

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

LESSON XII, FIRST QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, MARCH 24.

Text of the Lesson, Isa. xxviii, 7-13. Memory Verse, 7—Golden Text, Hos. iv, 11—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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To find merely a so-called temperance lesson in such a chapter as this is something like eating the smallest portion of food from a bountifully supplied table. I was asked recently to write an article for one of our reviews on "Systematic Giving," but the substance of what I did write was to the effect that the need of the churches is not more system in giving, but a better knowledge of God and of the constraining love of Christ.

In reference to intemperance and all its evils, the whole matter is summed up in Eph. v, 18, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit." The writer goes on to tell of Christ loving the church and giving Himself for it that He might sanctify and cleanse it. Until we know and believe the love that God has to us (I John iv, 16) and have learned to say "Thy love is better than wine" (Song 1, 2) there is not much use in merely trying to lay restrictions on a corrupt and sinful nature which cannot be improved (Rom. viii, 7).

Our lesson chapter, from which we are asked to study a few verses which set forth the abominations of the natural man even in priests and prophets, whose one occupation should be to plead with God on behalf of men and plead with men on behalf of God, gives us the heart of the remedy for all evil in verse 16, one of the grandest words in the book: "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation. He that believeth shall not make haste." Then see in verse 28 a suggestion of how He becomes to us the only foundation, not by trying to imitate His life, but by seeing Him "crushed for our iniquities" (Isa. liii, 5, 6). He is the corn of wheat who said that He must die for our sakes (John xii, 24, 25), and we must first resolve and then follow Him. Put with this foundation verse Acts iv, 11, 12: "I Pet. ii, 4-8; John 1, 12.

There is a drunkenness and a staggering that is not the result of wine or strong drink, but that is the result of turning away from the word of God (chapter xxix, 9-13), and this was Israel's guilt and is the guilt of the church today. Israel mocked the messengers of God and despised His words and misused His prophets until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy (II Chron. xxxvi, 16).

Literal drunkenness, with all its disgusting filthiness as set forth in verses 7 and 8 of our lesson, is but one phase of the manifestation of the flesh, the sinful nature in all mankind (Gal. v, 19-21), and those who continue to possess only that sinful nature can never inherit the kingdom of God; but as some such at Corinth became washed and sanctified and justified (I Cor. vi, 9-11), so have many others in all ages, for the only one who can deliver says, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John vi, 37). Weymouth's rendering is, "Him who comes to me I will never on any account drive away." He is sorry for and longs to give deliverance to every weary sin sick soul, but the trouble is that they will not hear and will not come. See verse 12 and compare chapter xxx, 15, and Matt. xi, 28; xlii, 37. Verses 9, 10, indicate the rebellion of the natural heart against the simplicity of God's way of deliverance. These proud, self-indulgent rebels seem to say, Does He think that we are babes just weaned, that He must prattle to us with His line upon line, precept upon precept? So the mere natural man turns from the things of God and counts them foolishness, not knowing that the kingdom of God must be received as a little child would receive it (Matt. xviii, 3; Luke xviii, 17; I Cor. ii, 14). A vision of Christ in His love to us, bearing our sins in His own body, dying in our stead, the just for the unjust, is the only thing that will break the hard heart, and if that does not nothing will. Each believer is a priest dealing with God on behalf of his fellows and also a prophet bearing God's message to his fellows. It is ours to tell the message lovingly and faithfully, and He who sends us will take care of the results.

If we would be full of courage and joy, as the Lord's messengers should always be, we must understand His plan and be agreed with Him about everything, for otherwise we cannot walk with Him (Amos iii, 3, 7). This is suggested by the fact that we are today having a lesson from Isaiah, whose message was primarily to or concerning Judah and Jerusalem (I, 2; ii, 1), and, as Dr. Roberts Anderson says: "It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of an earnest, prayerful study of Israel's history, past, present and future, as recorded in the Word of God with extreme liberality of detail. Israel is the key wherewith to unlock the storehouse of prophetic truth. Israel is the door of entrance to many of God's revealed purposes concerning the human race in ages yet to come."

