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**INTERNATIONAL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
LESSON**

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course.)

**LESSON FOR DECEMBER 20.**

**THE ASCENSION.**

LESSON TEXT—Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11.  
GOLDEN TEXT—He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight—Acts 1:9.

We have now reached the final lesson of the present course in the life of Christ, next Sunday being devoted to the review. The lesson committee have selected the continuous account of this final earthly set of our Lord as given us by St. Luke, for the Book of Acts is a continuance of the Gospel of Luke (Acts 1:1). Inasmuch as this is really but one account we will consider only that found in the Acts.

I. The Proof of the Resurrection, vv. 1-3. This book of "The Acts" is a continuation of what Jesus "began to do" and gives us the record of how he continued this work by means of those "whom he had chosen" (v. 3). Following his resurrection he gave them commandments "through the Holy Spirit," viz. in the power of the Holy Spirit. A like honor rests upon every believer to hear and to obey the commands of Jesus given in the power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit. The all-sufficient proof (see also I Cor. 15:4-8) was that Jesus had been seen for a period of 40 days. This is the "many infallible proofs." During that time they not alone saw the risen Lord, but conversed with him, ate with him, and had communion with him. During these days of communion he gave them his commands as to the "things concerning the kingdom of God." This entailed a burden that these commands be proclaimed in ever widening circles to the utmost bounds of the earth.

**Additional Experience.**

II. The Promise of the Father, vv. 4-8. The disciples were not to begin the proclamation of their message until they were fully equipped, until they had received that all essential preparation, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Here, again, the Scriptures are to be fulfilled (Isa. 44:3; Joel 2:8; also Luke 24:49). That ten days' delay was not time lost, for time spent in preparation is never time lost. We must not suppose these men as not regenerating (John 13:10; 15:3), but as lacking an equipment necessary for the successful execution of their important task. We as believers cannot call him Lord except by the power of the Spirit (I Cor. 12:3), but we do not all have that indwelling of the Spirit which alone will enable us to render effective service. This is an additional experience, but one open to all who will honestly and intelligently seek it (see Acts 8:12, and other references). This experience is (a) commanded, "charged not to depart till, etc." (b) to be preceded by "repentance," and (c) to carry with it authority, v. 7 R. V. It does not mean, either, temporal power nor is it the prerogative of a visible church and confined to an elect few. This kingdom is a spiritual one. The program of Jesus is Spirit-filled men to be his witnesses, and to begin "at Jerusalem." A true reception of the Holy Spirit means world-wide missionary endeavor.

**Presumptive Ignorance.**

III. The Present Place of Jesus, vv. 9-11. Even yet the disciples failed to grasp the idea of a spiritual kingdom as evidenced by verse six. In a most emphatic way he tells them that it is not for them to know the "times and seasons which the Father hath set within his own power" (authority, v. 7, R. V.). Their power is not to be earthly, but spiritual (v. 8). It is the height of presumptive ignorance for any one to set the date of our Lord's return (Dout 29:29). Jesus has given us explicit information on this question (Matt. 24:36), and his parables all warn us to "watch." While Jesus talked with his disciples concerning the reception of this new power and the place where they were to begin to exercise it, his feet were parted from the earth and a cloud received him from their sight as he ascended "into heaven" (Luke 24:51; I Pet. 3:22; see also Gen. 5:24 and Heb. 9:28 R. V.). His parting benediction was an adjuration to a life of service not in their weakness, but in the blessed endowment of power. Yonder into heaven he had gone to prepare a place for us (John 14:2, Heb. 9:24.) There he ever liveth to intercede for us (Heb. 7:25). His presence there makes us eternally secure (Rom. 8:34, Heb. 7:25). His presence in the heavens is the guarantee that we, too, shall one day be "with him" (John 12:26, Rev. 2:21).

