

Bible News

By MARY ALLEN
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Two world religions compete for Africa south of the Sahara; the Christian faith which accompanied the introduction from Europe for four languages and cultures: English, French, Portuguese, Dutch and Islam which superseded Christianity in the Near East, invaded North Africa, and in recent decades has made rapid inroads further south. In the maelstrom of conflicting external and internal political and economic interests nearly 50 nations, almost all new, are trying to assert their own way. Will they yield to the impact of the Bible message? A Bible Societies' Service Center for Africa started functioning at the beginning of the year.

This year's program in

South Africa aims at circulating over one million Scriptures, with the help of two distribution promoters, and at raising needed funds to do the work. The Bible Society supplies Scriptures needed in Swaziland, Basutoland and Bechuanaland, in addition to the four areas serviced by the Bible Society of South Africa: Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Umtata in Transkei.

Regular work has not been established as yet in Angola, but supplies of Scriptures are arranged by the Bible Societies in Leopoldville and distribution takes place mainly through two local religious bookshops. The work is complicated by the necessity of producing all books in diglot editions with the Portuguese text alongside the vernacular.

This Is The Life

By DONALD THOMAS
Immanuel Baptist Church

HOW TO STUDY GOD'S WORD

A lot of people say, "I can't understand the Bible." Why can't you? Because the natural man can't understand the things of God because they are foolish unto him. Here are five ways to study them: (1) When you open your Bible, remember it's God's Holy Word and not man's. For holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2) Read God's Word as if it were written to you only. These things were written for our learning through patience and comfort. (3) Study with prayer. (4) Study with meditation, expecting God's help, comfort, blessing and success in living for God. (5) As you read, pray that the light will shine into your heart and you can know God's Word. Study to know God's will and do it. Be Christ-like in life, holy in living and humble in service. Accept Christ today, friend, and see if your life won't be changed.

The Bible says, "If any man do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."—John 7:17.

fruit, and so prove to be my disciples."

1. Who is the author of this statement?
2. To whom was he speaking?
3. What was the occasion of this statement?
4. Where may this verse be found?

Answers To Bible Verse

1. Jesus.
2. To the eleven disciples.
3. After the Last Supper, while Jesus and the eleven were enroute to the Garden of Gethsemane.
4. John 15:8.

BIBLE VERSE

"By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much

Make Church Going a Habit

Sunday School Lesson

RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE

International Sunday School Lesson for August 14

Memory Selection: "Who-soever hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."—1 John 3:15.

Lesson Text: Exodus 20:13; Leviticus 19:17-18; Proverbs 25:21-22; Matthew 5:21-24, 43-44; 1 John 3:15-18; 4:20-21.

Today we study Jesus' interpretation of the Sixth Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill."

Human life is God-given, and must not be taken away by man—whether it is the life of another or self-destruction by suicide.

But as we study Jesus' interpretation of this Commandment, it must of necessity dawn on us that there are more ways in which we can commit murder than the violence of the physical act. For in this lesson Jesus emphasizes the dangers that lie in the attitude of heart and mind which one has toward those who are around us.

For the act of sinning has its roots in the realm of the mental attitudes. The unfaithful wife or husband does not become so spontaneously; the act of infidelity is the outcome of one's unfaithful thoughts and emotions; the thief does not go out and steal on the spur of the moment; the theft is committed after the thought has occurred and been examined, and the act deemed feasible. And whether or not something was actually stolen, or the bonds of matrimony physically violated, Jesus held that such violation had taken place because the thought had been harbored in the first place.

