money to buy a month's supply of groceries.

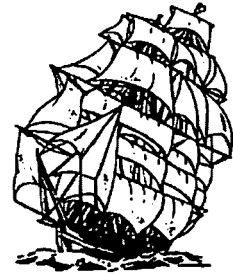
—Charlotte Huskey



This is a map of some of Paul's journeys.

Answers:

1. The Holy Ghost.
2. Barnabas and Saul.
3. They fasted and prayed and laid hands on them.
4. John.
5. A prudent man.
6. He wanted to hear the word of God.
7. He did not want the deputy to believe on Jesus.
8. He could not see.



Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 8, 2015

GOD HEALED OUR CAR!

"Put your sleeping bag in this corner," I said to Ben. Ben tucked his bag in the corner, then he washed the windshield while I finished packing our lunch. James was doing last minute check-ups on our 1984 Ford LTD Country Squire station wagon.

We were going from Guthrie, Oklahoma to Tijuana, which is in the most northwestern corner of Mexico. From there we were traveling on to Veracruz, a state in the southeastern part of Mexico. The distance would be about 5,567 km. (3,340 miles), not including many side trips nor the return home.

Several people in the congregation in Tijuana wanted to go with us to visit their families and share the gospel with them. These families lived in different states through which we would pass before arriving at our final destination in Veracruz, Veracruz. They had been saving their money for a long time to make this trip.

Bro. Humberto had repaired his big Ford turtle-top van and it was in good running condition. There would be seventeen of us in all. Six and sometimes seven rode with us, the others piled into Humberto's van.

The morning was cool as we drove down I-35 to OKC where we took I-40 west. By eleven o'clock we were feeling the heat of the July sun. However, the air conditioner kept us comfortable inside the wagon. We crossed the Texas panhandle without trouble; but by the time we entered New Mexico,

almost stopped before we went over the peak. This slowed us down greatly. To reserve power we rolled down the windows and turned the air conditioner off. We were hoping to get to Albuquerque where car parts would be available. We started turning the engine off as soon as we topped a hill to allow the motor to cool while we coasted down the other side. At the bottom we would start the motor again and go up the next hill, and again coast down.

"The sun is dropping fast," James said. "We had better find a place to get off the road for the night. This car might stop where there isn't a shoulder." A short distance ahead we stopped at an abandoned gas station. It was on a hill that would give us a good start the next morning. Also there was ample room for parking. The boys, Ben, Doug Cole and Jeremy Booher, found a safe place to sleep; James and I bedded down in the station wagon.

The following morning we hobbled along until we came to a small town and found its only garage. After examining the motor the mechanic said, "I have to order head gaskets from Albuquerque. This being Saturday, I will not get them delivered until Monday."

We were to leave from Tijuana Monday morning. We thought we must go on, for many people who had sacrificed greatly for this trip were waiting for us.

"Oh, God show us what we should do," James prayed. "Will you keep this old Ford running?"

Mistaken As Gods

Acts 14:8-15

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.

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:

Acts 14:18-22

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 . . .



The Message

Idol worship makes men do foolish things. God gives power and a sound mind to those who know and worship Him.

Questions

1. What was wrong with the man at Lystra?
2. Who did he hear speak?
3. What did Paul say to him?
4. What did the lame man do?
5. What did the people say when they saw what Paul had done?
6. Who did they call Jupiter?
7. Why did the priests bring oxen and garlands?
8. What did they do to Paul?
9. Why did they drag Paul out of the city?

Memory Verse

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear;
but of power, and of love,
and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7



Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark left Paphos and sailed to a place called Perga in Asia Minor. It was a hard trip and they were constantly surrounded by many dangers. At times, they were tired, hungry and cold. Young John Mark decided to return to Jerusalem at this time but Paul and Barnabas went on together preaching God's word from one city to the next until they came to Lystra.

The people of Lystra listened attentively to the disciples as they preached about Christ. Many were won from their idolatry and were numbered with the Christians.

One day while Paul was speaking to a crowd and telling them about the true and living God, he saw a lame man listening intently. This man had been crippled from his birth and had never walked. Something in the sermon touched the man's heart and Paul could see that the Spirit of God was speaking to him. Suddenly Paul looked directly at the crippled man and with a loud voice said, "Stand upright on your feet!" In a moment the lame man was on his feet, leaping and walking. The crowd gasped in amazement. They had witnessed a miracle! "The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men!" they shouted.

The news spread through the city and mobs gathered to stare at the disciples. They felt their gods, Jupiter and Mercury had come. Who else could perform such a miracle? They called Barnabas, Jupiter. Since Paul was the chief speaker they felt he must be Mercury.

Soon the priests of the temple of Jupiter came bringing oxen and garlands to the disciples. Men and

women ran through the streets telling others that the gods had come down to them. A great crowd gathered at the gate, led by the priests, to offer sacrifice to these gods. When Paul and Barnabas realized that the people were worshiping them they were appalled. They tore their garments as a sign of great anguish and ran among the people shouting. Suddenly the crowd became silent—they must hear what the gods were saying!

"Sirs, why are you doing these things? We also are men of like passions as you, and preach unto you that you should turn from these idols and serve the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein!" they told the people. With all that, they were scarcely able to persuade the people that they should not sacrifice to them.

Finally the crowd scattered. Many still wondered just how the miracle had happened. The priests led the oxen back to their stalls in the temple. The excitement turned to disappointment. Those who had been loudest in their praise of Paul and Barnabas now began to find fault with them.

Unfortunately some travelers arrived from Antioch and Iconium. Catching sight of the two missionaries, they began to say they were frauds and imposters. This was all it took to turn the crowd once more into a howling mob. Now instead of wanting to worship Paul and Barnabas the people wanted to kill them.

Barnabas escaped but they caught Paul and stoned him. Supposing him to be dead, they dragged him out of the city gate and left. But as some of the believers gathered around him, Paul opened his eyes, stood up, and bravely went right back into the city!

—Nelda Sorrell



God Healed Our Car (Continued)

After praying he said. "I think we should have special prayer for the car." We gathered around the car and prayed.

"I think we will try to get on to Albuquerque. What do I owe you for your service?" James asked.

"Nothing. Sorry I couldn't help you. I hope you make it." As we drove away, the mechanic was shaking his head.

Out of town the car picked up speed and ran perfectly. In Albuquerque we purchased the head gaskets we needed. We tucked them under our luggage and drove on to Tijuana, Mexico without a bit of trouble. It is about 1400 miles from Oklahoma to Tijuana.

Monday we left for Veracruz. Besides the highway miles, we made a dozen or more side trips to towns and villages to share the Gospel with family and friends. We toured Mexico City and returned back to Guthrie, Ok. The whole trip was approximately 15,000 kilometers (9,000 miles).

When we sold that 1984 Ford LTD station wagon several years later, we gave the package of unopened head gaskets to its new owner!

