

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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

LESSON FOR AUGUST 9

THE BARREN FIG TREE AND THE DEFILED TEMPLE.

(Temperance)
LESSON TEXT—Mark 11:13-14.
GOLDEN TEXT—"By their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:20.

Event crowds fast upon the heels of event during the days of this most tragic week in all the history of the world. Temperance means restraint and a constraining power of God given appetites and privileges, hence the significance of this lesson as emphasizing the principles of temperance.

I. Sealing, vv. 12-14. The day following his triumphal entry into Jerusalem Jesus and his disciples journeyed from Bethany, his abiding place, each night, into the city. Seeing leaves upon the fig trees, he had a right to look for fruit, for the fruit of that tree comes before the foliage. But none is found, and Jesus seals its barrenness. His act was a parable in action, Hosea 10:1. Profession had superseded possession, and Israel is therefore to be judged, set aside, until the day when they shall look upon him whom they have pierced.

Cleansed the Temple.

II. Cleansing, vv. 15-19. Entering the familiar scenes of the city and temple, whence the hosannas had echoed so loudly the day previous, Jesus saw its desecration and degradation. Outwardly a delight, it was inwardly deceitful, "a den of robbers," and his anger waxed hot. Everything he saw and banished was in some way connected with the temple worship. Even so the most holy things created by the wisdom of a loving God may become the instruments of the most deplorable degradation. Ostensibly in the name of religion these temple merchants were in reality ministering to self and private gain. As at the beginning of his ministry to again Jesus exercised his authority and cleansed the temple from its pollution and for a time (v. 16) guarded it from further desecration.

The temperance application at this point is very clear. Appetite, mental or physical, is a God given faculty, but must be kept within control. Properly used they are a delight, a blessing to the man and his friends. Allowed to rule and appetites are terrific task masters. Purify the fountain of a man's heart, govern his motive and the stream of his acts will bless all, himself included.

III. Forgiving, vv. 20-25. The next day on the way from Bethany to Jerusalem they again passed the fig tree and it was withered. The disciples marvelled at the swift execution of his curse and Peter calls attention to it, v. 21, Matt. 21:12, 20. In reply Jesus again emphasizes the lesson, "Have faith in God." This does not mean that this is an explanation of how he withered the tree, but rather why it had died. Israel was placing its trust elsewhere than in God, and therefore withers from the "roots upward." Notice that the root is not blasted, and a beautiful tree will again blossom forth from the living root. So Israel shall once again spring up into a new and fruitful nation, Isa. 27:6. Jesus' teaching by this tree is an illustration of wherein Israel had failed. They had not faith in God. Faith can remove mountains, and no difficulty can hinder those who have faith in God, Mark 9:23. Faith grows upon the word, Rom. 10:17. Yet love is greater, I Cor. 13:2. If we really desire the things we pray for, we shall have them." We not only expect but go beyond in our petition and count as ours the things asked for. The lack of a forgiving spirit will effectually shut us out from God.

Authority Challenged.

IV. Challenged, vv. 27-33. Upon again entering the city and the temple, there came to Jesus the chief priests, scribes and elders who challenged the authority by which he wrought these things, undoubtedly referring to his triumphal entry and to his cleansing of the temple. His reply is a counter challenge concerning the baptism of John. For at least two years John had been dead and his voice silent with a probable forgetfulness on the part of these men, and a decreasing influence of his message upon their lives. Yet the question of Jesus had projected power as he brought John back to them with this question as to his authority, "was it from heaven, or of men?" That there was keen sarcasm and cold logic embodied in his question is revealed by the recorded dilemma of his enemies, vv. 31, 32.

This entire passage deals with the responsibility of privilege. Particularly is this epitomized in the parable of the fig tree. Privilege is emphasized in that the tree was planted in the vineyard of its owner, it lived off of his possessions. Its simple responsibility was to bear fruit. In spite of the patience of the owner and the privilege of its surroundings it perished. The advantage of Godly parents, of Christian society and the heritage of the noble martyrs and saints of the church will not save that man or woman who "has a name to live but is dead."