This hope inspires the church to evangelism, to holy living and to faithful service. It was necessary that our Lord's work be transferred from his invisible person. Lifted up he was on Calvary, lifted up he was into glory, that "if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." Mysterious birth, wondrous life, glorious, marvelous ascension!

As this is written Europe is bathed in blood, and America is engaged in a set season of prayer for peace. The only abiding peace we can hope for will be when the Prince of Peace shall return to rule and to reign.

**SUGGESTIONS ON POULTRY RAISING FOR THE SOUTHERN FARMER**

Prepared in the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

The southern farmer, by virtue of his location and climate, is splendidly situated for the production of fowls and eggs. The mild winters and early springs make the production of eggs an easy matter when prices are high.

On many farms throughout the country the money derived from the sale of poultry and eggs—buys the groceries and clothing for the entire family. Every southern farmer can do as well, and should aim to keep at least 50 hens for laying purposes and home consumption. Select some of the American breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, or Rhode Island Reds. The Orpingtons are also a good general-purpose breed.

**Housing the Poultry**

On almost any farm there can be fitted up, with very little, if any, cost for new material, a poultry house that will answer all the purposes of more expensive buildings for keeping poultry. The essentials to success in housing are fresh air, sunshine, a dry floor, and a building that is free from drafts. The house must be free from drafts or the birds will catch cold. Colds are forerunners of roup and other diseases.

**Feeding the Flock**

It takes a healthy, well-fed flock to produce eggs. Fowls must not be allowed to become too fat, as but few eggs will be laid by hens in such condition. To prevent their getting over-fat, it is best to make them work for most of their feed by scratching in a litter composed of about 4 inches of dry straw, leaves, chaff, the following rations will give good results when proper care is given to their feeding:

1 pound oats, 2 pounds of corn and 2 pounds corn meal, 1 pound rice bran or wheat bran, 1 pound of cottonseed meal.

1 pound tans, 2 pounds corn, kafir corn, or milo maize, 1 pound broken rice or peanuts and; 2 pounds corn meal, 2 pounds rice bran, 1 pound cottonseed meal.

1 pound oats, 1 pound wheat or barley, 1 pound corn or kafir corn and; 2 pounds wheat bran, 2 pounds wheat middlings, 2 pounds corn meal or corn chop, 1½ pounds cottonseed meal.

Ten per cent or less of beef scrap may be added to the mash in all of the rations with good results. Skim milk or buttermilk is excellent for poultry. Green feeds, such as cabbages, mangel beets, alfalfa, or clover, should be added to these rations when grass is not available.

**How to Set a Hen, and Her Care**

When it is noted that a hen sits on the nest for two or three nights in succession, she is ready to be transferred to a nest, which should be prepared for her beforehand. This nest should be in a box and composed of straw, hay, or chaff for nesting material. Dust the hen thoroughly with insect powder each week while she is sitting. In applying the powder hold the hen by the feet, head down, working the powder well into the feathers, giving special attention to regions around the vent and under the wings. The powder should also be sprinkled in the nest. The nest should be in some quiet, out-of-the-way place on the farm, where the sitting hen will not be disturbed. Move her from the regular laying nest at night. Put a china egg or two in the nest where she is to sit and place a board over the opening so that she can not get off. Toward evening of the second day leave some feed and water and let the hen come off the nest when she is ready. Should she return to the nest after feeding, remove the china egg or eggs and put under her those that are to be incubated. In cool weather it is best to put not more than 10 eggs under a hen, while later in the spring one can put 12 to 15 according to the size of the hen. If eggs become broken while the hen is sitting, replace the nest with new, clean material, and wash the eggs in lukewarm water so as to remove all broken-egg material from them.

