

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

JESUS AND THE PSALMS

International Sunday School Lesson for September 11, 1949

MEMORY SELECTION: "The stone which the builders refused is become the head of the corner." —Psalm 118:22.

Lesson Text: Psalm 8:2; Matthew 21:15,16; Psalm 110:1; Matthew 22:41-44; Psalm 118:22-23; Matthew 21:38,42; Luke 24:44.

In studying the lesson for this week, it is well to remember that Jesus grew up in an orthodox Jewish home, devoutly religious. What education he received was given in the synagogue, where the only textbook was the Old Testament and the song book was the Psalter.

It reminds us somewhat of the early days of this country, when the Bible was used as a textbook in the public schools and portions of the scriptures were memorized because there were never enough printed copies of the Bible to go around.

There is no wonder then, as occasions demanded in his later life, Jesus was able to answer temptations with quotations from God's Word and as various problems presented themselves, He was able to find comfort in the psalms, which were one of his great resources. As J. E. McFadyen suggests, "He used them to convey his thoughts which had been shaped under their influence, because he discerned in them the word of the Father God. The glorious paradox of Psalm 37:11—"The meek shall inherit the earth"—flamed up before the mind of Jesus with all the splendor of the words of One whose standards were the true standards of an eternal Reality."

Matthew cites more instances than any other Gospel writer of Jesus quoting from the scriptures. Jesus recalled a number of passages from Isaiah, Deuteronomy, the Psalms and Exodus. This lesson is particularly concerned with his use of the Psalms. Matthew gives six separate instances, three of which are not included in our printed reference. They are: At his temptation (Matt. 4:6) Jesus quoted Psalm 91:11-12. As he concluded his denunciation of the Pharisees (Matt. 23:39), he quoted Psalm 118:26. Then, in his agony on the cross (Matt. 46) he cried out the words of Psalm 22:1.

So we can see that the Psalms must have meant a great deal to Jesus. In them, he found some apt answers for his critics' questions. Following the triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the multitude's tumultuous acceptance of an honor paid to him, the religious leaders were greatly disturbed. Particularly were they angered by the action of Jesus in forcing the merchants and money changers out of the Temple, and also by the healing of the lame while the children were praising him.

All of these things were too much for the priests and scribes and they broadly hinted that Jesus should rebuke the children, Jesus, for his answer, quoted Psalm 8:2; and the officials were at loss for a good answer. When he refused to rebuke the children, they planned another attack. Two days later, on Tuesday, Jesus returned to the Temple and went through what is often referred to as the Day of Controversy. After his authority had been challenged by the priests, the Pharisees, the Herodians and Sadducees, Jesus using a statement from Psalm 110, asked a question of the Pharisees. They were silenced by the question because they could not supply the answer.

Our last printed passage underscores Jesus' use of the Psalms. On the evening of the resurrection and after his walk to Emmaus, Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper room. In a long conversation with them, he tried to help them see his place in God's plan as it was revealed in the Law, the Prophets and in the Psalms.

If this book meant so much to Jesus, the Son of God, then it should mean much to his followers. The truths revealed in this great Book come "only to those who steadfastly and humbly submit their ways to God and seek first of all to do his will. The truth and beauty of the words caught the great soul of Jesus with all the power of a divine revelation, and he made of it one of the foundations of the greatest life ever lived, and of the greatest teaching ever taught to mankind. It took the greatness of Jesus to see the greatness of the Psalms." —J. E. McFadyen.

BE A BETTER CITIZEN!

GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

The Worker and His Job -



Why does American Industry stand pre-eminent among the industrial systems of the world? One reason is the quality and character of the American worker.

He is not a beaten, frustrated individual with a sour and cynical outlook on life. He is a man of hope, of plans, of interests. He knows that he has a big stake in industry and in a free and democratic government.

The American worker is not a slave of industry; neither is he the slave of an oppressive government which practices forced labor. He is a free man, secure in his rights, safe in his home, respected by his neighbors.

The American worker believes in God and inherits a religious tradition. He is the backbone of his Church and a strong supporter of civic morality and righteousness. He has faith in God, faith in men, faith in America.

This is the simple story behind America's industrial supremacy. She excels because her people believe in God and right and honest work, in peace and goodwill toward others.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Proverbs	6	6-19
Monday	Ecclesiastes	5	8-20
Tuesday	Deuteronomy	8	10-20
Wednesday	Mark	1	1-15
Thursday	Mark	2	13-17
Friday	Matthew	25	14-30
Saturday	Deuteronomy	31	6-8

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Duling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Harold C. Turner, Pastor
Church services at 3:00 P. M.
Christian Union, 7:30 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. R. Byerly, Pastor
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES
E. B. Edwards, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 3:00 P. M.
Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:30 P. M.
Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fifth Sunday
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church at 7:30 P. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. W. Davis, Supply Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
Carl J. York, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
G. M. Singletary, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
Church services, 3:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
D. L. Fouts, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
E. T. Jilson, Rector
Holy Communion, 9:00 A. M.
Every Sunday except first Sunday at 9:00 A. M.
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 o'clock.
Holy Communion first Sunday at 11 A. M.

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Walker Perry, Pastor
Bible School 10:30 A. M., except first Sunday, at 10 A. M.
Morning worship on first Sunday at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first Sunday at 7 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
A. H. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go