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Roger Bacon Jailed for Prophesying in His Day

Poor Roger Bacon! The citizens of his time didn't recognize him as the father of scientific research, so he served term after term in jail.

And all because he preached of miracles like airplanes, automobiles, steamships, and "the everlasting lamp," known now as electric lights. Sometimes the life of a genius is not pleasant, you can see.

Building Character

Lesson for November 14, 1947

WE SHALL need to read carefully Second Peter if we are to profit most in the study of Sunday's lesson. Peter tells us:

"According as his divine power hath given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. We may partake of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. That, I realize, is very difficult for us to understand, and yet it is within the grasp of every boy and girl, every man and woman, in all the world.

In addition to Second Peter, we are asked to read Jude and Luke 2:40-52. The passage in Luke tells how Jesus grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him.

As Jesus Grew WE HEAR a great deal today about juvenile delinquency. The question everywhere arises, What can we do to prevent juvenile delinquency?

We have the answer in Sunday's lesson. As Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man, so can every youth in America grow into strong and beautiful manhood and womanhood.

The parents of Jesus, we are told, obeyed God in doing for the Child all that they were commanded to do.

The Love of God "KEEP yourselves in the love of God," Jude 21. There is the formula for building Christian character.

This business of building Christian character is based on a formula—keeping within the circle of God's love.

It is just as essential to have the proper nourishment in building Christian character as in growing a fine crop of corn. Progress is not accidental. It is the result of right thinking, right behavior, right purpose. Only in the love of God can the young life find the nature for Christian character.

Christian Mathematics TURN again, if you will, to Second Peter, and read his mathematical formula by which Christian character is realized:

"Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Old-fashioned stuff, someone will cynically observe. Aye, old-fashioned it may seem, but only from this old-fashioned formula can character be built—Christian character.

And what is it that our needy, frightened world is asking for above everything else today? For the certitude of hope that is found only in hearts that are staid upon God.

We may smile at Peter's mathematics, but his formula is the only hope for United Nations, the only hope for world peace, the only hope for civilization.

Jude's Benediction YOU have read, I hope, the brief Book of Jude, only 26 verses. You have followed his pungent, cogent argument. You have followed his exhortation. And now you come to his benediction—a very fitting climax for Sunday's lesson:

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore. Amen."

As you sit in your living room, or on the train, or in the plane, or in the hotel, or at the hospital, or wherever you may be, reading these lines, remember this—the word of American today is more Christian character in the home, industry, store, bank, mill, hotel, school, church, in the meeting house.

That great fact we may have overlooked in the Scripture lesson, and think of it as we read these lines. The great

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