**Testing the Eggs**

Many eggs that are laid are infertile. For this reason it is advisable to set several hens at the same time. After the eggs have been under the hen for seven days they should be tested to see whether they are fertile or infertile. Infertile eggs should be removed and used at home in cooking or for ornaments, and the fertile eggs should be put back under the hen. In this way it is often possible to put all the eggs that three hens originally started to sit on under two hens and reset the other hen again. A good homemade egg tester or sandler can be made from a large shoe-box, or any box that is large enough to go over a lamp, by removing an end and cutting a hole a little larger than the size of a quarter in the bottom of the box, so that when it is set over a common lamp the hole in the bottom will be opposite the blaze. A hole the size of a silver dollar should be cut in the top of the box to allow the heat to escape. An infertile egg, when held before the small hole with a lamp lighted inside the box, will look perfectly clear, the same as a fresh one, while a fertile egg will show a small dark spot, known as the embryo, with a mass of little blood veins extending in all directions if the embryo is living. The testing should be done in a dark room.

**Care of the Hen and Chicks**

If the eggs hatch unevenly, those which are slow in hatching may be placed under other hens, as hens often get restless after a part of the chickens are out, allowing the remaining eggs to become cooled at the very time when steady heat is necessary. Hens should be fed as soon as possible after the eggs are hatched, as feeding tends to keep them quiet; otherwise many hens will leave the nests. In most cases it is best that the hen remain on the nest and brood the chickens for at least 24 hours after the hatching is over. Chickens

hatched during the winter should be brooded in a poultry house or shed while the outside weather conditions are unfavorable; after the weather becomes settled, they should be reared in brood coops out of doors. Brood coops should be made so that they can be closed at night to keep out cats, rats, and other animals, and enough ventilation should be allowed so that the hen and chicks will have plenty of fresh air. Hens will successfully brood 10 to 15 chickens early in the breeding season, and 18 to 25 in warm weather, depending upon the size of the hen.

The hen should be confined in the coop until the chicks are weaned, while the chicks are allowed free range after they are a few days old. Where hens are allowed free range and have to forage for feed for themselves and chicks they often take them through wet grass, where the chicks may become chilled and die. Then, too, in most broods there are one or two chicks that are weaker than the others and if the hen is allowed free range the weaker ones often get behind and out of hearing of the mother's cluck and call. In most cases this results in the loss and death of these chicks, due to their becoming chilled. The loss in young chicks due to allowing the hen free range is undoubtedly large.

Chickens frequently have to be caught and put into their coops during sudden storms, as they are apt to huddle in some hole or corner where they get chilled or drowned. They must be kept growing constantly if the best results are to be obtained, as they never entirely recover from checks in their growth even for a short period. Hens should be left with chicks as long as they will brood them.

**Feeding Young Chickens**

Young chickens should be fed from three to five times daily, depending upon one's experience in feeding. Undoubtedly chickens can be grown faster by feeding five times daily than by feeding three times daily, but it should be borne in mind that more harm can be done to the young chickens by overfeeding than by underfeeding, and at no time should they be fed more than enough to satisfy their appetites—and to keep them exercising—except at the evening or last meal, when they should be given all they will eat. Greater care must be exercised not to overfeed young chicks that are confined than those that have free range, as leg weakness is apt to result.

The young chicks may be fed any time after they are 36 to 48 hours old. The first feed may contain hard-boiled eggs, Johnny-cake (1 dozen infertile eggs to 10 pounds of corn meal) and enough milk to make a pasty mass, and 1 tablespoonful of baking soda, stale bread, pinhead oatmeal, or rolled oats. Dry bread crumbs or rolled oats may be mixed with hard-boiled eggs, making about one-fourth of the mixture eggs. Feed the bread crumbs, rolled oats, or Johnny-cake mixtures five times daily for the first week, then gradually substitute for one or two feeds of the mixture finely cracked grain of equal parts by weight of cracked wheat, cracked corn and pinhead oatmeal or hulled oats, to which about 5 per cent of cracked peas or broken rice and 2 per cent of charcoal, millet, or rape seed may be added. A commercial chick feed may be substituted if desired. The above ration can be fed until the chicks are two weeks old, when they should be placed on grain and a dry or wet mash mixture. Mash mixed with milk are of considerable value in giving the chickens a good start in life, but the mixtures should be fed in a crumbly mass and not in a sloppy condition.