—Charlotte Huskey

Mistaken For gods: Word Search

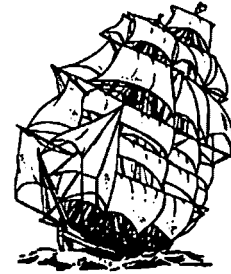
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U	O	I	L	I	N	U	G	P	J
J	A	O	P	Q	M	D	Q	A	W
F	V	P	Y	R	U	C	R	U	M
E	L	G	L	O	C	C	K	L	H
E	G	U	M	B	F	M	U	C	J
G	C	S	J	E	W	X	H	A	Q

CRIPPLE	HEALED	FAITH	MURCURY
JUPITER	PAUL	BARNABAS	POWER
LOVE	SOUND	MIND	

Answers:

1. He was crippled. 2. Paul. 3. "Stand up on your feet!" 4. He leaped and walked. 5. "The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men." 6. Barnabas. 7. To offer sacrifice to Barnabas and Paul. 8. Stoned him. 9. They thought he was dead.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 6, February 8, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 15, 2015

A Mysterious Visitor

"Here comes Bobby. I saw him get off the big yellow bus" Tim called.

Bobby came running up the street. Tim met him at the gate in front of our little house. Bobby showed me the picture he had colored and gave me the list of memory words all first graders must learn. "We will study these after a while," I said. "First let's have a snack. I made sweet bread today."

While Bobby was eating, Tricia took his list of words and was trying to read them. She wanted very much to learn to read, while Bobby was more interested in learning about airplanes. "How can they be so big and stay in the air without anything holding them up?" he often asked.

That evening for family worship we sang, "God Will Take Care of You."

"Be not dismayed what e'er betide,

God will take care of you,

Beneath his wings of love abide,

God will take care of you.

Through days of toil when heart doth fail,

God will take care of you.

When dangers fierce your path assail,

God will take care of you."

Then we read the sixth chapter of Nehemiah. Leaders of the neighboring nations wanted to kill Nehemiah and stop the people from rebuilding the

walls of Jerusalem. But God protected the Jews and they rebuilt the walls in fifty-two days.

My health had not been good, so we had moved to Pomona, California. We rented a two bedroom house next door to John and Carolyn Sherrill. James spent a lot of time in Mexico. To save gasoline he would stay down there days at a time. This week he was away and we were alone.

It would have been easy to be afraid, because a five foot cement wall was all that separated us from a tavern. Often we heard sirens as police cars came to stop trouble.

Because we had only two bedrooms, the girls who were smaller slept in the living room on the sofa. After worship each night, I folded down the sofa and made it into a bed.

One side of this rectangular house was living room, kitchen, and dining area. The other side had the two bedrooms with the bathroom between them. Whoever was on the sofa could see anyone coming in the back door, although they could not see the door itself.

I tucked in the girls and kissed them good night. Then I did the same for the boys. Before long, I was stretched out in a big bed by myself and sound asleep.

Sometime in the night I was awakened by Tricia screaming. "Mamma! Mamma! The devil is coming in the back door!"

Continued

The Call To Macedonia

Acts 16:9-19

9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10) And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

11) Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia. . .

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

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

14) And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15) And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

16) And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

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

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



And he came out the same hour.

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

The Message

The disciples were careful to follow where the Spirit led them.

Questions

1. What appeared to Paul in the night?
2. Where was Paul asked to go?
3. To what chief city did they go?
4. Where did they go for prayer on the sabbath?
5. What woman did they meet there?
6. What did she beg the disciples to do?
7. Who met them as they went to prayer?
8. What did she do day after day?
9. What did Paul do to the spirit of divination?

Memory Verse

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils. . .

Mark 16:17



After some time Paul and Barnabas decided to return to Asia Minor. They wanted to revisit the churches that had been established on their first trip. They wanted to know how these saints were getting along. They knew that the new converts needed all the encouragement that they could get.

Barnabas suggested that they take John Mark along as they had before. But Paul refused because he had deserted them on the last trip. So Barnabas took Mark and boarded a ship destined for Cyprus, while Paul chose Silas to travel with him.

They did not stay long in each place. Their mission now was not to establish new congregations. That had already been done and Paul was overjoyed to see how the church in each city had grown since his first visit. He was greatly encouraged.

After visiting these churches, Paul and Silas wanted to go where the gospel had never been preached before. They decided to go to Bithynia, but God let them know that they were not to go there. So, Paul and Silas talked things over and then decided to go to Asia, preaching along the way. But the Spirit of God spoke to them very plainly saying they should not preach in Asia. Now they were perplexed and wondered just where God would finally lead them. They traveled through Mysia but were not given an opportunity to preach there. Coming to the port of Troas, Paul and Silas lingered there wondering where the Lord might want them to go.

Day after day Paul and Silas waited. Then one night as Paul was sleeping, God spoke to him in a

vision. In it he saw a man from Macedonia who begged him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Paul and Silas were soon on their way to Philippi, a chief city of Macedonia.

It was their custom to go to the synagogue in each city, but there was no synagogue here because so few Jews lived there. Those who did live there met each sabbath day for prayer outside the city on the bank of a river. The group was small, consisting mostly of women. The disciples sat down and spoke with these women.

Among the group was Lydia. Her heart was touched by the gospel, and she gladly accepted Jesus as her Savior. She was baptized and all her household followed her example. Then she insisted that Paul and Silas stay at her home.

All seemed to be going well, when they unexpectedly ran into trouble.

There was a poor slave girl who was possessed of an evil spirit. She could tell fortunes and people came to her for her to tell them what would happen in the future. Her master made much money by charging those who

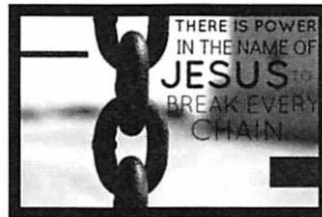
came to her.

This girl perceived that Paul and Silas were sent of the Lord. Day after day she would follow them through the streets shouting to those who passed by, "These men are the servants of the most high God!"

One day Paul turned to her as she followed and commanded in the name of the Lord Jesus that the evil spirit come out of her. The girl stood still, astonished that she was at last free of the imposition of the devil. How free and happy she felt!

Her masters, however, were furious! These Jews had destroyed their means of livelihood. Seizing Paul and Silas, they dragged and pushed them through the streets toward the marketplace.

—Nelda Sorrell



A Mysterious Visitor *Continued*

"No," she said, "The devil came in the back door. I saw him."

"Everything is alright. No one is here. See there is no one in the dining room."

She insisted that an old man with cowboy boots and a straw hat had come in. I couldn't console her so I tucked her into my bed. Then, just to feel more secure myself, I went to check the back door.

The door was standing open! *So she had seen a man come in?*

"Thank you God for waking her up. Thank You for protecting us."

By now I was trembling. I locked the door and tested it to see if it would open. That's when I saw signs where the wood had been chipped away around the lock, making it easy to open. I pulled the table against the door, then I lined up chairs against it until they touched the other wall. "Now to get the door open a chair will have to be crushed or a hole knocked in the wall." I said to myself. Next I pushed the sewing machine and the sofa in front of the living room door.

Then I went back to sleep.

