

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON  
FOR JULY 30, 1922**

BY REV. M. F. HODGES

Subject.—The first return from exile.

Golden Text.—We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Rom. 8:28.

Place.—Babylon.

Time.—About 538 B. C. Lesson

Material.—Jer. 29:10-14, Ezra 1:1-11.

The one single outstanding figure in today's study is king Cyrus. He was a son Cambyses, on his mother's side was grandson of Astyges, king of the Medes. Cyrus became ruler of Babylonia, Media, and Persia. He led his victorious armies as far north as the Greek cities of Asia Minor and as far south as the valley of the Tigris. He was a great conqueror, and wise ruler; tried to identify himself with the sentiments of the various nations he had vanquished. In the book of Isaiah he is recognized as a shepherd of the Lord (Isaiah 24:48) and an anointed king (Isaiah 45:1).

In Jeremiah, chapter 29 the Lord made a promise through the prophet that after seventy years the Jews carried captive to Babylon should be restored to their own land. In verses 10-14 of Jeremiah 29 we have the gracious promise of God to these exiles. "That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good work toward you, in causing you to return to this place." We may be assured that every "thus saith the Lord" will be accomplished just as he has said. This glorious promise was made to the exile Jews and it was literally fulfilled. Remember though that it took seventy years for them to learn their lesson. For our disobedience we must learn the lesson of humanity and repentance if God's blessings of forgiveness is to be given us.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, said the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." God had a normal end in view in sending these people into captivity: each affliction is like the hammer stroke of the sculptor, intended to bolt out some imperfection, bring out some better trait of character or some new loveliness. Some of us really never know how to pray till God sends us into some sort of captivity. If we are to profit by our captivity we must cultivate certain important things as these Jews had to learn. (1) A willing acceptance of God's discipline and patient submission to it. It does seem today that the mass of mankind has forgotten that God has any discipline for us. (2) Unswerving confidence in God. O how much we need to learn this lesson in these modern times! (3) fervent prayer. We know how to say prayers but do we really know how to pray? We have permitted ourselves to be carried away by the busy whirl of the world and have forgotten to take time to pray.

They are told that when they seek the Lord with the whole heart he will be found of them. He assures them that when they have gone their limit he will meet them and turn them from their captivity. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9. For all of these years the goodness of God has followed these exiled Jews and in every hardship, God is trying to bring them back to himself. When they have learned their lesson well, and are ready to meet the conditions, God is ready to bring them again from captivity. This brings us to the lesson passage proper when they are to leave the land of their long captivity to go to the land from whence they were carried seventy years prior to this time.

Our lesson material is taken from Ezra 1:1-11 and Jeremiah 29:10-14. The promise is found in the passage from Jeremiah and is fulfilled in the passage from Ezra. What was the condition of the captive Jews in Babylon? It was in many respects very deplorable; among those that hated them, had nothing they could call their own, had neither temple nor altar. If they sung Psalms, their enemies ridiculed them. They lived in hopes of some day returning to their own land. They kept distinction of their families, knowledge of their religion, and aversion to idolatry. The measure of the iniquity of Babylon was full and they were over run by Darius and then by Cyrus. "The Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus." The hearts of kings are in the hand of the Lord. It is said that Cyrus knew not God, nor how to serve him; but God knew how to be served by him, Isaiah 45:4. God rules the world and whatever good is done is because he stirs up the spirits of men and through them performs his work. Jeremiah while he lived was despised, yet long after he is honored by providence in working out the prophecy he made to the letter.

Ezra is told that a house is to be

built at Jerusalem. He sends out his proclamation to all nations that all Jews are permitted to return to Jerusalem. Why did he not order them to build the temple in Babylon? Because he believed the God of Israel to be the God of heaven and would have Israel to worship him and him only. He forgot (1) the secular interest of his kingdom. (2) the honor of the religion of his country. Would God to day we might test the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel in this so-called Christian America. It would settle many of our industrial disputes, bring about a better feeling among all classes of men. Cyrus calls for collection to help the exiles in their return to their native land, and for the rebuilding of the house of the Lord. The same God that stirred up the spirit of Cyrus also stirred up the spirit of the people to go and perform the task of building the house of the Lord. "Where there is no vision the people perish." The preacher is helpless unless the folks are willing to fall in line and honor God with the best they have. God's house should be the best in the community and often it is the worst, receives the least attention, some times none at all. "How long will ye continue to live in your ceiled houses, and My house lie in waste?" All the vessels of the house of the Lord are brought again to Jerusalem. How careful they had been kept during these seventy years to care for the sacred vessels. Now they are again at the city from whence they were stolen years ago. The people gave of their best for the building of the House of the Lord. How happy these exiles now that they are back on the sacred spot that is near and dear to every Jew.