As soon as the chickens eat whole wheat, cracked corn, and other grains, the small-sized chick feed can be eliminated. In addition to the above feeds the chickens' growth can be hastened if they are given sour milk, skim milk, or buttermilk to drink. Growing chickens kept on range may be given all their feed in a hopper, using as a grain mixture two parts by weight of cracked corn and one part of wheat, and for a mash mixture any of those given for laying hens. If beef scrap is to be fed, it is advisable to wait until the chicks are 10 days old. Chickens confined to small coops should be supplied with green feed, such as lettuce, sprouted oats, alfalfa, or clover, but the best place to raise chickens, successfully is on a good range where no extra green feed is required.

**SOME POULTRY HINTS**

Allow the hens free range. Wire in the grounds, if at home.

Stronger fertility is secured from birds on range.

Remove the male birds from the flock as soon as the hatching season is over, so as to produce infertile eggs.

Infertile eggs are produced by hens having no male birds with them.

Infertile eggs keep much better than those that are fertile.

The male bird has no influence on the number of eggs laid.

The hen's greatest profit-producing period is the first and second years.

February and March are the best hatching months. Chicks hatched during these months are freer from sore head than those hatched later.

Do not allow sitting hens to remain in the henhouse. By so doing many eggs are started to incubate, which renders them unfit for use at home or to market.

If possible place the brood coops near the cornfields, which furnishes both shade and fresh ground.

The free use of kerosene or crude petroleum on the roosts, dropping boards, in the cracks, and around the nests will exterminate mites. White-wash is also good.

Spray the brood coops once a week with some of these solutions and move to fresh ground.

Be sure and feed the table scraps to the fowls. Milk is one of the best feeds for egg production.

For additional information on poultry get in touch with your county agent and State agricultural college.

Write to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletins on poultry. They are free for the asking.

**IN THE KITCHEN**

**Back Bone and Vegetables**

Cool a tender pork back bone in a little water and season with pepper and salt. Add two quarts of turnips, peeled and cut in blocks, one quart of potatoes and one quart of carrots. Put the turnips and carrots on with the back bone, adding the potatoes half an hour before dinner. Use very little water and do not scorch.

**Kraut With Spareribs**

Cook two quarts of kraut in just enough water to keep from scorching for two hours. Have ready just enough spareribs for dinner and brown them lightly on top of the stove. Cover the ribs with the boiling hot kraut and cook in the oven until done. Be careful to have only enough water to keep the ribs and kraut from scorching.

**RIBS WITH SAGE DRESSING**

Make a bread dressing with stale bread crumbs soaked in cold water, then pressed lightly to squeeze the extra moisture out. Season with sage salt and pepper to taste, and one teaspoonful of butter. Mix well and put in a pan with the ribs over the top. Cover closely and bake in the oven, basting occasionally with a little hot water, being careful not to get them too wet.

**A Substitute for Meat**

Take a package of macaroni and a half-pound of hamburger steak or cold boiled meat. Cook the macaroni 30 minutes, drain, then put back in the dish. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, add a good sized lump of butter, then stir in the chopped meat. Cover with milk and bake half an hour. This is sufficient for six people and makes a delicious meat substitute. If liked, a chopped onion and a pinch of sage may be added.

**Meat Pudding**

Mix one pound raw chopped round steak, one teaspoonful butter, salt and pepper. Make a dough of one pint of flour, one-half teaspoonful salt, one teaspoonful baking powder. One-fourth cup lard and water to make a smooth dough. Roll; cut one-half inch thick; wet the edge and fill with meat. Draw edges together and put in cloth and tie. Allow room to swell. Drop in kettle of boiling water with saucer in bottom to prevent scorching and boil one and one-half hours, not letting the water boil too hard. Serve with a rich white sauce.