--Charlotte Huskey

A Call To Macedonia: Word Search

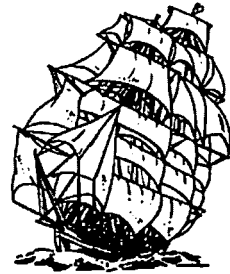
N	D	E	V	A	L	S	C	V	H
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L	A	Y	K	E	A	S	U	C	A
N	R	I	B	Q	F	R	D	P	K
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P	O	V	S	J	L	W	P	T	I
P	R	I	J	U	L	P	D	C	N
N	U	I	T	Y	S	E	U	V	O
R	Z	R	D	A	Z	E	K	E	D
E	F	I	P	I	N	Y	J	M	E
G	A	X	T	L	Q	I	B	A	C
Y	B	P	P	Z	E	S	V	N	A
D	A	O	A	F	G	U	V	I	M
B	P	X	R	V	A	S	F	M	D

VISION	MACEDONIA	LYDIA	PURPLE
SLAVE	DIVINATION	NAME	JESUS
DEPART	BAPTIZED		

Answers:

1. A vision.
2. To Macedonia.
3. Philippi.
4. Out of the city by a river side.
5. Lydia.
6. To stay at her house.
7. A girl possessed with a spirit of divination.
8. Cried after the disciples as she followed them.
9. Commanded it to come out in the name of Jesus Christ.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 7, February 15, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 22, 2015

An Angel in Disguise

After Monark Camping Meeting in 1968, James and Leslie Busbee went to southern Mexico. My children and I stayed in Miami, OK with my dad, Alvin Hightower.

We had been gone from Mexico for nearly a month. We were anxious to get back home so, as soon as James returned, we started for home the following morning. The extreme heat (no air conditioner) and being exhausted from our recent activities caused James and me both to be very very sleepy. I would drive until I was so sleepy I felt it dangerous to continue. Then James would wake up and take my place driving. We had driven this same long trip from Missouri to California many times nonstop. (It usually took about 30 hours, including all stops for the seven of us.)

On this trip, toward the end of the third day when we were nearing Yuma, AZ, our 1960 Chevy van broke down. Thank the Lord, we were able to drive it until we found a Safeway grocery store parking lot. It was too late to get into a garage to have it repaired, so we quickly arranged beds for the children in the van as we had done the previous two nights.

While I was getting beds arranged, James analyzed the situation and found out what part was broken. He had the tools to replace it. He found a telephone book; and with help from a stranger, he located the nearest auto parts store. Then James

and I climbed on top of the van and spread out our sleeping bag. James was able to buy the parts he needed and was back by about 10:00 a.m. By then, the children were awake and hungry; so I asked James for money to go into the store to buy food.

"I'm awfully sorry," he said, "but this is all that was left after buying the car parts." He handed me \$1.50. (We had no credit card.) I started to say, "What can I buy with this?" But the Holy Spirit cautioned me. So I said, "You children stay right here till I come back with breakfast."

Each one begged to go in where it was cool, but I knew they would be wanting the good food they saw and I couldn't buy it. However, Tricia cleverly had to use the bathroom right then, so she was permitted to go with me. We first went to the bathroom, then I headed for the dairy section to buy a gallon of milk. I had enough money to buy that and a loaf of bread. We had paper cups in the car. As I was reaching for the milk, Tricia patted me on the arm and waved a \$5.00 bill in my face. "Look, look, a man gave me this! He said, 'Give it to your mother in the name of Jesus.'"

"Let's go tell him thank you," she said. We went all over the store and out into the parking lot, but we never found the man. With the money, I bought bananas, another loaf of bread, lunch meat, a tomato, and a small jar of mayonnaise. It was enough food to last until we arrived home in the early afternoon

—Charlotte Huskey
Continued

Singing in Jail

Acts 16: 19-20

19) And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and

drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, 20) And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

Acts 16: 22-34

22) . . . and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32) And they spake unto him the word of the Lord,

**What Must I Do
To Be Saved?**

and to all that were in his house.

33) And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his,

straightway.

34) And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

The Message

When we do the will of God we can rejoice even in trouble, knowing that He has allowed it and is with us.

Questions

1. What did the magistrates do to Paul and Silas?
2. Who did they charge to keep the disciples safely?
3. What did he do to accomplish this?
4. What did the prisoners hear at midnight?
5. How were all the doors opened and everyone's bands loosed?
6. Why was the keeper of the prison going to kill himself?
7. How did Paul prevent him from doing this?
8. What did the keeper ask the disciples?

Memory Verse

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

Acts 16:25



An angry mob pushed and dragged Paul and Silas along the city streets. As they shoved them in front of the magistrates, they shouted, "These men are Jews who are causing great trouble in our city!"

Without any trial or further questions, the magistrates tore off the disciples' clothes and then commanded that they be beaten. As they cringed with pain, the blows fell on their bare backs until they were bruised and bleeding.

Paul and Silas were then led to the prison and handed over to the jailer. Special orders to keep these prisoners secure made the jailer extra cautious. He led them into the inner dungeon then fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight the other prisoners heard strange sounds.

They were used to hearing moaning and curses, but someone was singing! While they were still trying to make out the words, they suddenly heard a low rumbling sound that grew louder and louder. The ground began to tremble, and soon the floor buckled and heaved. Then part of the ceiling fell with a crash, and the doors were wrenched from their hinges. The stocks broke loose as the walls crumbled. The very foundations of the great dungeon were broken up!

The jailer woke up with a shock and leaping from his bed, wondered if any of his prisoners had escaped. His first glance confirmed his worst fears—the doors were wide open or torn from their hinges. He quickly pulled his sword from its sheath. It was

better to end it all now rather than face a trial and public execution later.

In the glow of torchlight, Paul saw him put his sword to his throat. A voice out of the darkness startled the jailer. "Don't harm yourself," the voice said loud and clear. "We are all here."

Trembling, the jailer reached for his torch and sprang into the dungeon where he fell at Paul and Silas' feet greatly shaken. Bringing them out of the ruins of the prison, he exclaimed, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Gladly, Paul told him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, and all your family."

Taking them to his home where his wife and children were, the jailer washed the disciples' bloody backs. That night Paul talked to them all about Jesus. Before the day dawned, a whole family had become Christians and was baptized one by one.

Returning to the jailer's home, a good meal was prepared and served to Paul and Silas. Together they rejoiced knowing that their sins were forgiven. They marveled at God's great love. He had caused

a terrible earthquake; and because of it, they heard the good news of Jesus and salvation!

At daybreak, the magistrates sent messengers telling the jailer to free Paul and Silas. Quickly he gave this message to the two disciples knowing they would be glad.

But Paul's response was not as he expected. "They have beaten us publicly even though we were not condemned of any crime," Paul said boldly. "We are Romans, yet we were thrown into prison without a trial. Now do they want us to leave secretly? No! Let them come themselves and release us."

—Nelda Sorrell





Answers:

1. Tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten. 2. The jailor. 3. He threw them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks. 4. Paul and Silas praying and singing praises to God. 5. By a great earthquake. 6. He supposed all the prisoners had escaped. 7. He called out, "Do not harm yourself. We are all here!" 8. "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 8, February 22, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 1, 2015

Overnight Healing

"Tomorrow is our first day of school!" Tricia said, as we were laying out outfits for her and her two brothers to wear. "I am so happy to be going to school. I think I shall find many new friends and Mrs. Jones seems so nice."

"I'm sure she will be a good teacher, and yes, you will find many friends. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 18:24, that, 'He who has friends must show himself friendly. And there is a friend that sticks closer than a brother.' You are friendly, so you will have friends. You also have the Friend who is closer than a brother, so you already have one Friend."