Every believer who is right with God cannot but desire the time when the earth shall be filled with His glory (Num. xiv, 21; Isa. xi, 9; Hab. ii, 14) and all drunkenness and every other form of sin forever gone. Isa. xxvii, 6, tells us that Israel shall do this, not the church, not present preaching nor missionary work, but Israel when she shall have learned to sing Isa. xxvi, 1-9. Not seeing this causes a form of drunkenness and staggering.

DAVIDSON NEWS.

Condensed Items From the Lexington Dispatch.

One day last week at Thomasville the engine of the Chmax Chair Company tore up its steam chest and was otherwise damaged to such an extent that a new engine will have to be installed. The accident will cause the plant to shut down about ten days.

Harvie Welborn, a brother of George and Herb Welborn, the barbers, died Sunday night at his home in Randolph county. He had been paralyzed for years, and Saturday fell in the fire and was fatally burned.

Jamei M. Monger, the efficient registered druggist of the Thomasville Drug Co., resigned his position here and left Friday for Hamlet where he has accepted a position.

Dr. J. B. Everett will leave Lexington the last of the week, and will make his home at Murfreesboro his native town.

Friday afternoon the three story brick building occupied by the Lexington Grocery Company, wholesale, near the depot, began to give away. Experts pronounced the building unsafe, liable to fall at any time, so that it was like taking one's life in hand to go in the house. The cause of the trouble was the foundation, which was not sufficient. The goods have been hauled away and stored in various places and the work of repairing the building will go right along.

Carthage Cuttings.

W. L. Eppees, who for the last seventeen years has been engineer on the Carthage Railroad, has resigned and gone to Bennettsville, S. C., where he will be engaged in the same business. Mr. Eppees' family will move to Bennettsville in a few weeks.

At a meeting of Carthage Council No. 165 Junior Order United States American Mechanics recently it was decided to present a bible and flag to the Carthage school at some time in the near future. Prominent Juniors from different points in the State will be present and deliver addresses on that occasion, and a big time is expected.

A \$10,000 bond issue for a graded school in Carthage seems to be a popular proposition with our people. We believe at least three-fourths of them will vote for the measure.

Editor Johnson on the Legislature.

The Legislature has had a larger number than usual of men who are not afraid to stand against the world, the flesh and the devil for what they believe to be right. The taunt long in the face of the Senator Redwine that if he pursued a certain course he could not be returned, was hurled back with brave and manly indignation. There have been many of these men in Raleigh this term and the people will remember them. On the other hand there have been a few cases of pitiful cowards whose teeth chattered and who weakly yielded to pressure they knew to be unworthy and malign. A rag baby pretending to be a man is a contemptible thing.—Charity and Children.

Visits Haunts of Boyhood.

Willis B. Dowd, a prominent Tar Heel lawyer, of New York and a son of the late Maj. C. Dowd, an associate and law partner of the beloved Zeb Vance, visited High Point and Charlotte last week. The Enterprise says: When Mr. Dowd had registered at the Elwood he took himself to the haunts of his boyhood days, when he was a student at "Old Trinity," and harked back to the distant times when there was little of the present High Point other than Jarrell's Hotel.

Business Notes.

The name of the Pearl Hosiery Manufacturing Company at Randleman has been changed to the Randleman Hosiery Mills Company, and the capital stock increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Burlington House Furnishing Company, Burlington; authorized capital stock \$50,000 but can begin business with \$25,000. Incorporators are: J. L. Welborn, 10 shares; J. L. Comer, 10; and J. W. Welborn, 5. Object is to conduct a furniture store.—Raleigh Times.

Oyster Pie.

Line a deep pie plate with a rich paste rolled thin. Drain fifty oysters from their liquor and put in the dish. Add a rounding tablespoonful of butter cut into bits, half a level teaspoonful of salt and a slight sprinkle of flour. Cover with paste rolled thin, brush with beaten egg and bake in a quick oven.

W. M. Tate, of High Point, has gone to Colorado where he expects to locate within the next few weeks.

Advertisement for Royal Baking Powder. Text: "You can make better food with Royal Baking Powder. ABSOLUTELY PURE. Lighter, sweeter, more palatable and wholesome." Includes an image of a woman and child.

