

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

The International Sunday School Lesson for Next Sunday, July 5, 1914:

THE LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD.

MATTHEW 20:1-16. For the kingdom of heaven is like to a man that is a householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard.

And when he had agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the market place.

And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

And he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.

And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing there, and said unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.

So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.

And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.

And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.

But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many may be called, but few chosen.

GOLDEN TEXT: "He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

THE VINEYARD LABORERS WHO RECEIVED EQUAL REWARDS.

We closed the studies of the last quarter with the story of the young man who made the fatal mistake of refusing to follow Jesus. He was a rich young man and was unwilling to follow his Lord on the terms declared necessary for him. The disciples were greatly impressed with the incident, and more with the solemn words spoken by Jesus after the man's departure. Peter especially was distressed over the seemingly hard conditions the Lord had laid down; and he wondered, if those who had riches entered with so much difficulty into the kingdom of heaven, what reward would these receive who had made themselves poor for the sake of the kingdom? He declared that he and his fellow disciples had forsaken all they had, and he asked: "What, then, shall we receive?" It is unjust to Peter to suppose that he was concerned too much about the rewards of discipleship; and, since Jesus had declared so emphatically what the rewards of riches were, it was perfectly proper to inquire what were the benefits of voluntary poverty for Christ's sake. Jesus replied that such conduct as Peter's would receive an unfulfilling reward; but at the same time he warned them that spiritual blessings could not always be estimated on the basis of time and labor spent in the heavenly kingdom, and he added this great spiritual law: Many who are first shall be last, and many who are last shall be first. Our lesson is an illustration of this law.

THE LABORERS HIRED.

It was customary in the East for laboring people to stand in the open market places and wait for some one to employ them. It is not unusual to see laborers on the streets of our two

cities with the tools of their trade, ready to enter at once upon the employment that may be offered them. The ordinary day laborer in Palestine in the time of Jesus was paid a denarius, equal to about sixteen cents of our money. In some parts of the world today, a laborer can live and support his family on less than a denarius, but in some other countries, of course, much more is necessary to maintain a laborer at his best working efficiency. The working day began at sunrise and closed at sunset, and the workman was paid at the end of the day.

Into this market the landlord of our lesson story went early one morning to hire laborers into his vineyard. He agreed with certain men concerning the day's wages, and they went at once to work. About the third hour of the day, or nine o'clock in the morning, he saw that there was demand for more laborers in his vineyard, and going into the market place, he engaged others to work, promising to pay them whatever was just at the end of the day. This was done again at noon and at three o'clock, and additional men entered the work under the promise of just rewards. At five o'clock in the afternoon still other workers were sent into the vineyard, their excuse for a long day of idleness being that no work had been offered them. The kingdom of heaven is like this hiring of laborers to work in the vineyard: there is constant need of additional workers, and the opportunities to labor are being continually brought to the attention of men.

THE LABORERS REWARDED.

At the end of the day the master of the vineyard gave instructions to his steward, or foreman, to call the laborers from their task and to give to each man his pay, beginning with the last that came in to work and ending with the first. It was a surprise to all the workers that the last to enter were paid a full day's wages, although they had labored but one hour. Seeing this, those who had labored longer through the day supposed that their wages would be correspondingly larger; but every man received the denarius, without regard to his time. On this account those who had borne the burden of the day and its heat murmured against the vineyard master because he had made the last equal to themselves, and they murmured against the goodman of the house, declaring it was unjust. But the master himself, not his foreman, answered the complaint in the utmost kindness. "I do thee no wrong, friend," he said to the spokesman of the group. "Didst thou not agree to work for the usual day's pay? It is no injustice to thee that I pay these last according to their willingness to labor rather than according to their opportunities. Didst thou look with a covetous eye upon a reward which I bestow out of kindness and good will?" The kingdom of heaven is like the laborers rewarded; the rewards are bestowed on the basis of opportunity and faithfulness, not on the basis of the length of time and number of duties discharged.

THE GRACIOUS MASTER.