"Jesus is that Friend, isn't He?" asked Tricia.

"I have Him in my heart because I am saved."

"Yes, and saved from what?"

"I'm saved from the bad things I have done."

"Yes, you are saved from the sins that you did."

Jesus will help you at school to be good and kind to others and not do evil to anyone."

"I hope He will," Tricia said rather wistfully.

"Why don't we pray and ask God to help you. And while we are praying, let us pray for Bobby that he will also be allowed to start school."

"What is keeping him from starting when Tim and I do?"

"He has that awful sore on his neck. You know, the big red yucky hole. It is an infection and it could spread to other children. If I could cover it with a

bandage it would help; but it's almost impossible without wrapping a gauze all the way around his neck, and you know your brother would not go to school with a bandage like that."

"I know he wouldn't."

Tricia asked God to help her to be kind to others at school and to not be ashamed that she was a Christian. Then she asked God to heal the sore on Bobby's neck.

That evening when Daddy came home from work, we ate supper and then we had special prayer for Bobby.

The following morning we had to take James to work first and then get to school by 8:30 a.m. I was still wondering if Bobby would have to return and stay home until the sore was healed.

"Hurry!" I called. "Breakfast is on the table."

First one then another came to eat as he or she was waiting their turn to wash up in the bathroom. (We had only one bathroom.)

"Watch out!" I shouted as a glass of orange juice toppled. James caught it before it spilled on Tricia's new dress. I held baby Leah on one hip as I placed a plate of toast on the table. "Be careful and don't get jelly on your shirt," I cautioned Timmy.

"And here are your lunches," I said, setting four sack lunches on the cabinet beside the sink. "Each one must be responsible for his own." Each sack had a name; James the largest, Bobby, Tricia, and Timothy.

Continued

Mars Hill

Acts 17:16

16) Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry

Acts 17: 19-20

19) And they took him . . . saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

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

Acts 17: 22-25

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

23) For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

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

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

Acts 17: 28-32

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

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

30) And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:



Mars Hill today

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

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

The Message

Paul was anxious to introduce everyone to the true God.

Questions

1. Where was Paul?
2. Why was his heart stirred?
3. Where did Paul preach to the people?
4. What was written on one of the altars?
5. What did he tell them God made?
6. In whom do we live and move and have our being?
7. How should we know that God is not like images that men make?
8. What does God command all men to do?

Memory Verse

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

Acts 17:29



The believers knew Paul and Silas were in great danger. A band of zealous Israelites from Thessalonica had launched an attack specifically aimed at Paul because they considered him to be the leader of the believers. Fearing that he would be the victim of another vicious assault, they had Paul set sail at once for Athens. Silas felt reasonably safe, so he stayed on in Thessalonica. It was agreed that Silas would join Paul in Athens as soon as his work was done.

So his friends left Paul alone in Athens, one of the most beautiful cities of the world. The people here were well educated. There were many temples and works of art. Along every street and in every square could be seen statues and altars—shrines built for the worship of many gods. Paul marveled as he read the inscriptions and admired the beauty of the statuary, much of it done by some of the greatest workmen in marble. But his heart was stirred with pity as he thought of the blindness of the Athenian people.

Here the people worshiped heathen gods and there were idols everywhere. He was grieved by the blindness of these educated people. He felt sad because the people did not know the true God of Heaven.

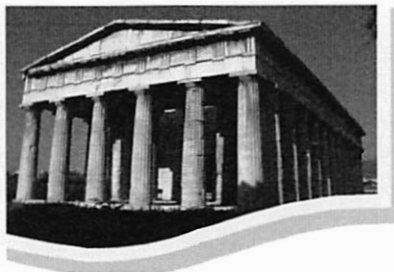
On the Sabbath day, he went to the synagogue to preach the gospel to his own countrymen first. It seemed no one was interested in hearing about the great salvation Jesus had provided through His cruel death. Discouraged, Paul left the synagogue and began to preach in the streets and at the market-

places where the crowds gathered.

Occasionally sincere people would ask him questions about the gospel. As he taught them, a curious crowd would gather to listen. It was hard for them to understand about Jesus and His resurrection. They thought that Paul spoke about a strange god from another land. Many of them loved to argue and spent the whole day going from one philosopher to another in an attempt to hear some new doctrine that could become popular in Athens for a season.

The great men of Athens heard about Paul and wanted to meet him and hear what he had to say. These men took Paul to a hill that overlooked Athens. This place was called Mar's Hill. It was

one of the most sacred spots in all Athens. Here, the great men of Athens met to make important decisions. Around Paul gathered artists, poets, and the wise men of Athens, all interested in hearing something new.



An ancient temple in Athens

Paul begged God for wisdom as he said, "You men of

Athens, I perceive that in all things you are too superstitious. As I passed by and watched your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, 'TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.' This is the God that I declare unto you!"

He had the full attention of the audience at once. They leaned forward to catch every word he spoke as he continued, "God made the world and everything in it. Since He is Lord of heaven and earth, He does not live in temples of stone that men make."

Then, as he went on to tell them about Jesus, the wise men shook their heads doubtfully. Others mocked but some said, "We would like to hear more about this!"

—Nelda Sorrell

Overnight Healing *Continued*

At last all seven of us were in the car and headed to James' work place. James drove while I combed first Rosi's and then Leah's hair. Then I brushed the wrinkles out of their dresses and wiped the crumbs from their faces with a napkin. At last, they were presentable. I took a deep breath and leaned back in the car seat.

At that moment I thought again about the sore. "Say, Bobby, let me see your neck," I said as I turned to look at him in the back seat.

I gasped so loudly that James said, "What happened now? Did you leave something important at home?"

"No, it is Bobby's neck! The sore is gone!"

"What? That ugly sore?"

"Yes, it's gone!"

"Let me see," Tricia said turning Bobby so his back was toward her.

"Really?" Bobby said. "I didn't wash my neck, because I didn't want to get it started bleeding,"

"Well, it's all gone. There is only a pink spot where it was!"

—Charlotte Huskey

Mars Hill: Bible Drill

Look up the following verses that discuss our worship of the one true God. The first student to find them and write them on the lines below is the winner.

Luke 4:8 _____

Exodus 23:24 _____

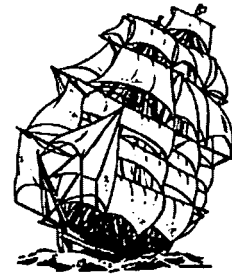
Exodus 23:25 _____

Deuteronomy 10:12 _____

Answers:

1. At Athens. 2. He saw that the entire city worshiped idols. 3. On Mar's hill. 4. TO THE UNKOWN GOD. 5. The world and everything in it. 6. In God. 7. Because we are made in His image. 8. Repent.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 9, March 1, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 8, 2015

Driving on Empty

Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is anything too hard for Me?" Jeremiah 32:27

"It is fifteen minutes 'til twelve, are we packed and ready to go?" James asked, as I was loading a box into Tomas Mendoza's two-door camper pick-up. "To get to Ejido Patzcuaro before dark we'll need to leave immediately after we pick up Bob at noon."