The call and offer of salvation is like the proclamation of Cyrus. Those that are bound by the unrighteousness of sin, are made free through Jesus Christ. The way is open through Christ so that every captive, bound by sin may go up into the liberty of the Children of God. A much greater dominion is given Christ than Cyrus. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." His church is to be set up in the world and his kingdom to rule over all. Some were content to sit still in Babylon and enjoy what they had there. Many today will not obey the command to leave the land of sin's captivity; content to live there and finally be lost. In Luke 4:18-19 is given the mission of Jesus Christ to the world. O that men would be freed from the bondage of sin, set at liberty, and made whole by the great physician!

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to a petition of free holders in the territory adjoining Como School District number 2, and known as District number 1, Maney's Neck Township, asking for an election to determine the enlargement of said Como School District number 2 (Special Tax District) so as to include the territory named below into Como District, and to levy tax on property in said territory not exceeding 30 cents on the \$100 and 90 cents, on the poll, the Board of County Commissioners acting upon said petition calls an election to be held on August 12th, 1922; All persons qualified and residing within the following boundaries are allowed to vote:

"On the North by the Virginia line; on the east by the Chowan river; on the south and west by the present line of Como Special tax district number 2. It being all of the present territory known as public school district number 1, Maney's Neck township."

All parties desiring to vote must register and be governed by the law regulating all general elections. Election officers, S. P. Winborne, Registrar; and S. E. Brett and Jno. F. Worrell, Judges.

Done by order of the Board of County Commissioners, at Winton, N. C., this July 5th, 1922.

J. A. NORTHCOTT,  
7-7-4t. Clerk to the Board.

**IF SKIN BREAKS  
OUT AND ITCHES •  
APPLY SULPHUR**

Just the moment you apply Mentho-Sulphur to an itching, burning or broken out skin, the itching stops and healing begins, says a noted skin specialist. This sulphur preparation, made into a pleasant cold cream, gives such a quick relief, even to fiery eczema, that nothing has ever been found to take its place.

Because of its germ destroying properties, it quickly subdues the itching, cools the irritation and heals the eczema right up, leaving a clear, smooth skin in place of ugly eruptions, rash, pimples or roughness.

You do not have to wait for improvement. It quickly shows. You can get a little jar of Rowles Mentho-Sulphur at any drug store.

Subscribe to the Herald; do it now.

**HIKING DOWN THE  
LONG BROWN PATH**

**Vacationists With Shelter Tents  
and Tin Cow Learning to  
Walk All Over Again.**

Oh! It's not the pack that you carry on your back  
Nor the rifle on your shoulder,  
Nor the five inch crust of khaki-colored dust  
That makes you feel your limbs are growing older;  
And it's not the hike on the hard turnpike  
That drives away your smile,  
Nor the socks of sisters that raise the blooming blisters—  
It's the last long mile.  
—Plattsburgh Marching Song.

Stringing out from the suburban transit terminals of New York every Sunday and holiday goes the army of khaki-clad hikers. There may be an automobile for every twenty of the country's population, but a host of city folks disprove the theory of a future leg-enslaved citizenry and are learning to walk all over again.

To the more casual minded, the hike is just exercise, but to those who catch its real significance the hike means a great deal more. It is the cheapest form of recreation and therefore appeals to those living in crowded districts and unable to avail themselves of the more expensive amusements. And these people, be it noted, are just those the country is so anxious to have spread out and settled in the farming sections. The hike, indeed, has possibilities as a real starter for the "back to the farm" movement.