It must not be overlooked that our Lord is teaching a lesson of the kingdom of heaven and is not laying down principles of contract and labor. It is vitally true, beyond doubt, that the principles of the kingdom of heaven ought to be observed in business relations, in employing and in paying labor. But we must not seek for all economic truth in one spiritual lesson, and we must not overlook a spiritual lesson is our zeal for economic justice. The first ray of light thrown upon this lesson story is in these simple words put into the mouth of the vineyard master: "I am good." He bestows rewards because he is good, he deals with every man on the basis of kindness and grace and generosity, and he therefore does not employ the services of a timekeeper. Peter and the other disciples were asking the question: "What shall we get?" Jesus answered: "I am good." Above all other rewards, the privilege of trusting in Jesus is one of the most desirable. He is not a hard, driving taskmaster. He is the gracious Lord of the vineyard on earth, unfulfilling in goodness, infinite in courtesy and

THE LAW OF OPPORTUNITY.

As the men had opportunity they entered upon the work in the vineyard, some at the first hour, some at the sixth, and some at the eleventh. It would be untrue to the spirit of the parable to say that those who entered at the last hour had not a capacity to work equal to the first; it was not a question of capacity, but a question of opportunity. To some the opportunity for service did not come until the last hour of the day, but they were faithful in that last hour. A reputation before men often depends upon long and uninterrupted service, but character depends upon fidelity to opportunity, whether small or great. Character, rather than reputation, is the basis upon which our Lord bestows his rewards. In obscure quarters of the earth, and in overlooked stations of the Church are servants of the Lord with just as much ability, just as much usefulness, as any of those who fill the public eye and elicit the public praise. In the day of final rewards it is these men whose praise from the Lord of the vineyard shall merit the wonder of the world. It is these faithful men, although no one hired them and no opportunity thrust them forward, who, being last, shall become first in the roll of honor. It is the Lord's graciousness that does this, his approving eye that watches all his servants at their work.

Gold Mine Promising.

High Point, June 26.—L. A. Briles, who made a fortune years ago went to Florida and made a fortune afterwards returned and built High Point's only skyscraper, the building in which the Bank of Commerce is now situated, it while still a young man on the road to another fortune. He has one of the handsomest and most costly residences in the town, but this he has rented out and gone to Randolph county where is situated a gold mine known for a great number of years as the Hoover Hill. This property he has bought and is fast developing with modern machinery. Water from the Uwharrie river is pumped for washing the surface dirt which contains from four to seven dollars a ton. The mill being a forty-ton one washes about thirty tons daily, all machinery being operated by an electric plant recently put in at the mine. Mr. Briles has been at this development for some time now, and has reached the point where the outlook for returns is decidedly optimistic. The city authorities have been advised by letter that the new fire-truck recently purchased in Columbus, O., has been shipped and will likely reach here next week. This up-to-date fire-fighter, together with the four or five hose wagons which have always responded with such alacrity and speed when the fire-alarm shakes up the town, will do much toward a greater feeling of safety, and together with a completion of the city reservoir, which will be a matter of some three weeks, will doubtless cheapen fire insurance.

Hold Robbery in Mebane.

Mebane, June 26.—Between the hours of 11 p. m. and 2.30 a. m. Thursday night the Mebane Supply Co., the largest mercantile establishment in that town, was entered in the rear by thieves and goods stolen to the amount of \$200 to \$300, although the exact amount cannot be estimated. A quantity of the most expensive shoes, jewelry and men's furnishings of all kinds were taken, the cash drawers were broken open but all money had been placed in the safe. An expensive new cash register was fortunately unharmed as it had been left open. Several bags of shipstuffs were emptied of their contents on the floor and the bags used for packing the booty. Several men with large packs on their backs were seen to board the eastbound train by the watchman at 2:30 a. m. Further than this no information has been secured regarding the robbers, although the two officials are using every means possible to locate them.

