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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson I.—Fourth Quarter, For Oct. 6, 1907.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Josh. i, 1-11—Memory Verse, 7—Golden Text, Josh. 1-5. Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Barnes.

Who is there that knows, as he should, the power of such words as: "I will be with thee. I will not fail thee nor forsake thee" (verse 5). Yet hear them again and again in Gen. xxviii, 15; Deut. xxxi, 8; Ex. iii, 12; Judg. vi, 16; Isa. xli, 10; Matt. xxviii, 20. What more can we ask or desire than the presence of Him who has all power and the assurance that He will work both to will and to do of His good pleasure, saying, "I will work and who shall hinder it?" (Phil. ii, 13; Isa. xlii, 13). We are here to help and encourage others (Isa. xli, 6, 7), but we cannot do this unless we are ourselves of good courage (1, 7, 9, 18). See also I Chron. xxi, 13; xxviii, 20; II Chron. xv, 7; xxxii, 7, and Hag. ii, 4, the last having a threefold "Be strong" and also "I am with you." I am continually helped by the fact that notwithstanding all discouragements our Lord is never discouraged and cannot fail and has assured us that the power and wisdom of hell cannot prevail against His church (Isa. xlii, 4; Matt. xvi, 18). While there is no doing of ours in the matter of our redemption, for it is to Him that worketh not, but believeth (Rom. iv, 5), the word for the redeemed is "observe to do" (verses 7, 8). We prove our love to God and bring to ourselves the fullness of blessing, that is the conscious possession and enjoyment of the things that are ours in Him, by observing to do what He commands us. In Israel's case see Ex. xix, 5; xxxii, 20-25, etc., and note everywhere the results of their disobedience and what might have been if they had but obeyed. In our own case remember the words of our Lord in John xiv, 21, 23, concerning His manifesting Himself to us and making His abode with us.

The only book which can guide us in that which we are to observe to do is to be ever with us, and we are to meditate therein day and night (verse 8). See also Ps. 1, 2, 3, and remember that one test of our love of God is our love of His word and the way we lay it up in our hearts. His "Have not I commanded thee?" (verse 9) reminds us of His word to Gideon, "Go in the thy might: * * * have not I seen thee?" Judg. vi, 14) and also His grand message to Jeremiah (1, 7-9). It is as much as all these were written for you and for me, dear reader, and not for Joshua or Gideon or Jeremiah (they were spoken to them, but written for us—Rom. xv, 4); let us lay them to heart and observe to do them.

It was wholly of grace. They had not labored for it nor in any way deserved it. It was theirs by His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and they had only to enter in and possess it and see the God who gave it to them cause all their enemies to fall before them, but there was to be no compromise with their enemies in any way. To us who have to contend with the world, the flesh and the devil and overcome them, if we would possess our possessions, the exhortation is, "Be not conformed; * * * be transformed" (Rom. xii, 1, 2).

The same God who fought for Israel will work in us both to will and to do, and the victory that overcometh is our faith, His blood, the word of our testimony and not loving our lives for His sake (Phil. ii, 13; Heb. xiii, 21; I John v, 4; Rev. xii, 11).

Something Had to Be Done.

The visiting minister was walking along the shady country road to a church where he was to preach that day, when he saw a little boy digging vigorously into the bank by the roadside. He stopped and asked the boy why he worked so hard on Sunday.

"I'm digging for a woodchuck, sir," replied the boy.

"Well, my son, don't you know it is wrong to do that on Sunday, and you won't get him?"

"Not get him!" exclaimed the boy; "why, I've got to get him. The minister's coming to our house to dinner to-day and we ain't got any meat."

Ladies' Home Journal.

His P. S.

A young countryman was courting a city bred damsel and proposed to her by letter. He added a P. S.: "Please let me have your answer by return post, as I have somebody else in my eye."

An All Round Misfit.

The late James McNeil Whistler was standing bareheaded in a hat shop, the clerk having taken his hat to another part of the shop for comparison. A man rushed in with his hat in his hand and, supposing Whistler to be a clerk, angrily confronted him.

"See here," he said, "this hat doesn't fit."

Whistler eyed the stranger critically from head to foot and then drawled out:

"Well, neither does your coat. What's more, if you will pardon my saying so, I'll be hanged if I care much for the color of your trousers."—Everybody's.

ROAD DUST REMEDY.

Sea Salt and Sea Water Used as a Cheap Method.

Consul D. I. Murphy, writing from Bordeaux, says that considerable attention has been attracted of late to the problem of combating road dust, which is not only inconvenient and unpleasant, but has been found deleterious to health.

The Medical Society of Bordeaux called attention to the evils arising from this cause and the number and nature of diseases directly traceable thereto. Tar seems to have many advocates as a layer of dust, but its use has been found to have some disagreeable accompaniments. Sea salt and sea water have been proposed as cheaper and more effective remedies than tar. The idea of using sea salt seems to be based upon its well known property, especially when in large grains, of absorbing the moisture of the atmosphere. It is this property, it is claimed, that will dampen the dust and thus prevent its dissemination.

Dr. Carl, an eminent chemist of Bordeaux, exploits the merits of sea water. He mentions the fact that when salt extracted from sea water becomes damp it is because of the impurities it contains (pure salt not being hygroscopic), carbonate of magnesium and calcium being the principal impurities which provoke this liquefaction.

It has been suggested that these salts might be put into the ordinary water used for sprinkling the roads. As prepared in the laboratory, however, or as found as residuum in the factory, carbonate of magnesium and calcium have a market value which would make their general use very expensive.

Dr. Carl points out that these salts abound in sea water, from which if evaporated in great shallow trays by the rays of the sun the different salts crystallize in order of insolubility, chloride of sodium being the first to separate, while the others, more soluble, accumulate in the remaining water. A few quarts of this "mother sea water," having no value, mixed with a ton of ordinary water, Dr. Carl declares, will be found most efficacious in laying the dust and preventing its dissemination. The expense would seem to be trifling. No disagreeable odors would offend the nostrils and no deleterious effects follow its use.

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