**Doughboy and Boy Scout Lead Way**

Just a brief survey of the rollicking groups which move off from the outlying terminals on holidays establishes a few general types. There is the ex-service man and his friends who will hear from him the story of more serious excursions on the muddy roads of France. He tightens a strap here and another there on the blanket roll adjustment or the "shelter half," in which the commissary is packed for the mid-day feast by the roadside. Expert directions come from him on the method of slinging the pack so it will not feel so heavy or interfere with the free body movement. He will pass along the information, gained in his army days, of how that same pack was evolved after numerous experiments to find the easiest way of carrying the heaviest load. With results he now compliments, but which he characterized when a doughboy as a "blankety blank total failure."

Then there are the boy scout parties, adept at everything pertaining to "shanks mare" traveling and woodcraft. The ex-service man and the boy scout are pioneers in the hiking game. Listen to one of them right off the train and making ready for a twelve mile jaunt: "Get that canteen over to the side, Jimmie, and it won't keep bouncing off your leg every step. Is it filled? Well, then, we drink. How about the cats? Let's check 'em off. You got the spuds, Bill; the bacon Jimmie. Who has the coffee and the Borden tin cow?"

"Right here," announces a freckled comrade of the road, patting his knapsack. "Snatched the mocha and the can of milk when Sis wasn't looking."

"Well, then, let's go!" snaps the commander of the expedition. This party is traveling light for real distance. Another must expect to make a shorter hitch or else be counting greatly on its power of endurance. Perhaps the camp is not far off because the group is equipped for an over-night stay with heavy blanket rolls, hatches, lanterns, canvas waterpails, rubber ponchos, kettles, pots, new fangled freestand, etc., etc. The blankets are laid out for a better packing of the bags and cans of food. When the party commences to load up the members bristle all over with camp tools and equipment.

**Back to the Farm**

The veteran from the crowded city tenement has found a new territory to roam and one almost unknown to his associates. He is introducing them to this newly discovered land and teaching them how to be independent of any transportation but their own good legs and of any subsistence but what they can carry and prepare. "Walk, and cook your own," is his motto.

Who will say the leaven thus fermenting in the city crowds will not bear fruit in a keener appreciation of country delights, especially as these are added to by increased comforts on the farm. With his radio hitched up, the farmer listens in on the best entertainment the country has to offer. Modern home devices wipe out many hardships formerly imposed upon isolated dwellers. There is, in short, a rapid cutting down of the differential between farm and city life.

In the meantime, knowledge must precede a true appreciation of what the country holds, and this is what the hike supplies. There is more appeal in one apple tree in blossom than in reams of printed matter put out to induce the citizen of the city to change his abode to the country. The hikers constitute a growing army, equipped with bacon, spuds, coffee and tin cow for merely a day's outing but nevertheless seeing sights that make them yearn to be among them all the time. It is not too much to assume that the army may one day recruit the open places.

**MISS E. WILLIS,  
The Well-Known Toilet Goods Specialist**

**Will Give You a Free Massage in Your  
Home By Appointment**

Careful attention to your skin will insure the attractiveness and personal charm that every woman craves.

**To Neglect your Skin Is to Forfeit Its Beauty**

We have engaged Miss Willis, the well-known Toilet Goods Specialist, for the week of August 7th, to call on a number of ladies in Ahoskie each day, to give free massage and individual help and advice on the care of the skin.

**This is an Exceptional Opportunity For One Week Only**

Step into the store, write or phone us. We'll do the rest. Understand Miss Willis' massage and advice are free.

**Miss Willis Will Also Be Glad to Talk to Any Woman's Club  
in Ahoskie, Free of Charge**

**Copeland Drug Company  
"The Rexall Store"**

**RICHARD THEATRE  
August 4th and 5th, 8:15 P. M., Admission 25 and 50c.**



William Fox  
presents  
**MARK  
TWAINE'S  
Greatest Comedy  
&  
CONNECTICUT  
YANKEE**  
IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT  
Staged by  
Emmett J. Flynn

**Wednesday and Thursday, August 2nd and 3rd,  
8:15 P. M., Admission 20 and 35c.**

**"Why Girls Leave Home"**

Dont miss either of these two pictures, they are worth seeing.