

## Sunday School lesson

### SOWING SEEDS OF DESTRUCTION (1 Kings 9:1-7; 1:9-12)

"If ye shall at all turn from following me, ye or your

children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before me, but go and serve other gods, and worship them; then will I cut off

Israel out of the land which I have given them." (1 Kings 9:6) This verse of Scripture, taken from the text of today's lesson, is part of the second conversation that God had with Solomon, King of Israel, during the period after Solomon's completing the building of the temple. The events related to these verses are rich in substance, for they convey to us a picture of God's justice as He deals with His chosen people.

This lesson should call us to reflect upon those things in our lives which draw our time and attention away from serving the Lord.

It may not be a formalized false God, but rather, a sport, politics, business or a hobby- just to name a few things that may take our time and attention from following the Lord as we should.

Let's look at Solomon's situation as we read these verses of Scripture.

### SOLOMON'S ZENITH OF POWER (1 Kings 9:1)

God had command that King Solomon was to build the temple, and not King David. Solomon had completed the temple, the palace and many other construction projects. During these years of great prosperity and peace, the Lord appeared to Solomon with words of reassurance and

admonition. Solomon was God's man, anointed to be King of Israel. He had requested that God give him wisdom, and God did. He had accomplished all that he had set out to do, through the power of God.

He was successful and powerful. In the eyes of other nations round about, he was a marvel. They could see that Israel's God was truly taking care of Israel. Centuries earlier, God had chosen this people, the seed of Abraham, for this mission. They were to be a show case people that other nations, pagan nations, might see the value of a nation walking righteously with God. Something happened to Solomon. With success and adoration, his thoughts turned inward and he began to think of sensuous pleasure. He married seven hundred wives, and had three hundred concubines. He had broken God's command.

Israelites were not to marry from pagan nations. Solomon did. It led him to breaking an even greater commandment - worshipping idols.

### GOD'S REACTION TO SOLOMON'S DISOBEDIENCE (1 Kings 11:9-12)

"And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord, God of Israel." (1 Kings 11:9)

The question which readily comes to mind is, "Why did Solomon, whom God had conversed with twice, who had such an abundance of wisdom, disobey God's commands so flagrantly?" To answer the question would be speculation. However, the lesson for us is this: we cannot continue to be disobedient to God with impunity. There comes a time of reckoning, but, thankfully, God forgives penitent sinners.

## Balloon brings spiritual message from Pennsylvania

Eighty balloons were released on Friday, June 8th, at Clearfield Presbyterian Church in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, by children attending Vacation Bible School there.

On Monday, June 18th, Michael Hurdle was spraying a 200-acre tract of land near the Four-Mile Desert in Perquimans County, when he discovered the remnants of a white balloon with a card attached.

The card asked the finder to contact the church, to let them know the final destination of the balloon.

Mr. Hurdle called the church and found out that of the 80 balloons released, only six had been reported. The six balloons found were in northern Pennsylvania and New York.

Along with the church's name and address the following message was printed on the back of the card:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding."

Michelle Sherrick  
Junior

In the first part of our lesson, taken from 1 Kings 9, God issues a warning and a promise; the second part taken from 1 Kings 11, God pronounces judgement upon King Solomon for his sins of idolatry. We read that Solomon followed gods such as Ashtoreth and Milcom, and built high places for Chemosh and Molech. Some may consider these acts to be ancient history, with little, or no, relevancy to twentieth century Christians. However, a closer examination might alter our thinking. Solomon turned aside from serving Jehovah God, to recognize and embrace the formalized gods of other people.

True, we are not confronted with the same situation today.

## Church news

### Perquimans United Methodist Charge

Services will be held 9:00-Epworth; 10:00-Cedar Grove; 11:00-Oak Grove; Pastor, Rev. David Goehring.

### The Lighthouse

This Saturday, June 30th, at the Lighthouse we have the pleasure of presenting again, for you, The Joy Quartet.

Yes, they're back just for you. So don't miss it. That's Saturday, June 30th at 7:30 p.m. at the Lighthouse of 505 E. Church Street. There's no admission charge!

### Albemarle Conference St. Paul AME Church

The 74th Session of the Albemarle Conference will convene at St. Paul AME Zion Church in Hertford, on Tuesday, July 3rd, through Sunday, July 8th.

Rev. W. J. Taylor Host Pastor. Presiding elders are Rev. H. F. Simons, of the Edenton District, and Rev. James Elliott, of the Elizabeth City District. Missionary supervisor are Dr. Hildred H. Wactor. Dr. Armaye Dunston, Associate Supervisor. Bishop James W. Wactor is Presiding. Alfred E. Dunston, Jr. is Associate.