To Prevent Blood Poisoning. Only at once the wonderful old reliable DR. KATHLEEN'S ANTISEPTIC HEALING OIL, a sure and dressing that relieves pain and heals at same time. Note! Not a liniment. 25c. 50c. \$1.00.

Check Your April Cough.

Thawing frost and April rains chill you to the very marrow, you catch cold—Head and lungs stuffed—You are feverish—Cough continually and feel miserable—You need Dr. King's New Discovery. It soothes inflamed and irritated throat and lungs, stops cough, your head clears up, fever leaves, and you feel fine. Mr. J. T. Davis, of Stickney Corner, Me., "Was cured of a dreadful cough after doctors' treatment and all other remedies failed. Relief or money back Pleasant—children like it. Get a bottle today. 50c. and \$1.00, at your druggists.

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES.

Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder. It relieves painful, smarting, tender, nervous feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and blisters. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is certain relief for sweating, callous, swollen, tired, itching feet. Always use it to Break in New Shoes. Try it TO-DAY. Sold everywhere. 25 cents. Don't accept any substitute. For FREE trial package address Allen S. Omsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

WHEN BURLINGTON PEOPLE

Publicly Testify, It's Evidence Not to Be Ignored.

When residents of Burlington are willing to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills in this paper, is there any good reason to try a kidney medicine or bladder remedy that is not as well recommended?

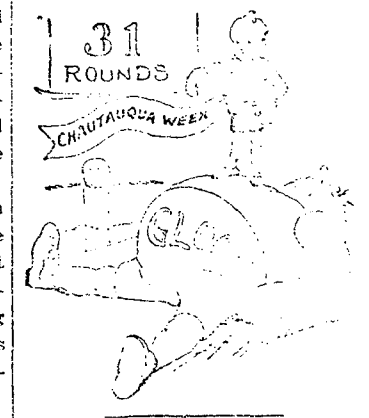
Mrs. Lula Helm, Webb Avenue and Anthony Street, Burlington, N. C., says: "I think it is a pleasure to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills. I hope my statement will help other people suffering from kidney complaint. I have used Doan's Kidney Pills with the best results and they have cured others of the family. I am glad to praise this remedy now as I was when I publicly endorsed it some years ago."

Mrs. Helm is only one of many Burlington people who have gratefully endorsed Doan's Kidney Pills. If your back aches—If your kidneys bother you, don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—ask distinctly for Doan's Kidney Pills, the same that Mrs. Helm had—the remedy lauded by home testimony. 50c. all stores. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y. "When Your Back is Lame—Remember the Name."

During the winter months impurities accumulate, your blood becomes impure and thick, your kidneys, liver and bowels fail to work, causing so-called "Spring Fever." You feel tired, weak and lazy. Electric Bitters—the spring tonic and system cleanser—is what you need; they stimulate the kidneys, liver and bowels to healthy action, expel blood impurities and restore your health, strength and ambition. Electric Bitters makes you feel like new. Start a four week's treatment—it will put you in fine shape for your spring work. Guaranteed. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.00.—H. E. Bucklen & Co., Philadelphia or St. Louis.

Coughed for Three Years.

"I am a lover of your goodsend to humanity and science. Your medicine, Dr. King's New Discovery, cured my cough of three years' standing," says Jennie Fleming, of New Dover, Ohio. Have you an annoying cough? Is it stubborn and won't yield to treatment? Get a 50c bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery today. What it did for Jennie Fleming it will do for you, no matter how stubborn or chronic a cough may be. It stops a cough and stops throat and lung trouble. Relief or money back. Bucklen's Arnica Salve for Pimples.



Against disease here is the strongest fence. Is the defensive virtue abstinence. —Horick.

Advertisement for Alamauce Insurance & Real Estate Co. featuring a house illustration and text: "In the Reach of Almost Everybody. A happy home is the desire of the human heart. You just provide the happiness and let us provide the home, and we will all be happy. You because you got a cinch of a bargain, and we because we sold it to you. Anything that we advise you to buy in country, town or suburbs will prove a good investment." W. E. SHARPE, Manager. Burlington, North Carolina.

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