After picking up Bob at La Mission public school, we headed north on highway #1. It wound along the coastline with the Pacific Ocean in view most of the time. On this April day the water was deep blue, broken only by the white of waves crashing on rocks. After about half-hour enjoying the scenery in silence, I spoke, "I'm surprised you have enough money to buy gasoline for such a long trip. It's nearly 400 miles isn't it?"

"I think it is 380 miles round trip. I have only enough gas for about 70 miles and a little change in my pocket. I'm sure there will be money in a letter at the post office. We'll go there first."

"I hope God has impressed someone to send money; He's done that at other times," I answered. James let us out at the Tijuana Park to eat our picnic lunch while he drove across the border to the post office in San Ysidro, CA. He came back looking somewhat serious. "This is all the mail," he said, handing me a card addressed to Miss Rosi Huskey.

"It's a birthday card for Rosil" I said. "Her birthday is Wednesday." Rosi opened the card from Aunt Bob and found a dollar inside.

"So we don't get to go to Patzcuaro?" questioned the children.

"I don't know," James, answered. "We need to pray. I thought the Lord said 'Go,' but maybe I was mistaken."

We prayed for directions. After prayer, the children went back to swinging and sliding while James and I decided what we should do. "The children really like to go to Ejido Patzcuaro," I said. Patzcuaro was an interesting little town with many homes made from either adobe or cactus trunks with mud plastered over them. There were only a few cars. Sometimes horses clopped down its dirt streets pulling carts. The children liked petting the horses and talking to the drivers. However, what they enjoyed most were their friends Javier, Eva, Estella, and Pedro, to name just a few. Rosi and her friends liked to climb in the tall salt pines which swayed in the wind high above the little houses. When an older person was free to go along, the children would go to the salt plains. There they investigated the mud pots (also called Geothermal Mud Volcanoes). Sometimes there were enough hot gases coming from the mud pots to blow light sticks or pieces of paper up into the air.

Continued

The Tentmakers

Acts 18:1-5

1) After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;

2) And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; . . .

3) And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

4) And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

5) . . . and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.

Acts 18: 8-11

8) And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

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

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

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

Acts 18: 18- 19

18) And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; . .

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

Acts 18: 24-26

24) And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scrip-

tures, came to Ephesus.



25) This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

26) And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they

took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

The Message

Although Paul was an educated man and a mighty preacher yet he was willing to work for his own living when it was necessary.

Questions

1. Where did Paul go after he left Athens?
2. Who did he meet there?
3. What was their occupation?
4. What did Paul testify to the Jews every sabbath?
5. Who believed on the Lord with all his house?
6. Who spoke to Paul one night by a vision?
7. What did He tell Paul?

Memory Verse

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:58



Paul left Athens and went to Corinth, the capital of Achaia. While he waited for Timothy and Silas to come to him, he looked for a job. Paul was raised up to be a strict Pharisee and had Gamaliel, the best teacher in Jerusalem, for his instructor. It was the custom of the Jews to teach all their children some trade by which they could earn a living. So, along with his religious training and education, Paul learned to be a tentmaker.

Walking along the streets of Corinth, he found the workshop of a tentmaker and went in. The owner's name was Aquila. He was a Jewish refugee who was forced to leave Rome when the Emperor Claudius Caesar banished all Jews from that city. Aquila and his wife, Priscilla, had established their tent making business in Corinth only a few weeks before Paul walked into their shop.

Aquila was glad to have extra help and, because Paul was a Jew, Priscilla let him have a place to stay in their home. After some days together, Aquila grew to like Paul and to admire his skill in his work. He could listen hour after hour as Paul told of the wonderful experiences he had passed through and how God had brought him safely over many rough places, even delivering him from prison!

It was amazing to Aquila and his wife that this man sitting in their workshop had once been a rabbi who bitterly persecuted the followers of Jesus. The more they learned about him the more they

admired his courage and dedication to God. As they worked, they talked about the power of the gospel and all that Jesus accomplished through His life and death. The Lord definitely led Paul to this wonderful couple. Years later he referred to them as "my helpers in Christ Jesus."

Paul was glad when Silas and Timothy finally joined him in Corinth. He was led by the Spirit to speak more boldly in the synagogue, declaring to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. But when the Jews withstood him and raised great opposition, blaspheming the name of Jesus, he turned from them with the warning that their blood would be upon their own heads. "From henceforth," he told them, "I will go unto the Gentiles!"

However, there were some Jews who believed. He had the great joy of winning Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, to Christ. It was encouraging to see him come with his wife and children to be baptized publicly as a sign to his friends that he had surrendered his life to Jesus.

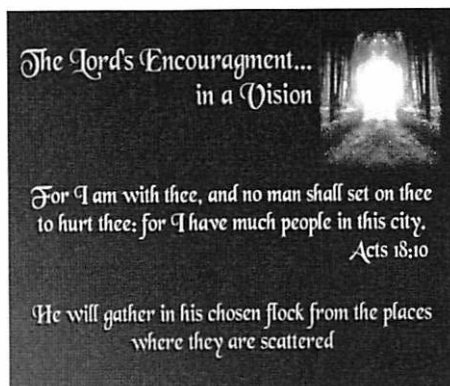
Then the Lord appeared to Paul to further encourage him. One night a vision of the Lord appeared to him. "Be not afraid," the Lord said. "But speak, and hold not thy peace."

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

Paul diligently obeyed the Lord. For a year and a half he preached the gospel in Corinth to all that would listen. Many believers were added to the church.

Finally, Paul decided to return to Jerusalem. When he got ready to sail, Aquila and Priscilla went with him as far as Ephesus. There they proved a blessing to the believers.

—Nelda Sorrell



Driving on Empty *Continued*

Often the ground bubbled like a pot boiling on the stove, and the ground trembled under their feet. It was an eerie feeling.

God seemed to say, "GO ON!" Therefore, that is just what we did. At a store near the foot of the Rumarosa Mountains, we bought gasoline with every penny we had: Rosa's dollar, her brother Tim's dime, Daddy's change. Altogether, it totaled \$1.44. "This should take us to the top of the mountain," James said. "We can coast a long way after that! Then what gas is left will take us wherever." We all laughed, but I trembled inside.

"And the remaining fifty miles?" I asked.

"God will take care of them!" he answered.

We prayed again before getting back onto the road. Then we started up the rugged mountains. To encourage our faith, we sang while ascending. Realizing the dangers of the descent, we usually stopped to pray at a lookout point near the top.

Today we planned to descend with the gears in neutral making it 10 times more dangerous. At the top, we looked at the road ahead winding dangerously along the edge of the mountains. It looked like a tangled ribbon appearing and disappearing as it went in and out around jagged mountain peaks.

(To be continued)

—Charlotte Huskey

The Tentmakers

Paul, Aquila and Priscilla were steadfast laborers for the Lord and in their communities. They showed Christ's love to everyone they came into contact with. Match the following references to the names of the Christians mentioned in them that showed love to others.

Acts 3:6 Paul & Silas

Acts 16: 27-29 Tabitha

Acts 9:36 Peter

Fill in the blank:

Having your conversation _____

among the _____: that, whereas

they speak _____ you as evildoers,

they may by *your* good _____,

which they shall behold, _____

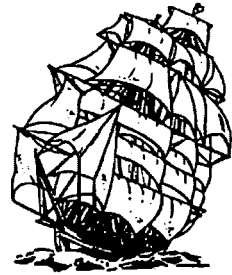
God in the day of _____.

