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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JULY 19

BLIND BARTIMAEUS.

GOLDEN TEXT—Mark 10:46-52. "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert." Isa. 35:5, 6.

On our Lord's journey "towards Jerusalem," the place of sacrifice, a place of power was sought by his disciples, Mark 10:37. This lesson is an illustration given to those who accompanied Jesus how they too may reach a place of power, viz., through service and sacrifice.

Matthew 20:30-34 tells us that there were two who made the appeal, but Mark seems to have thought that Bartimaeus was worthy of special mention. The healing mentioned by Luke 18:35 suggests that in that case it occurred as Jesus was entering and not leaving Jericho. Mark is telling of one man, Luke of another.

Man's Nature.

I. Bartimaeus Begging, vv. 46-48. The passing through Jericho was a rebuke to the disciples joined in this rebuke. This certainly shows the fact that none of them fully comprehended the Lord's teaching as suggested in Mark 10:45. Bartimaeus is an illustration of man by nature. His home, Jericho, was the city under "a curse" (Josh. 6:17), and is a type of this world cursed by sin. He was blind, see II Cor. 4:4; Rev. 3:17. His rags suggest Isa. 64:6 and Phil. 3:9. If the rebuke was mainly by the disciples it was that they might save the master during these strange days. Great and marvelous were the works and teachings he was performing, but these were the things that called forth such a wayside service. It was a glad message to Bartimaeus, "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." There was no one else who could help him. Some one had told him of the power of Jesus. Now his opportunity is at hand, he must not miss it. Jesus never passed that way again. Bartimaeus began by crying out, Rom. 10:13; he called while Christ was near enough to hear, Isa. 55:6. His cry was that of conscious need, it was direct, it was insistent. He called Jesus "son of David" e. g., the Messiah, although the people had said "Jesus of Nazareth," see Matt. 9:27; 15:21, 23. His cry for "mercy" is rebuked. Many today are so stiff and formal as to frown upon any religious enthusiasm or earnestness. It was not beneath the dignity of Jesus to be disturbed by a blind beggar. Though poor in purse Bartimaeus was rich in faith for he answered those who rebuked him by crying "the more a great deal." He would not be put off.

"Come to Jesus."
II. Bartimaeus Blessed, vv. 49-52. His command "call ye him" is indicative of the conscious power of Christ. Notice his great interest as suggested by the words, "Jesus stood still." Remember the important mission to Jerusalem and the leaders of the people who occupied his time; yet he does not compel Bartimaeus to follow after, nor to overtake him ere his prayer is answered, see Matt. 11:28. This was good news for the disciples to proclaim, Matt. 28:19, 20. There was no indecision on the part of Bartimaeus. Casting his garment aside he sprang up, came and cast himself at the feet of Jesus. Although Jesus possessed all power still his manifestation was confined to the desire of the beggar.

The Teaching: First, the readiness of God's mercy. Jesus had been rejected by rulers and councils and is moving "steadfastly" toward the consummation of his earthly career. That journey led him through Jericho, perhaps that he might meet Bartimaeus. At Jerusalem he is to pronounce sentence upon the rebellion of his people. Nevertheless when one of that same people called him by the title that suggested his Messiahship, "Son of David," he immediately turned aside in response thereto, Heb. 2:2. God never destroys the righteous with the wicked or the repentant with the rebellious. His ear is ever open to the faintest cry.

Second, The failure of men to apprehend this fact. There are many today as successors of those who rebuked Bartimaeus. Some who hold him in reverence and yet fail to apprehend adequately that he came to "seek and to save the lost." There is no consideration of policy or of expediency, no question of method, nor the importance of rank, that can stand in the way of opening blind eyes, and answering the cry of the beggar.

Third, The nature of saving faith. The answer of relief from the Lord comes in response to the profound conviction of personal need. "He came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." There is nothing in that call to make any definite appeal to the righteous. A blind man, through someone's testimony hears that he is near and cries out to him from the depths of his need. But there must be also a recognition of power. Bartimaeus had no assurance until he had made his appeal; he took a chance as it were. He was not assured until his eyes were opened.