COVER CROP CAMPAIGN

The Farmers' Co-operative Demonstration work, conducted jointly by the United States and the State Departments of Agriculture and the A. & M. College, is now starting plans for winter cover crops in this state. Efforts put forth in this matter the past season resulted in the adding directly of 42,300 acres of such crops. The management will make a tremendous effort to double the acreage this season. County Demonstration Agents are already at work on the matter. Every farmer, merchant, banker, and all who are interested in promoting better farming are asked to join in the movement.

The crops advocated for this state are: rye for very poor soils, crimson, bur and red clover; vetch, with a support crop and grasses of various mixtures. Last year a hundred acres of grass, scattered over the state, produced an average of 5000 pounds of cured hay per acre, at a net profit of \$31 per acre. This shows that we have splendid conditions for growing all the hay and grazing crops needed in the state and some to sell.

The legumes mentioned are usually more profitable than grasses because they gather—free—expensive nitrogen from the air and store it in the soil. Farmers can get it this way much cheaper than by purchasing it. These winter growing crops are very valuable. For grazing, cutting for forage or for turning under to increase soil fertility, they are easily worth ten dollars per acre and often several times this amount. Often the crop that follows them is doubled in yield. Furthermore, they reduce washing and leaching and add organic matter—something that practically all soils are deficient in. Every acre of cultivated land should grow at least two crops per year, one in the winter and one in the summer. One may be a food crop or a money crop and the other a soil improvement crop. Lands that lie bare during the winter months often lose more plant food through leaching and washing than is used by the crop that grows there during the summer.

It behooves every farmer to give this matter his attention. The important thing to do right now is to decide which crop or crops he will grow, procure good seed, and then break his land at once to a depth of from eight to twelve inches. Profitable crops are rarely grown on shallowly plowed lands. Harrow the land the same day it is broken to prevent loss of moisture, and so have it ready to plant when the time arrives. There is no reason why every farmer should not plant some clover on his farm late in August or from then till the middle of October. Those who are not acquainted with clover growing should not plant more than an acre or two the first season. Information concerning the matter may be had by requesting it of our State and National Departments of Agriculture, our A. & M. College, or Mr. C. R. Hudson, Raleigh, N. C., who inaugurated and is pushing the matter. Where there are demonstration agents, farmers enjoy the advantage of a personal interview by calling on them.

BLIND THROUGH NEGLIGENCE

One Hundred Thousand People in the United States Lose Their Sight Annually.

Of the one hundred thousand blind people in the United States it is estimated that about thirty thousand are unnecessarily blind. About twelve thousand of these are children whose blindness is due to negligence on the part of parents. About twelve thousand are groping their way in darkness because of injuries which in most cases could have been avoided by the installation of proper safety devices. Twenty-five hundred of them are deprived of their sight because of granular lids, which is preventable by the application of proper remedies. Two thousand are unable to see as a result of 4th of July accidents. The remaining fifteen hundred are blind from various causes, such as the drinking or absorbing of wood alcohol and the neglect of treatment of certain eye affections. There will always be a certain number of cases of blindness which cannot be avoided but it is appalling to think that the sight of thirty thousand of those now blind could have been preserved. The question is, "How shall we limit blindness in the future?" The answer is, "By insisting that our children's eyes have proper care, by compelling our factories to install safety devices, by medical inspection of schools, by abolishing the roller towel and by establishing such other hygienic measures as will keep us healthy and free from disease."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for Cuts, Burns, Sores.

Mr. E. S. Loper, Marilla, N. Y., writes: "I have never had a Cut, Burn, Wound or Sore that it would not heal." Get a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve today. Keep handy at all times for Burns, Sores, Cuts, Wounds. Prevents Lockjaw, etc., at your Druggist.