1 Peter 2:12

Answers:

1. To Corinth. 2. Aquila and Priscilla. 3. They were tentmakers. 4. That Jesus was Christ. 5. Crispus. 6. The Lord. 7. "Be not afraid."

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 10, March 8, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 15, 2015

Driving on Empty

(Continued from last week)

After leaving the mountains the road stretched miles upon miles across desert sand, and then disappeared into some low hills. On the other side of those hills, we could see the lights of Mexicali showing faintly in the twilight. Patzcuaro was thirty miles southeast of Mexicali.

"We can probably coast most of the seven miles down these mountains and a good way out across that desert, if we can be going fast enough when we leave the mountains," James was saying. "You children must sit very still and hold on so you won't be tossed against the sides of the camper. We'll be going around these curves pretty fast."

"Let us pray again for God's protection and that we won't meet many cars," I said.

"What will we do if we get stranded down there?" Tricia asked, pointing to the desert below.

"Don't be afraid, Honey," I said, trying to comfort her. "God will get us to Patzcuaro."

"How will we get back?" Bob asked.

"Maybe someone with a rotten tooth will give me some money for pulling it out. If not, maybe we can borrow money from Sister Edith. Well, pile in and let's go. This will be fun!! I've always wanted to go down this mountain really fast!" James said.

I think the children in the camper were praying that God would take them across the dry lake of sand. However, I was praying for God to keep the

pickup on the road as it tipped to the left and quickly back to the right going around curves. The decline was steep and we were going fast when the road finally straightened at the bottom. (This mountain range has more curves in a short distance than any I have traveled on. However, I have never traveled on the road they call "The Devil's Back Bone." They say it is worse.)

At last, we were down and so was my spirit. As darkness settled over us serious thoughts of "what if" were flashing through my head. What if we had mistaken God's directions? What if we were making a foolish mistake taking our children on this trip, knowing we didn't have a sufficient amount of gasoline? What if God didn't keep the car running? What if the motor stopped in the middle of that long stretch of desert? What if someone kills our whole family in this isolated place? I had read about such things happening.

I had also read about missionaries starting to their respective mission field without money to pay for their passage. I read about one that went to the train station with her packed suitcase, expecting God to send the money before the train came. At the station, a stranger came to her and said, "I want to pay for your ticket. Where are you going?"

I read about another who said good-bye to her family and her friends because she was going to Egypt, and she had no idea how she would get there.

Continued

Seven Sons of Sceva

Acts 19:1-17

1) . . . Paul . . . came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

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

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

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

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

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

8) And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months . . .

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

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

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

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

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

16) And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them . . . so that they fled out of that house

A road in Ephesus



naked and wounded.

17) . . . and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

The Message

There is a sovereign power in the name of Jesus. The name of Jesus must never be used lightly!

Questions

1. What did Paul ask the disciples at Ephesus?
2. Who baptized with the baptism of repentance?
3. In Whose name were these disciples baptized?
4. What happened when Paul laid his hands on them?
5. What did the exorcists say to the evil spirit?
6. What did the evil spirit answer?
7. What did the man with the evil spirit do to the seven?
8. What did the seven do?
9. Whose name was magnified?

Memory Verse

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Exodus 20:7



When Paul arrived in Ephesus, he was happy to find so many that believed in Jesus. He asked them, "Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?"

"We did not even know there was a Holy Spirit," the people answered. When they heard that they must be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, they were glad to obey. Paul then laid his hands on these twelve believers and prayed. The Holy Spirit came on them, enabling them to speak in different languages so they could witness to others also.

For three months Paul boldly preached in Ephesus that Jesus was the Son of God in the synagogue. But many were not willing to believe in Jesus and change their wicked lives. And they were determined that others would not believe either. They said many evil things against Paul, Jesus, and the way of salvation.

These enemies were so disruptive Paul saw it would be best to teach the people somewhere else. So, leaving the synagogue, he took the believers to a school nearby. Here he taught them every day for two years. Under his teaching the church in Ephesus flourished and grew until the gospel of Christ Jesus became known throughout the entire city and the country round about. Many believed in Jesus and were baptized.

For hundreds of years Ephesus had been the site of the beautiful temple of Diana. In the center of this great temple was a secret chamber that contained the wooden figure of a woman, black with age. This

was Diana, the goddess of the Ephesians. The story had been passed from generation to generation that this idol had fallen down from the sky! The idol was hideous to look at, but it was kept hidden out of sight behind a great curtain. And millions of people actually believed the idol had come from heaven and worshipped it!

While Paul taught in this town of idol worship, he worked miracles in the name of Jesus. He healed many that were sick. Some were too sick to be brought to Paul, so their friends brought handkerchiefs and aprons for Paul to touch. Then they took these back and prayerfully laid these on those who were sick and the sick were made well! God gave Paul authority to do these things to show the people that His mighty power was greater than the magic of Diana or her followers.



An ancient coin, with inscription, 'Diana of Ephesus'

The people were amazed at God's great power. Many wished they could also do such wonders. One day seven brothers who were magicians watched as Paul healed the sick and cast out evil spirits. They quickly learned the words he used. At the first opportunity they tried to imitate him. When they found a man with an evil spirit they said, "We command you to come out in the name of Jesus whom Paul preaches."

But the power of God was not in their words; and instead of the evil spirit leaving, it spoke, saying, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?"

Then, with the superhuman strength of the devil, the possessed man jumped on the seven magicians and tore their clothes from their backs, bruising and beating all seven of them in his fury! The terrified men ran out of the house to escape with their lives.

—Nelda Sorrell

Driving on Empty *Continued*

Thinking of these people of faith encouraged me. God supplied for them, surely, He would for us.

As soon as the pickup slowed down, James slipped it into gear and the motor started again. It went on toward Mexicali as if full of gasoline. Up over the hills and down into the city. We crossed Mexicali at the southern edge and then took the road toward Patzcuaro. "We'll be there soon," James said as we passed by grocery stores and a gas station.

About nine-thirty we drove into Patzcuaro.

"Everyone will think Tomas is here because we are driving his pickup," I said. We saw lights in the houses so we honked several times as we drove toward the mission house. People came running out. They were surprised when they saw all white faces. Everyone seemed happy we had arrived.

However, they were not half as glad as we were to be there after driving so-o-o-o long, wondering if the pickup might stop any minute.

(To be continued)

—Charlotte Huskey

Seven Sons of Sceva

In Matthew 7: 15-20, Jesus tells us how to tell the difference in a true Christian and a false prophet.

Fill in the blanks to finish the verses.

Beware of _____ prophets, which
come to you in _____ clothing,
but inwardly they are ravening _____.

Ye shall know them by their _____.

... Even so every _____ tree

bringeth forth good fruit; but a _
_____ tree bringeth forth evil fruit.



Answers:

1. "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" 2. John. 3. In the name of the Lord Jesus. 4. They received the Holy Ghost. 5. "We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth". 6. "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?" 7. Leaped on them. 8. Ran out of the house naked and wounded. 9. Jesus.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 11, March 15, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address



Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 22, 2015

Driving on Empty

(Continued from last week)

The mission house was dark. (Neither Edith nor we had a telephone, nor cell phones. They were just a dream in those days.) Bro Raul, who came to greet us, told us Edith had gone to the U.S. and wouldn't be back for a few days. He got the key and we went in, ate supper, and went to bed.