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NOTICE.

Having qualified as Admr. C. T. A. estate of Bertie J. Hancock, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county, all persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 27th day of June, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 20th day of June, 1914.
R. W. HANCOCK, Admr.
Seagrave, N. C. R. F. D.

Political Announcements

For Register of Deeds.
To the voters of Randolph county I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of Register of Deeds, subject to the democratic primaries of Randolph county.
E. O. YORK

Announcement.
I hereby announce that I shall be a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county. I am a native born citizen of this county and have devoted my life to the public service. I am a member of the Democratic Party and have been a member of the same since my majority. I am a native born citizen of this county and have devoted my life to the public service. I am a member of the Democratic Party and have been a member of the same since my majority.

I hereby announce that I shall be a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county. I am a native born citizen of this county and have devoted my life to the public service. I am a member of the Democratic Party and have been a member of the same since my majority.

NOTICE OF LAND SALE UNDER MORTGAGE.

Under and by virtue of the powers vested in the undersigned by that certain mortgage deed executed by J. R. Winslow and wife to Mrs. K. J. McDowell on the 18th day of May, 1912, recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Randolph County in Book 149, page 170 et seq., I will sell at public auction for cash at the court house door in Asheboro, N. C., on Saturday, the 8th day of August, 1914, at 12 o'clock, M., the following lands situate in New Market township, Randolph county, North Carolina, bounded as follows, to-wit:

Tract No. 1. Beginning at a stake near Barn, thence N 62 deg. East 28 poles to post oak, thence N 87 1/2 deg. east 22 poles to a stake, thence S 48 deg. east 14 poles to stake thence N 80 1/2 deg. east 41 poles to white oak near road in original line, thence N on said line 67 poles to black oak, original corner, thence west on Newlin's line 82 poles to stake in said line, thence S 12 deg. west 85 poles to beginning corner, west 41 poles to acre more or less.

Tract No. 2. Beginning at a stake, thence N 62 deg. east 38 poles to a post oak, thence N 87 1/2 deg. east 22 poles to stone, thence south 68 deg. east 14 poles to stone, thence north 80 1/2 deg. east 41 poles to white oak near road, thence S to oak, original corner, thence west 117 poles to a stone, thence 50 poles to the beginning, containing 25 acres, more or less.

This sale is made under the power contained in said mortgage empowering the undersigned to make sale of said lands in the event of default being made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured; said default having been made this sale is accordingly made under the said power.

This July 2, 1914.
MRS. K. J. McDOWELL,
Mortgagee.

NOTICE.

HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor on the estate of D. H. Miller, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph County, I shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, on the premises on 2nd day of August, 1914, one horse, two buggies, two wagons, one set one horse harness one set of buggy harness a lot of kitchen tools, a lot of household and farming furniture and other articles too tedious to mention.

All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 18th day of July, 1915 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 11th day of July 1914.
T. L. MILLER,
Executor.
Pipe, N. C.

NOTICE.

Having qualified as Admr. C. T. A. on the estate of James Jordan, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county, all persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 27th day of June, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 20th day of June, 1914.
WINCY C. JORDAN,
Admr. C. T. C.

NOTICE.

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator on the estate of Solomon Williams, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county.

All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 11th day of July, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 7th day of July, 1914.
D. W. McCORN, Admr.,
Seagrave, N. C. R. F. D. No. 1.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator on the estate of Arthur Miller, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned duly verified, on or before the 1st day of August, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to the estate are expected to make immediate payment and settlement.
This the 7th day of July, 1914.
Gertrude R. Hill,
Administrator of Arthur Miller, deceased.

NOTICE.

Having qualified as administrator on the estate of Embee L. Fox, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county, I shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, on the premises, on the 11th day of July, 1914, 1 cow, chickens, household and kitchen furniture and other articles too tedious to mention.

All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 13th day of June, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 8th day of June, 1914.
C. M. FOX.

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