### Poole's Grove Missionary Baptist Church

The Church and Pastor Anniversary will be observed Sunday, July 1st at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Calvin Whedbee will be the guest speaker. He will be accompanied by Ryans Grove Baptist Church of Edenton, and First Baptist Church of

Aulander, N.C. Choirs and Congregation.

Refreshments will be served following service. The public is invited.

### ORU Music Ministers Woodland U.M.C.

Steadfast, a Summer Music Ministries Team from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will be appearing at

Woodland United Methodist Church, on Tuesday, July 3th and Wednesday July 4th at 8:00 p.m.

Steadfast, directed by Lloyd Odell, is a 12 member group whose purpose is to minister the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through music, drama, and preaching the group strives to be "the tangible touch of Jesus Christ."

*This day I will marry my friend,  
the one I laugh with, live for,  
dream with and love.  
Love fills the moment  
and the moment begins eternity.  
Love fills a lifetime  
and a lifetime begins this hour  
when the two of us*

**Denise Ellen Smith  
&  
John Martin Copeland**

*Begin a new life together  
on Sunday, the first of July  
nineteen hundred and eighty four  
at two thirty in the afternoon  
Chappell Hill Baptist Church  
Route 1  
Tyner, North Carolina*  
All friends and relatives are invited to attend

If you are unable to attend, we ask your presence in thought and prayer.

### For Your Information

Dear friends,  
What is patriotism? Some would say it is flying the flag on holidays - or shouldering a gun and off to war. It must be more than that. Patriotism is deciding each day that what we do this day will help to build our country up - not tear it down. As a patriot, our activities each day must benefit our fellow Americans, not exploit or detract from them.

Respectfully,

*Marian Caldwell*

SWINDELL FUNERAL HOME

HERTFORD, N.C.  
426-7311

## Card of Thanks

I want to thank everyone who helped in the Belvidere-Chappell Hill Fire Department Bake Sale. I would also like to thank all those who sent cards and flowers while Tommy was a patient in Albemarle Hospital.

Maude Ellis

We would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway during the illness and death of Mrs. Nellie Peirce. For the food, flowers, cards, visits, telephone calls, prayers and the memorial gifts to the rescue squad. They are really a great group of volunteers.

The Family

I want to thank everyone for the cards, visits, flowers, and prayers during my recent stay in the hospital and upon my return home. Your kindness was greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Crafton Matthews Jr.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ray C. Twine  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their daughter  
Ruth Elaine  
to  
Mr. Scott Nolan Copeland  
on Sunday, the first of July  
nineteen hundred and eighty-four  
at three o'clock  
Hertford United Methodist Church  
Market Street  
Hertford, North Carolina*

### A Word From Mt. Sinai

I've been wondering why, in a world of precision and high technology, some things are left without definition. In some cases we don't want to know.

Most of us, as we age, know with some certainty what a bad tooth is. It may begin with a tolerable sensitivity. In some time it will advance to occasional aching spells. Left unattended the decay will abess and begin to affect the jaw and spread to all the body even the emotions and our relationship are affected by it.

Sin is like a bad tooth. We are sensitive to sin but too often tolerate it. We avoid sweets, avoid hot and cold and the sensitivity is reduced. Don't we know that the decay is still there?

We are sensitive to sin because of the Holy Spirit. The hymn writer says, "Let the Holy Spirit come and take control." We can be made aware of sin, but confession, like going to the dentist, is up to us. If we confess our sin the pain and possibility of long term suffering are gone. Peace, joy and a pleasant smile are your reward.

"...Who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth..." (Galatians 3:1)

George Wilmore, Pastor  
Mt. Sinai Baptist Church

## The Following Merchants Take This Opportunity To Invite You To Attend A Church Of Your Choice This Sunday

<p style="text-align: center;">Member FTD <b>DOZIER'S FLORIST</b> Harris Shopping Center Day Phone 426-5721 Night 426-7592</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WOODLAND Dress Shop</b> 108 S. WOODLAND HERTFORD 426-5620</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DARDEN</b> Department Store 109-111 N. CHURCH ST. HERTFORD 426-5464</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOLLOWELL OIL CO.</b> SUPPLIERS OF OIL PRODUCTS  PHONE 426-5745</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WINSLOW-BLANCHARD</b>  Your Dealer</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phillips' Furniture Co.</b> FACTORY OUTLET NEW &amp; REJECT FURNITURE U.S. 17 BYPASS, HERTFORD, N.C.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Perquimans Weekly</b> Perquimans County's Only Newspaper For And About Perquimans People</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A 10% DISCOUNT ON ALL PRESCRIPTIONS</b> IS OFFERED TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS 60 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER 426-5527 <b>WOODARD'S PHARMACY</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REED OIL COMPANY</b> Exxon Products Hertford, N.C.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PEOPLES BANK &amp; TRUST COMPANY</b> MEMBER OF FDIC HERTFORD, N.C.</p>