The following morning, James set up a crude dental clinic in the public school building. We got out the box of Gospel tracts and the few Bibles we'd brought. Bro Raul and Angel volunteered to give them to the people to have something to read while they waited to have dental work done.

By the time we were ready, some were waiting. God had brought us to Patzcuaro without gasoline. I wanted to do something to show my gratitude, so I volunteered to be James' dental assistant. I handed him tools, mixed some solutions he needed, and put bibs on the people who sat down in the makeshift dental chair. As much as I wanted to help, it was all I could do to brace myself when a bloody tooth was coming out of an open mouth. I learned to turn my head or close my eyes so I couldn't see.

One woman had several rotting teeth. James had me hold a light so he could see a little better. Suddenly he said, "Hey, what's happening to my light." He looked over just in time to see me slumping to the floor. I had fainted.

Most of the people seemed happy to read the

literature. A group of men gathered outside to discuss the things they were reading.

About two o'clock in the afternoon, James stopped to do a pressurized sterilization of his equipment and eat lunch. While waiting for his tools to cool, he gave a Bible lesson in Bro Raul's home.

When James finished with the last dental patient, the sun was falling behind the volcano that lay a few miles west of the peaceful village. "Did you get enough donations to buy gas?" I whispered.

"Just two dollars," he said. "I guess I should be thankful. These people are so poor they can't afford to pay me anything."

"Since you didn't get much money, are we going to leave tonight?"

"We have to so we can be ready for preaching service at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow."

"Are we driving home without gasoline?" I asked. James ignored my question. "I promised Martha's brother I'd come by his house and work on Martha's teeth. You know, she is the crippled woman. Their home is on the way to Delta, the nearest place to buy gas.

"Sister Martha's house is a mile off the road!" I exclaimed.

Sister Martha's body was in a perpetual shape of one sitting in a chair. James got on his knees, prayed for Martha, and then pulled her teeth while in the same kneeling position. *Continued*

The goddess Diana

Acts 19:19

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



Acts 19: 24-29

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

25) Whom he called together . . . and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.

26) . . . this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

27) So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised . . .

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

29) And the whole city was filled with confusion:

Acts 19: 34-35

34) . . . all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

35) And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, . . .

Acts 19: 37-41

37) For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

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

implead one another.

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

40) For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar . . .

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

The Message

The devil tried to turn the people away from the gospel through ignorance and confusion.

Questions

1. What did the people burn?
2. How much were they worth?
3. Who was Demetrius?
4. How did he earn his living?
5. What was Paul telling the people?
6. What did the people cry out?
7. What filled the whole city?
8. How long did the people continue to cry out?
9. How did the town clerk stop the confusion?

Memory Verse

I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Isaiah 42:8



When the seven sons of Sceva tried to cast the devil out of a man using the name of Jesus, the possessed man jumped on them and gave them a severe beating. News of this spread like wildfire throughout Ephesus. Some had seen it with their own eyes. Even those who merely heard about the incident gained a greater respect for the power of Jesus and praised God.

This incident made the people realize that the magicians really had no power. They merely fooled the people through trickery. Many of these people had practiced magic themselves. Great throngs of the former wonder-workers confessed their wrong and turned away from their superstitions. They brought their books of magic and heaped them high and set the huge pile on fire.

This was a mighty demonstration of their changed hearts, which were now filled with new power since they believed on Christ. The books they burned were worth about ten thousand dollars!

The gospel continued to spread through all the towns and villages near Ephesus and throughout Asia. So many confessed their sins and turned away from idolatry that the tradesmen who sold silver images of Diana began to feel the loss in their business.

They were greatly alarmed and called a meeting. Demetrius was the chief spokesman. He told them, "You men know we make a lot of money by our work. But Paul has turned many people away from

Diana. Soon we will have no business left. Not only that, but people will no longer come to worship at the temple of Diana." These words angered the silversmiths. At once they began shouting, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" As they went through the streets shouting these words other people joined in the shout. No one but the silversmiths knew what this was all about. The city was filled with confusion.

The silversmiths dragged two of Paul's friends into the theater. When Paul heard what had happened he wanted to go to rescue them, but his friends would not let him. They were afraid the people would tear Paul to pieces if they could lay their hands on him. Though they didn't even

know why they were there, the people in the theater kept shouting, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians" for two hours! They only knew that somehow the power of Diana had been questioned and they must cry out in her defense.

Finally, one of the city officials stood up before the people and motioned for them to be quiet.

He said, "Men of Ephesus, people everywhere know we worship the goddess Diana. So you ought to be quiet. You have brought these men here who have not robbed any temples or even spoken evil about our goddess. If the silversmiths want to bring charges against these men let them take it to court. All of you are in danger of being arrested for breaking the peace." With those words the city official dismissed the people and sent them home.

—Nelda Sorrell



Driving on Empty Continued

This time, Martha's brother was holding the light. By the time the third molar was out, James was soaked with sweat.

Martha looked up smiling and said, "I felt no pain when they came out, and I will suffer no more from them."

The sister-in-law also wanted a tooth pulled. After finishing that and getting all the equipment put in disinfectant solution, we prayed again that both would heal quickly.

Then we said, “Good-bye” and jumped into the camper as if we had gasoline to go 190 miles back home. Martha’s brother was the last to say good-bye. As he shook James’ hand through the window of the pickup, he laid 100 pesos (\$8.00) in it.

"This isn't much," he said, "But it is all I have."

"Thank you. Thank you!" exclaimed James. "You will never know how much this means to me."

Just before we arrived at the gas station the pickup began sputtering, letting us know that God had brought us to our needed destination.

“Is anything too hard for God?”

—Charlotte Huskey

Ah Lord God! Behold, thou hast made the heavens and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee."

Jeremiah 32:17

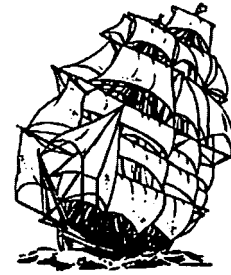
Make a slash through the X's, J's and Q's. Write the remaining letters on the lines below to discover a verse about one who makes idols.

WHJJAQTTPRQOFQITETQHTHQEXGQQQRAJVE-
NIXJMJQAQGGJEXTHQXXATTXJJHQEMJAQXKEJ
QRTHQJEJROJXJFHAQTHXQGRAQVQENJIXTTH
EMOJLQTJEXNJIXMJJJAGJJEAXNQDAJJTQQEAC
QHJEJRXOFLQIQESXTHAQTXTQHEXMAJJKJER
JOJJFHIXJQSWXOQRKJTRUSTXJEQQTXHTJHEJJ
ROEINTOXMXAJKJEQXDPXUJMBXIOJDOXLXS

[illegible]

Answers:

1. Their books about magic. 2. Fifty thousand pieces of silver. 3. A silversmith. 4. He made silver shrines for Diana. 5. The gods made with hands are not gods. 6. "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." 7. Confusion. 8. For two hours. 9. He dismissed the assembly.



Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 29, 2015

What Does the Gospel Mean to You?

