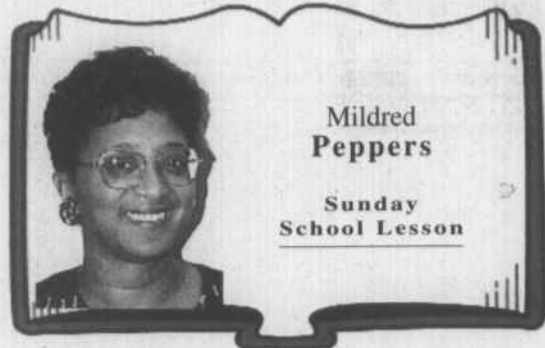


Examine the principle of "pride going before a fall..."

Lesson Scripture. Obadiah 1-4, 10-11, 15, and 21

Lesson Aims: to examine the principle of "pride going before a fall," to recognize that pride deceives, and to commit to God's call for unity.

Background: Way back in Genesis 24 a bride (Rebekah) was chosen for Isaac Chapter 25:19-34 recorded Rebekah's difficult pregnancy and delivery. The Lord revealed that twins were in her womb and each would father a nation. She was also told that the older one would serve the younger. When the twins were born, the first one was red and hairy; they named him Esau. Grasping the foot of the first born, the second child was named Jacob (heelcatcher). As they grew, Esau became the skillful hunter while his brother Jacob was quiet and dwelled among the tents. Jacob cooked a pot of red lentil stew one day. When Esau returned home hungry, he asked Jacob for some. The younger twin bartered with him. Esau sold his birthright for the stew! Years later Isaac was ready to bestow the formal birthright to Esau, the oldest. Chapter 27 recorded Rebekah and Jacob's deception. Esau was angry and held



Mildred Peppers
Sunday School Lesson

a grudge against his brother. He even threatened to kill him after Isaac died. Rebekah told Jacob to go to her brother (Laban) in Haran and remain there until Esau's fury subsided. Many years later, Esau and Jacob met and made amends (chapter 33). Esau founded the nation of Edom located to the south of the Dead Sea and it prospered. Jacob whose name was changed to Israel (chapter 32) settled in the land given to him by his father. Some 4 to 5 hundred years later, Moses led Jacob's people out of Egypt, the Edomites refused to allow them passage through their land (Numbers 20 14-20). To avoid war, Moses led them around the territory During

David's reign, he conquered them. There was great hostility between both nations "In this New Testament, they are referred to as Idumeans" (Richards' Complete Bible Handbook).

We know nothing about the author whose name means "worshiper of Yahweh". The date of his prophecy is uncertain but generally accepted around 585 BC (Babylonian conquest). This book of prophecy, also called a song of doom, pronounces judgment on Edom for their behavior towards Israel.

Lesson: God's Word through Obadiah is a stinging reminder of pride's impact on people. Their prosperity fuels

their pride and makes them feel superior to others. They believe that their home in the rock clefts makes them indestructible. They have a false sense of security. Their major city, Petra will be pillaged and the inhabitants cut down (5-7). Why must they endure such a thing. In the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:3) God promises it. The Edomites, the brothers of the Israelites stand by and do nothing when Babylon attacks Jerusalem. They take pleasure in seeing the Jews destroyed and take part in the looting. When some of the Jews run, the Edomites kill them. Like other prophets, Obadiah injects "the day of the Lord." There is going to be a day of reckoning, a time of vindication for all people. This day will bring shame for their selfish behavior for they will reap the seeds that they've sown. In 1812, the Edomites' cleft rock ruins were discovered and stand as a silent witness to the fulfillment of prophecy.

Application: A nation that acts with little or no respect for others moves towards dangerous arrogance! That attitude makes them look down on and mistreat people. Smaller and weaker nations are trampled under foot. Their

wealth and power makes them invincible, so they think. What ever they want is accomplished - there are no limits! Wake up, wake up "you may be a super power but God is a greater super power" (Echoes Adult Teacher)! America do you hear God speaking to you? God bless America - what about the remainder of His Creation? What goes around

comes around. Are we so big that we think that escape is possible? Not only should we think in terms of countries but what about our sisters and brothers? We are a part of something much greater than self. Pride does go before a fall! Realizing this we ask, what does God require? Micah 6:8 says "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God."



Rev. Seth O. Lartey takes part in a prayer service.

Prayer meeting begins at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church is a ministry that is built on prayers. Since 1993, the doors of the church have been open for prayers each morning from 6 a.m. - 7 a.m. People from all walks have attended and have experienced their miracle. Through the early morning prayers, healing have occurred, jobs have been found, families have been reunited and the church has seen so many answers to prayers.

In order to make the prayer meeting more accessible to many

more persons in the community, each First Sunday from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., a prayer meeting for healings, miracles, marriages, and family unity will be held at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church located at 630 N. Patterson Avenue.