Cancer Not Hopeless.

The American Magazine for February contains an article on "Cancer, the Unconquered Plague," by Dr. Leonard Keene Hirschberg, of John Hopkins University.

Each year nearly 40,000 men and women die of cancer in this country. The disease is a dark and gloomy mystery. The facts about it are extraordinarily interesting, as Dr. Hirschberg points out. There is no absolute cure for it yet. But there is always hope. On this point the author says:

"Nature, indeed, is the only doctor whose skill is capable of combating cancer. Ehrlich and others have observed that, of a given number of mice displaying symptoms of cancer, a certain portion recover. The same thing is true of human beings. Every community has a saved sufferer, and as a rule this same sufferer is a perambulating and very vociferous bellman for some sort of 'mental' treatment or quack medicine. It is the same with cancer as with other diseases. When Nature, by her mysterious processes, effects an eleven-hour cure, the credit goes to the doctor in attendance.

"Luckily, there is no disease, no matter how virulent, that Nature herself cannot cure; and so even in the worst cases of cancer it is well not to abandon hope. I have myself seen several cases of spontaneous cures. One patient was a wealthy Baltimorean, whose malady was diagnosed by an operation as cancer of the stomach three years or more ago. Three prominent American surgeons saw the cancer, which was inoperable because of its location. He submitted to a serum treatment, and last summer a second operation revealed the fact that his cancer had entirely disappeared, leaving a scar. Here was an undoubted case of cure, out did the serum do the work? Its advocates maintain that it did, but agrarian very learned and scientific physicians hold that it did not. One cure, it is obvious by no means establishes a specific's efficacy."

CROMWELL'S HORSES.

An Accident That Defied the Protector in Hyde Park.

"As Cromwell rose in power and rank his love of horses began to be more conspicuous," says a writer in Blackwood's. "When he started from London in 1649 to reconquer Ireland he went forth in that state and equipage as the like hath hardly been seen, himself in a coach with six gallant Flanders mares, reddish gray." In 1655, when the Spanish ambassador took his leave of the lord protector, Cromwell sent him "his own coach of six white horses" to convey him to and from Whitehall. "Certain it is," adds the narrator, "that none of the English kings had ever any such."

The protector was not much of a whip, however. In 1654 the Count of Oldenburg sent Cromwell a present of six horses, and the protector's anxiety to make trial of their quality led to his well known adventure in Hyde park. On Friday, Sept. 29, he went with Secretary Thurloe and some of his gentlemen to take air in the park, ordered the six horses to be harnessed to his coach, put Thurloe inside of it and undertook to drive himself. "His highness," said a letter from the Dutch ambassador, "drove pretty handsomely for some time, but at last, provoking those horses too much with the whip, they grew unruly, whereby his highness was flung out of the coach box upon the ground. His foot getting hold in the tackling, he was carried away a good while in that posture, but at last he got his foot clear and so came to escape. He was presently brought home and lost blood and after some rest taken is now well again." secretary, being hurt on his an'

leaping out of the coach, hath been forced to keep his chamber hitherto and been unfit for any business."

The royalist Scroggs, afterward chief justice, writing of this incident, hoped that the next fall would be from a cart—hinting at the gallows. As to Cromwell's views on the burning question of horse racing it is difficult to arrive at a positive conclusion. His constant aim was to possess as many good horses as he could afford. Whether he entered his horses for races or had the satisfaction of owning a winner history does not say.

Crushed.

"If I could only die and leave you well off," he said after they had had their first quarrel, "I would be glad to go."

"How," she earnestly asked, "could you die and leave me otherwise than well off?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

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claimed to be "just as good" as Schnapps, but there is only one genuine Schnapps. Be sure the letters on the tag, and stamped on the plug under the tag spell S-C-H-N-A-P-P-S and then you have it—the most wholesome tobacco produced, with just enough sweetening to preserve the mild, juicy, stimulating quality of the leaf tobacco. Expert tests prove that this flue cured tobacco, grown in the famous Piedmont region, requires and takes less sweetening than any other and has a wholesome, stimulating, satisfying effect on chewers.

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