**A Miner's Cough**  
denotes a weakness and if neglected it leads to bronchitis, pneumonia or consumption.  
SCOTT'S EMULSION is the sure and safe remedy for coughs and colds because it relieves the trouble and strengthens the whole system to avoid sickness and loss of time.  
Every miner should take Scott's Emulsion and refuse the alcoholic, inferior substitutes.  
Every druggist has it.

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Extracted  
Without Pain**

If you are suffering with your teeth, write me a card and I will send you a book on the care of your teeth.



"It Didn't Hurt a Bit!"

My work is guaranteed to give satisfaction, or will replace it free of charge. My prices are not out of reach of anybody; and if your teeth need attention and you feel that you can't have it done tell me and I will make the price to suit you. I am at Liberty now all the time except the week following the 1st Monday when I will be at Ramseur.

**Dr. J. D. Gregg**  
LIBERTY, N. C.

**ELON'S BASKET BALL SCHEDULE**

Elon College, N. C., Dec. 16.—As was expected from the excellent record Elon made in Basket Ball last season, there is at this time an unparallelled interest in this sport in college circles. The practice game with the Greensboro Y. M. C. A. was a real practice game and yielded fine results. In the first half Coach Doak played three subs so as to find out their strength in real action. That accounts for Elon's defeat, for when the real varsity big five came into the arena during the second half, the brave lads from Greensboro could not match them, and if the game had continued five minutes longer Elon would undoubtedly annexed a scalp, despite the great lead their opponents gained against the subs in the first half.

The second practice game will be pulled off on the 14th instant with the Durham Y. M. C. A. quint. Local enthusiasts will not be satisfied if Coach Doak's men fail to take this one. Practice is good and wholesome, but so is victory from the fan's standpoint. It is expected therefore that the real strength of the squad will be matched against the boys from the town that's renowned the world around.

The regular schedule begins with the University at Chapel Hill on January 11, and closes with the same team on the local floor on February 27. There are eighteen games in all as follows:

January 11—Carolina at Chapel Hill.  
January 15—Trinity at Durham.  
January 21—Davidson at Elon.  
January 26—Carson and Newman at Elon.  
January 30—A. & M. at Raleigh.  
February 3—Guilford at Guilford.  
February 6—A. & M. at Elon.  
February 10—V. P. I. at Blacksburg.  
February 13—V. P. I. at Blacksburg.  
February 17—V. M. I. at Lexington.  
February 20—F. M. A. at Staunton.

**RECLEANING TOBACCO SEED**

In 1910, the Botany Division of the State Department of Agriculture began the cleaning of tobacco seed for the farmers of the State. That year we re-cleaned enough seed to plant about 300 acres in tobacco. The work has been gradually growing, however, until, during the winter and spring of 1914, we re-cleaned enough tobacco seed to plant over 43,000 acres.

The season for this work is on again and we want to advise the tobacco growers of the State to take advantage of this opportunity, at once, to get their seed cleaned free of charge, as the rush will be on a little later in the season and some will have to be returned uncleaned.

Let us have the tobacco seed at once therefore, in order that we may serve you to the best advantage. Address the Division of Botany, State Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C., and put name and address of sender inside the package.

JAMES L. BURGESS,  
Agronomist & Botanist.

**MRS. MCCAIN'S EXPERIENCE WITH CROUP.**

"When my boy, Ray, was small, he was subject to croup, and I was always alarmed at such times. Chamberlain's Remedy proved far better than any other for this trouble. I am never without it in the house for I know it is a positive cure for croup," writes Mrs. W. R. McCain, Blairsville, Pa. For sale by all dealers.

February 12—Pending.  
February 13—Pending.  
February 15—Wake Forest at Elon.  
February 19—Guilford at Elon.  
February 20—Guilford at Elon.  
February 24—Wake Forest at Wake Forest.  
February 27—Carolina at Elon.