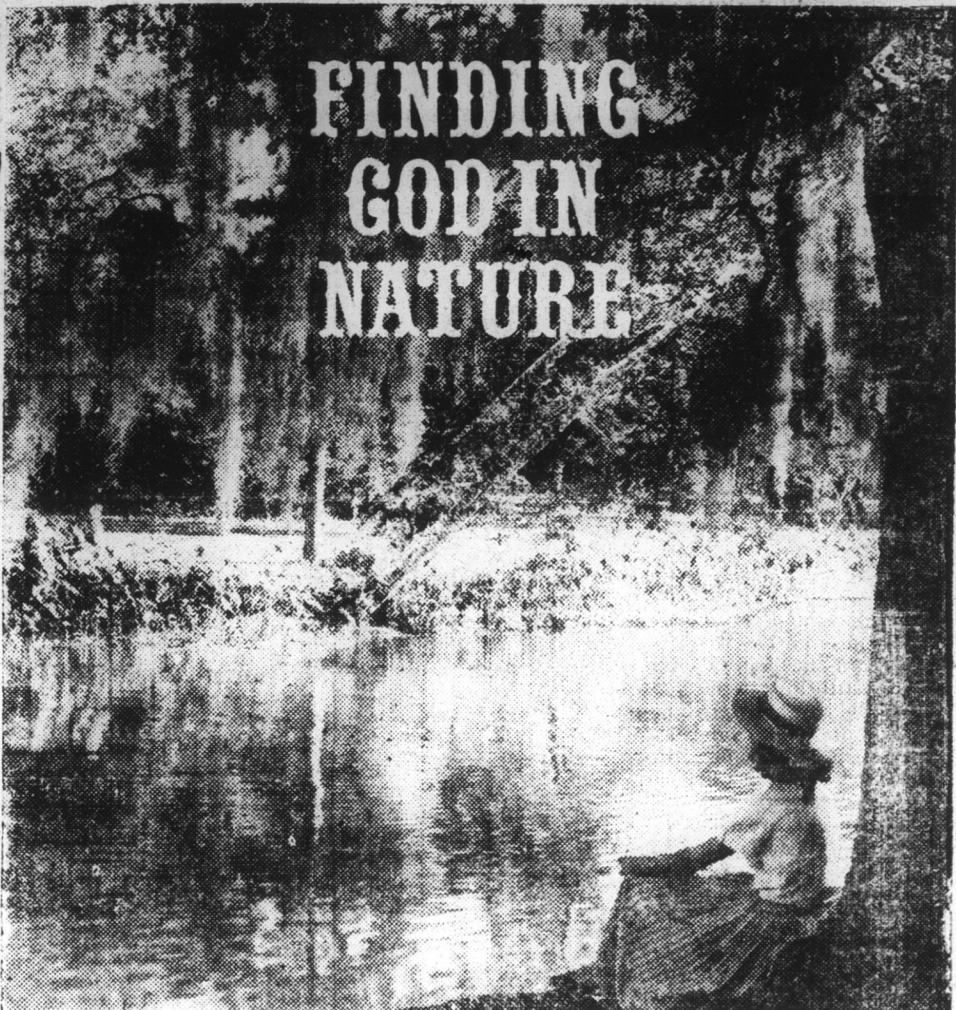
Such purity of purpose very few of us can claim, if we are painfully honest with ourselves. We can only hope that in guarding ourselves against such thoughts we are diligently trying to be worthy of our concepts of Christ.

Respect for others is born out of love, and love in turn, has its roots in Divine love. God's sacrifice of His Son for the saving of mankind is Love personified. Can we, as Christians, love mankind less?

Note very carefully the passages in Matthew 5, verses 23-24. In these verses Jesus cautioned against shallow outward appearances of piety. The gift laid before the altar was not to be laid there lightly. In order for it to be acceptable before God, it must be laid there in humility and with reverence; above all, it must be offered with love. The man who made the offering was himself, to be acceptable in God's eyes, otherwise his gift would be but an empty gesture. If he had maligned a fellow man, or if he nurtured rancor in his heart against another, then he was to go to that brother and make restitution. Then—and only then—would he be worthy to lay his gift at God's feet.

Note, also, that it was the one who would worship, and pay an act of respect, who was urged to go and seek his brother, instead of waiting passively for that brother to come to him. For to wrong another is bad enough but to seek to worship with an unforgiving, unrepentant heart is an even greater sin.

Jesus also held it to be a sin to commit murder by slander, for the tongue can be as deadly as the sword. It, therefore, behooves us to guard our tongues as zealously as we should guard our thoughts, lest we murder not only the good name of another, but our immortal soul as well.



FINDING GOD IN NATURE

Down in Louisiana there's a spot which casts a spell of reverence upon my soul.

But what I have found along the bayou I have seen, too, in the awesome might of a granite peak, in the mystic wonder of a shadowy canyon, I have heard it in the restless symphony of the surf at night.

These, the shrines of nature, are God's hint of a spiritual meaning in life.

But, long ago, man responded to God's hint. The churches in which we worship and learn and serve—these are the workshops He inspired. Week by week, year by year, under the hand of the Master, lives are being fashioned to His blueprint . . . devoted to His purpose.

Yes, we can find God in nature! But the road of spiritual discovery only begins along the bayou. It goes on from there to our highest quest.

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Sunday Exodus 15:11-18	
Monday Psalms 36:7-12	Tuesday Isaiah 48:17-22
Wednesday Joel 2:28-32	Thursday Acts 7:35-43
Friday Hebrews 12:25-29	Saturday James 1:5-11

These Religious Messages Are Published In The Chowan Herald and Are Sponsored By the Following Business Establishments

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In a word: Six

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