Claremont College

HICKORY NORTH CAROLINA

Founded 1860

SELECT SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Located near the Mountains

Limited Number of Students

LITERARY, MUSIC, ART, EXPRESSION AND DOMESTIC SCIENCE COURSES MAINTAINED

Faculty Selected with Greatest Care

Special Attention Given the Girls

\$140 Pays for Tuition, Board, Heat, Lights and Room Rent

FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

Address JOSEPH L. MURPHY, President

We have on hand a lot of one-horse Chattaanooga Plows, which we offer at \$4.00 each, so long as they last. Also plenty of Oliver one and two-horse plows on hand.

COME TO SEE US

McCrary-Redding Hardware Co. Asheboro, N. Carolina

STATEMENT

National Union, Toledo, Ohio, condition December 31, 1913, as shown by statement filed.

Amount of Ledger Assets December 31st of previous year	\$2,233,382.98
Income—From Policyholders, \$2,593,113.53; Miscellaneous, \$103,839.34;	
Total	\$2,696,952.87
Disbursements—To Policyholders, \$2,405,514.32; Miscellaneous, 192,317.96	
Total	\$2,597,832.28
Benefit Certificates in force December 31, 1912, Number 62912	
Amount	\$118,999,000
Benefit Certificates written or revived during year—Number 6419	
Amount	\$7,630,000
Benefit Certificates in force December 31, 1913—Number 62483	
Amount	\$116,517,500

ASSETS

Value of Real Estate	\$49,453.65
Value of Stocks and Bonds owned	\$2,186,702.08
Deposited in Trust Companies and Banks on Interest	\$183,785.77
Interest and rents due and accrued	\$5,762.47
Assessments actually collected and held by subordinate bodies not yet turned over to Supreme Body,	\$209,857.82
Total Admitted Assets,	\$2,655,561.79

LIABILITIES

Death Claims Due and Unpaid	\$275,000.00
Salaries, rents, expenses, commissions, etc., due and accrued	\$7,749.90
Total Liabilities	\$282,749.90

BUSINESS IN NORTH CAROLINA DURING 1913

Benefit certificates in force December 31, 1912, Number, 734	
Amount,	\$1,200,000
Benefit Certificates written or revived in 1913, Number 11, Amount,	\$15,000
Benefit Certificates decreased or ceased in 1913, Number 124, Amount,	\$192,000
Benefit Certificates in force December 31, 1913, Number 623,	
Amount,	\$1,029,000
Claims unpaid December 31, 1912, Number 2, Amount	\$2,000
Claims incurred during the year, Number 12, Amount	\$21,000
Claims paid during the year, Number 10, Amount	\$17,000
Claims unpaid December 31, 1913, Number, 4, Amount	\$6,000
Total amount premiums or assessments collected or secured during the year in North Carolina	\$18,624.75

President, J. A. Wright; Secretary, E. A. Myers; Home Office, Toledo, O.; Attorney for Service, Insurance Commr., N. C.; Business Manager or Organizer for North Carolina, Home Office.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, INSURANCE DEPARTMENT,

Raleigh, March 19, 1914.

I, James R. Young, Insurance Commissioner, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of National Union, a Fraternal Order of Toledo, Ohio, filed with this Department, showing the condition of said Order on the 31st day of December, 1913.

Witness my hand and official seal the day and date above written.

JAMES R. YOUNG, Insurance Commissioner.

2 Car Loads Horses & Mules

We have at our stables two car loads of range horses and mares in the lot are some very fine stock. See us before you buy.

PRESNELL and BROWN
SUCCESSOR TO R. R. ROSS

CATAWBA COLLEGE

Co-educational. Healthful Location, Strong Faculty, Literary and Business Courses, Music, Art and Expression. Expenses Moderate, running from \$140 to \$260 the entire year.

Fall term opens September 1, 1914. For catalogue and further information write to

REV. J. D. ANDREW, President.
NEWTON, N. C.

FOUNDED 1838.

CHARTERED 1859.