The prayer meeting is open to all persons of faith who believe in the power of prayers. During this inaugural prayer meeting, scriptures and songs to aid in prayer will be shared with participants.

For more information, please call 336-724-9411. Rev. Dr. Seth O. Lartey is the senior pastor.

Union

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speaker Rev. Cheryl Moore from Charlotte, NC.

For conference registration information call 336-724-9305. Union Baptist Church

"A Church Determined to Live for Christ," is located at 1200 N. Trade Street, Winston-Salem. Dr. Sir Walter Mack, jr. is pastor and teacher. Please visit the website www.unionbaptistsnc.org for more information.

Anniversary

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installed pastor in 1995. Elder Edmond founded the Laborers for Harvest Outreach Project in 1997. The Kimberly Park Community is undergoing major renovation. He plans to revive Laborers for Harvest at the conclusion of the renovations. He also introduced Building for Kingdom Business Project in 1997. This project is God's vision for him to direct the ministry to build a new sanctuary. As God continues to open doors, the ministry plans to break ground for the new sanctuary very soon. As the ministry has entered this new phase, pastor Edmond has sown into the spirit of the congregation that this building ministry is ordained by God and it will come to fruition. Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts. (Zechariah 4:6). Edmond also says, "It has taken time to prepare the congregation for the vision and help everyone realize we are responsible for God's sanctuary. Edmond's 8th year in this ministry is proclaimed the "year of new beginning." God is adding to the church, members are excited and applying themselves diligently to the task God has set before us." Many fund raising events have and are in place as preparation for Building for Kingdom Business.

Elder Edmond foresees that Kimberly Park Church will make a difference in the Kimberly Park community as the community renovations are completed and the population grows. He intends for the Kimberly Park members to be responsible stewards for Christ! Prior to God ordering pastor Edmond's steps to Kimberly Park Holiness Church, he was affiliated with St. Peter's World Outreach Center where he learned much of his biblical teaching. Later God directed him to Bethlehem Holiness

Church where he served as a deacon. He accepted God's calling for ministry and preached his initial sermon in 1987. He attended Winston-Salem State University. He is married to Carolyn O'Neal Edmond. Mrs. Edmond earned her BS from High Point University, and is currently in the Master of Ministry program at Vintage College. She serves on the Trustee Board of the church and is a member of United Voices Choir. She also coordinates Building for Kingdom Business, produces the Kimberly Park Ministry Program that airs currently on CAT-TV6 at 3:30 p.m. Sundays, a member of the North Carolina Diversity Consortium and an advisor for Y.E.S. (Youth Energized to Serve). Y.E.S. has served the Samaritan Kitchen and Ronald McDonald House. Their family consists of Robert, III, Truth, Jovan, Rashawn and Lamar. The public is invited to join Kimberly Park in celebration of pastor Edmond's 8th anniversary. To God is the Glory!

General Baptist State Convention Evangelism Ministry

Presents
Youth Evangelism Block Party @ Rolling Hills Apartments
on Saturday, August 2, 2003
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Preaching, Singing, Praise Teams, & Gospel Steppers
from Surrounding area churches

For more information please contact Pastor Lamont Johnson at Phillips Chapel Baptist Church at 723-9451. Minister Waymond Monroe, Jr. or Minister Beverly Alexander at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church at 724-3857.

*** FREE FOOD WILL BE SERVED***

Pastor Robert E.L. McGowens
GBSC Evangelism Chairperson

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with Nigel Alston

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Sunday Morning Broadcast 6 - 6:30 A.M.
WUPN 48
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday 12:00 Noon
Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
www.letgodbegod.org

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4111 Whitfield Drive
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Sunday Church School - 9:30 am
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Church: 336-784-7802 *Facsimile: 336-771-0101
Web-site: www.mtcarmel-ws.org
*Email: dr.griffey@mtcarmel-ws.org

Beginning June, 2003 **Piney Grove Baptist Church** will have an 8:00 a.m. Early Sunday Morning Worship Service. Join us for a Blessed Time in the Lord.
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Dr. James F. Linville, Pastor
❖ Early Morning Worship.....8:00 a.m.
❖ Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.
❖ Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
❖ Evening Services..... 4:00 p.m.
❖ Bible Study Every Wednesday.....10:00 a.m. & 6:30 -p.m.
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2341 North Patterson Avenue
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Hotel room cost \$117.00 for three days and two nights
The room sleeps four (4) people
Bus costs \$90.00 a person per seat
All money must be paid before September 30, 2003, also please keep in mind there will be no refunds given.
You are responsible for the following:
• Admission into Disney World and other theme parks
• Your own spending money for food and shopping
Adult tickets \$59.00 per person for each theme park (ages 9 and over)
Children's tickets: \$45.00 per person for each theme park (ages 3-8 years)
Children under age three years get in theme parks free
For additional information please call Maria Wilborn at (336) 722-9043 or (336) 723-9342