

A Friend Who Learned to Believe

HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL
(The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for May 9 is John 11:7-16; 20:19-29, the Memory Verse being Mark 5:36, "Fear not; only believe.")

WE KNOW very little about the disciple, Thomas. Except for these three episodes told us by John, we would hardly have heard of him, except that he was one of the twelve.

Now Lazarus, and his sisters Mary and Martha, were warm friends of Jesus and their home was in Bethany. Word was brought to Jesus from the sisters that Lazarus was sick. At the time He and His disciples were on the other side of Jordan, and He waited two days and then told His disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."

The disciples tried to dissuade Him, saying, "Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and Thou goest thither again?" His answer was rather puzzling, meaning, probably, either that He would not die until His time came, or that He should take the opportunity when it came, by asking them if there were not 12 hours in the day. "If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of the world."

Then He said, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him from sleep." Not understanding, the disciples answered, "Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well." Jesus then told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead." He added, "And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him."

Thomas Would Go With Jesus

Then Thomas, who was called Didymus, a Greek name meaning a twin, said to the rest, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." Thomas may have accepted and become resigned to the fact that his Lord would probably die in the cause, and he was willing to be with Him and die too. He was a loyal and devoted friend.

This episode, and that succeeding it, of the raising of Lazarus from the dead, not included in our lesson today, took place in January, A. D. 30, and the following April Jesus was crucified.

The next mention of Thomas is after the crucifixion and resurrec-

tion of Jesus. The disciples were gathered together in a room with the door closed because they feared their Jewish enemies who had killed Jesus. All were present, but at last, except Judas Iscariot, who had betrayed Him and later killed himself, and Thomas.

Suddenly Jesus appeared in their midst and said, "Peace be unto you." This, then, was confirmation of what had been told them, and which they wanted to believe, but hardly dared do so, that Jesus had risen from the dead.

"And when He had so said, He showed unto them His hands and His side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord." Glad seems an understatement, doesn't it, at such a time?

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you." Then He breathed on them, and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained."

Thomas Doubts

When the other disciples saw Thomas and told him they had seen the Lord, he said: "Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe." He probably wanted to believe, but his spirit doubted.

Eight days after this the disciples were again behind closed doors, and Thomas was with them this time. "Then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you."

"Then said He to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing."

"And Thomas answered, and said unto Him, My Lord and my God." How humble, yet how glad and grateful must he have been.

"And Jesus said unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen Me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

Blessed indeed are they who cannot see the wonders of the spirit, but have the faith and courage to believe they really exist. "Fear not, only believe," says our Memory Verse.

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SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



THE LARGEST REAL NUMBER COUNTS THE SMALLEST THINGS IN THE LARGEST SPACE - TO COUNT THE NUMBER OF ELECTRONS WHICH COULD FILL THE UNIVERSE TO THE GREATEST DISTANCE DISCOVERED BY ASTRONOMERS WOULD REQUIRE THE FIGURE ONE FOLLOWED BY 110 ZEROS!

SCRAPS



THOMAS YOUNG, AT THE AGE OF FOURTEEN, WAS ABLE TO TRANSLATE PARTS OF THE BIBLE IN FOURTEEN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES - HE WAS A PIONEER IN MODERN OPTICS AND SOLVED MANY EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHS.

Recruiting Station Opens

Sgt. F. C. Mathies, of the U. S. Army Recruiting Service Headquarters in Asheville, arrived Monday to open a recruiting station here. The station will be located in the Regal Hotel building, just off the lobby. The office hours from

now until May 20 will be from 8 a. m. until 5 p. m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 8 a. m. until 12:00 Noon Saturdays. From the 20th of May on, the office will only be open three days per week - Tuesdays, Thursday, and Saturdays. The Headquarters office in Asheville will be open every day from Monday through Saturdays, on the hours stated above.

GO TO CHURCH

Reasons for Attendance:

The Divine Command

"But unto the place which the Lord your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come." De. 12:5.

Blessings Pronounced Upon

"Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will be still praising thee." Ps. 84:4.

The Example of Christ

"And he came to Nazareth where he had been brought up; and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read." Luke 4:16.



What To Bring To Church

- Bring yourself - Come: Bring your spirit of worship.
- Bring your reverence for God and his house.
- Bring your offering (the tithe plus).
- Bring a spirit of love and fellowship.
- Bring a hearty handshake.
- Bring a smile and a kind word.
- Bring your willingness to help sing, and sing out of your heart.
- Bring a relative or friend.
- Be sure and bring your visiting guest.
- Bring your best each Sunday to Church.
- GET THE CHURCH-GOING HABIT. -Selected.

The Churches of Cherokee County

SNAKES and LIZARDS

Will pay 5c, 10c, 25c, and 50c for snakes, depending on size and kind. Want all kinds except small water snakes.

Will pay \$3.00 per 100 for common branch lizards, 4 inches long and over. Need 2000 per week.

Will pay 5c, 10c, and 25c for rare kinds of spring and woods lizards.

Want whole tails on all lizards. Must know what branch they were caught in.

Will pay various amounts for other woods creatures, and information such as where to catch large numbers of bats, rattlesnake dens, etc.

Bring to Andrews, or write card and I will call to pick up 100 or more lizards, or snakes.

J. C. NICHOLLS, JR.

FANCHER'S CABINS

ANDREWS, N. C.



HER NEXT STEP WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ONE

Stepping into the world of affairs from school, she'll soon learn that personal appearance is of the utmost importance. Good grooming can be maintained by well cleaned and pressed clothes. She can follow mother's example by entrusting to us for expert dry cleaning the clothes which will see her through her first years after school, for our methods insure freshness and long lasting wear.

MURPHY LAUNDRY

B. B. Cornwell, Prop.

Phone 159

Murphy, N. C.