I was in a camp meeting in Juarez, Mexico, when the question was asked, 'What does the Gospel mean to you?' You might say it means the security of eternal life. Others may say it means the forgiveness of sin. Another could say like Apostle Paul said, "It is the power of God unto salvation."

What does it mean to *YOU*?

The most unusual answer I heard that day came from a humble looking women, maybe about forty years old. The wrinkle lines on her face showed years of stress and worry. Her hands looked as if they had done plenty of hard work. Her shoulders were a little stooped. Her clothes were those of a peasant. As she spoke, she lifted her head toward heaven; around her there seemed to be a heavenly glow.

"Knowing the Gospel has brought peace to me," she said. "Years ago, when I was a younger woman, I had a baby. It was not our first baby nor our last. When our other children were babies, we took each of them to the Catholic Church and had them baptized. Having each child baptized cost us a lot of money. With each one we bought a baptismal dress, paid the priest to do the ritual, made a festival and invited our friends and family to eat with us. When this child was born food was scarce. Some days my other children were hungry, and I

had nothing to give them; so we did not have the baby baptized.

"I was told that every human is born with the seed of sin and that anyone with this seed of sin cannot enter heaven. I was also taught that baptism removes the seed of sin, so only baptized children could go to heaven. I was frightened. I feared for that baby that I loved so dearly; however, I lived each day hoping that someday we could save enough money to have him baptized. While I was hoping, my beloved child took suddenly sick and died in a few days.

"I almost went crazy. I walked the floor at night crying for my baby. I repeated the "Hail Mary's" of the Rosary on my knees day after day, counting each bead, not missing one. I knelt before the Virgin of Guadalupe and begged her to get my dear baby into heaven. I begged the Virgin Maria to plead with Jesus to accept him into heaven.

"When I asked, 'Where is my baby?' I was told, 'Your baby is roving around through the earth and sky looking for a place to rest. Because he was a little baby and had never sinned, the devil doesn't want him in hell. He cannot get into heaven because he did not have the seed of sin washed away by baptism. He will forever be weary from roving, seeking a place of rest.'

Continued

The Boy Who Slept in Church

Acts 20:7

7) And upon the first day of the week . . . Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Acts 20: 9-12

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

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

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

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

Acts 20: 18

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

Acts 20: 22-25

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

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

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

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



Acts 20: 36-38

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

37) And they all wept sore . . .

38) Sorrowing most of all . . . that they should see his face no more.

The Message

Paul knew his life would soon be taken away.
He could face death fearlessly because
he had served the Lord faithfully.

Questions

1. Who was the preacher?
2. How late did he preach?
3. Where was Eutychus sitting?
4. Why did he fall out the window?
5. How far did he fall?
6. What did Paul do?
7. How was everyone comforted?
8. What did the Holy Ghost witness about Paul?
9. Why were the people so sorrowful?

Memory Verse

But none of these things move me,
neither count I my life dear unto myself,
so that I might finish my course
with joy . . . Acts 20:24



Paul was on his way to Jerusalem. It was the first day of the week, so the believers met together in Troas to break bread in memory of the last supper Jesus ate with His disciples before He was crucified. Paul knew he would never see these dear people again, and he had so much to tell them. Hour after hour Paul preached to them, answering their questions, and strengthening their faith.

Many hanging lamps burned in the room so they could have plenty of light. But this also made the crowded room hot and stuffy. So the open window looked like the best seat in the room to one young man. Now we don't know how many people dozed during that long, long service, but we do know that this young man, Eutychus, went so sound asleep that he slumped down and fell out of the window!

Paul's sermon was suddenly interrupted as a terrifying cry pierced the air followed by a sickening thud as Eutychus hit the ground three stories down. Men rushed down the stairs to see what had become of Eutychus. Everyone was awake now as the word was passed from one to another, "Eutychus fell out of the window and he's dead!"

A lantern held high in someone's hand showed where the body lay, and a crowd quickly gathered around it. Nobody could see much in the dim light. Then Paul pressed his way through the crowd until he came to Eutychus. Falling on the young man he embraced him just as Elisha had embraced the dead son of the Shunammite woman many years before.

And the power of God brought Eutychus' life back to him—just as the Shunammite's son was raised from the dead! Rising to his feet Paul told the sorrowing people, "Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him."

You might think that this would have brought the meeting to a close. But, no! After a little break Paul continued to talk to the people. When the sun came up, Paul was still preaching and the people were still listening. This was their great opportunity, and they did not want to miss a word.

Paul's next farewell meeting was with the leaders from Ephesus who had come to the seacoast to meet him. They remembered the three years he had lived and preached among them, and they loved him dearly. The meeting was joyous, yet there was a

feeling that this was a final farewell. Last words are always solemn and important, especially when spoken by one such as Paul. He urged them to stand fast and be strong whatever might come to discourage them in the future.

He said, "You know how I have worked and lived among you. I have taught you publicly and in your homes. I have testified to both the

Jews and the Greeks. I feel that I must go to Jerusalem but it is hard to tell what will happen there.

"In my heart I think chains and suffering wait for me, but this does not make me afraid. It does not matter how long I live, just so I finish with joy the work the Lord Jesus has given me.

"I know I shall see you no more but I will pray for you. Take good care of the church of God over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers." Together they knelt and prayed. They threw their arms around Paul and wept because they realized this was probably the last time they would ever see him.



What Does the Gospel Mean to You?

Continued

"I was forever tormented about my baby. At night, when I should have been sleeping, I was walking out in the night wondering if my baby was more tired than I, yet traveling forever and ever without rest.

"Now that I know Jesus and have studied His words in the Bible, I know that my baby has been, since his death, resting safely in the arms of Jesus. Knowing Jesus brings great peace to my heart. I will forever be grateful to those who shared the Gospel with me and for Jesus, who has come into my heart!

Do you know someone who does not know Jesus? They may be tormented by some strange teaching. Tell them about your friend Jesus. He will give them peace also.

—Charlotte Huskey



The Boy in the Window: Word Search

C	H	H	O	E	H	V	P	Y	K
B	P	I	E	B	R	Z	X	L	W
S	U	H	C	Y	T	U	E	O	C
S	P	I	R	I	T	I	D	H	X
H	Q	Q	S	D	Y	N	I	S	H
H	C	C	U	D	I	A	V	T	G
T	H	A	S	W	S	P	R	U	A
Y	W	T	E	B	N	A	O	P	T
A	E	Z	F	R	X	U	X	M	F
Y	L	E	Q	W	P	L	P	Q	J
N	L	I	D	A	E	D	E	X	K
L	M	F	V	E	B	N	E	M	K
G	E	X	J	E	B	H	L	K	M
Z	Y	I	F	T	U	L	S	I	F
I	Q	P	C	X	M	P	A	R	P

EUTYCHUS	PAUL	PREACH	ASLEEP	FELL
WINDOW	DEAD	PRAY	ALIVE	HOLY
SPIRIT				

Answers:

1. Paul. 2. Until midnight. 3. In a window. 4. He went to sleep. 5. From the third loft. 6. Fell on him and embraced him. 7. The young man came back to life. 8. That he would have bonds and afflictions. 9. They would not see Paul again.

Vol. 65 Quarter 1 No. 13, March 29, 2015 Nelda Sorrell, Editor. Published by Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. Postmaster send address corrections to above address