TRINITY COLLEGE

DURHAM, N. C.

A Southern College of liberal arts with an established reputation for high standards, noble traditions, and progressive policies. Its large endowment fund makes possible its first class equipment and large faculty of well trained and carefully chosen teachers. Student fees low. Comfortable, inexpensive rooms in carefully supervised hygienic dormitories.

Classical and scientific courses leading to the bachelor's degree. Graduate courses in all departments. Schools of engineering, education and law.

For catalogue and illustrated booklet address

R. L. FLOWERS, Secretary to the Corporation.

WE ARE ABLE

And willing to do everything for our customers that a good bank ought to do. Why don't you open an account with us? With a record of seven years of successful business and resources of more than two hundred thousand dollars, we solicit your business. Call to see us.

BANK OF RAMSEUR



THE BLACKSTONE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

JAMES CANNON, JR., M. A., D. D., PRINCIPAL

20 Years Result. The Blackstone School adopted the following MOTTO: Thorough instruction under positively Christian influences at the lowest possible cost.

IT is today, with a faculty of 33, a boarding patronage of 368, a student body of 426, and a plant worth \$150,000.

The Leading Training School for Girls in Virginia. PAYS all charges for the year, including Table Board, Room, Lights, Steam Heat, Laundry, Medical Attention, Physical Culture and Tuition in all subjects except music and elocution.

Can parents find a school with a better record, with more experienced management at such moderate cost? For catalogue and application blank address GEO. P. ADAMS, Secretary, Blackstone, Va.

1837 GUILFORD COLLEGE 1914

THOROUGH HIGH MORAL TONE IDEAL LOCATION

Six Courses in Arts and Sciences, Music, Domestic Science, Bookkeeping and Banking, Expression, Ten Buildings With All Modern Conveniences, Athletic Field.

Expenses Low. Economy and Self Help Encouraged

For catalog and information address L. L. HOBBS, LL. D., Pres., Guilford College, N. C.

OPPORTUNITY—WANTED—TEN to fifteen good families to work in a manufacturing establishment. Healthful and pleasant work for men, women, boys and girls thirteen old and over. Prefer families of three or more workers.

Nice, new, clean houses to live in—rents reasonable. Pleasant surroundings; unexcelled church and school opportunities. Best place in North Carolina for working people who desire to make a good living and better their condition.

Write immediately to,
J. W. BURROUGHS, Durham, N. C.

CAN IT!

WHILE WE HAVE IT, WHY NOT PRESERVE IT?

Conservation of our waste products the road to economy.

Economy the key note to modern success.

WHY NOT CAN YOUR OWN FRUITS?

This is made easy by using the

"EL FLO" CANNING OUTFIT

Guaranteed to be the most convenient, durable and efficient in the world.

Outfits to suit every home, ranging in price from \$3.50 up. Not an experiment, but used by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for four years, and selected from all other makes of canning outfits to be used in the Tomato Club Canning Contest Demonstrations at the Fifth National Corn Exposition, Columbia, S. C., the National Conservation Exposition, Knoxville, Tenn., the National Educational Conference of the South, Louisville, Ky.

Used by Experiment Stations and Truckers. Over 16,000 Government Agents, Club Members and Farmers Everywhere.

CHAMPION TOMATO CLUB GIRL OF THE WORLD USES THE "EL FLO" CANNER.

Our outfits equipped for heating with either wood, coal or oil.

Newly patented Continuous Heating Capping Steels is the solution to all canning problems.

Write today for testimonials from enthusiastic "EL FLO" owners, and free catalogue.

Let us quote you prices on cans.

HOME CANNER MANUFACTURING CO.
Hickory, N. C.

2 IN 1

The POPULAR POLISHES
Black, Tan and White

10c All Dealers

THE F. F. DALLEY CO., LTD.
BUFFALO, N. Y. HAMILTON, ONT.

SHOE POLISHES

In Our New Patent EASY-OPENING-BOX

"Twist the Coin"