

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**THE STANDARDS OF THE KINGDOM**

International Sunday School Lesson for February 27, 1949  
**MEMORY SELECTION:** "Seek ye first his kingdom and his righteousness" — Matthew 6: 33.  
**Lesson Text:** Matthew 5: 1-12: 24-27

Our lesson for this week is taken from what we have come to refer to as the Sermon on the Mount. Whether this represents a summary of the teachings of Jesus or a comprehensive ad-

dress upon one occasion makes very little difference. In it, the New Testament has its counterpart to the Ten Commandments. No one can read these three chapters in Matthew, 5, 6, and 7, without being impressed by the high ideals and lofty vision which they contain. Burke, the great Englishman, said this was the most impressive political document which ever set forth the rights of man. This is true enough, for in these teachings Jesus dealt with human character in its relationship to God and man.

The goal of man's struggle for countless ages has been happiness. It has been sought in many

various ways and thought to be in many different things. Jesus lays down the perfect rule by which every human heart can find blessedness, which means happiness of the highest type, founded upon those things which are indestructible, beyond the interference or denials of any other man, thus making happiness for any person depend solely upon the attitude toward life of the particular individual.

Proclaiming his famous "Beatitudes," Jesus announced a philosophy of life which ran counter to the accepted values of mankind, yet it offered a spiritual program which could not fail to bring the benefits of complete happiness to those who genuinely accepted it. Those who are seeking happiness should remember that happiness does not come as a spontaneous offering but as a result of the fulfillment of essential conditions.

Strange as it may seem, Jesus promised a great reward to those who were discontented with their lack of right things. The poor in spirit those conscious of their own spiritual imperfections; the mourners, those who were alive to sin, sensitive to the incompleteness of worldly things; the seekers after righteousness, those who realized their own deficiency and were striving toward the goal of a more perfect life—to these Jesus declared would belong the kingdom of heaven, with its strength, patience and attainment of desires.

To the meek, those who knew self-restraint, who practiced self-control, rather than to the strong and cunning, Jesus promised the earth as a heritage. How surprising this is in the world accustomed to the power of wealth and of armed forces. Yet, the great Napoleon, on St. Helena, testified to the veracity of this law, saying: "Alexander and Caesar and I founded great empires; but the empires perished because they were founded on force. Jesus Christ alone founded an empire on love, and to

this day thousands will die for him."

And so, Jesus called attention to the great laws which would return mercy to the merciful and reward the poor in heart, and peacemakers and those constant to their ideals.

In this great sermon, the attitude of Jesus to the laws of Moses was set forth in clear and convincing fashion. Jesus declared that he had not come to destroy the old law, although he proceeded to demonstrate that a new spirit should amplify it and to

improve its spirituality. The laws of Moses were concerned with the external act, and so, the scribes and Pharisees depended upon ritual rather than the spirit, following the traditional customs rather than the divine perfection. Jesus said that it was not obedience to the physical law but the motive—the spirit—in the human heart which revealed membership in the kingdom.

Then, taking up various examples of the Mosaic law, Jesus pointed out the refinement and elevation which it was now time to

implant and emphasize to the human race. Where the old law forbade one to take life, Jesus prohibited anger in the heart against another. Where the Mosaic code recognized the law of retaliation, Jesus exhorted men to love one another, even their enemies.

Finally, Jesus pictures for mankind a vision of perfection which it was to strive for, a goal worthy of the effort and difficult of accomplishment, but sufficiently divine to challenge the admiration and the emulation of man in every succeeding generation. "Be ye perfect," Jesus pleaded, for nothing less would enable man to share in divinity.

**DOUBLE TROUBLE**

Long Beach, Cal.—After giving Kernit Bell a ticket for speeding, cops escorted him to a hospital. Bell, 37, explained he'd been bitten by a black widow spider and, what's more, he had the spider to prove it. Treated for a bite on a finger, he was permitted to return home.

**STOCKHOLDERS MEETING**

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Watauga Building & Loan Association will be held in the offices of the Association in Boone on February 28, at 2:30 p. m., for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the coming year and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Stockholders are invited to attend this meeting. Those finding attendance impossible are asked to designate a proxy to vote their stock, since the meeting cannot be held unless a majority of the stock is represented.

**Watauga Building & Loan Association**

W. H. GRAGG, Secretary-Treasurer

**We want you to Vote Dry March 1st**

The following will provide a way to the polls, for you. Call them.

**BRUSHY FORK TOWNSHIP**

Fred Hodges, Ronda Hodges, Stanford Berry, Carter Farthing, L. M. Hodges, Bill Hodges, Howard Barnes, Joe McNeil, Poly Wyke, Alfred Adams, Barber Bill, Gordon Hodges, Tom Lawrence, Doughton Greene, Mrs. Maxie Edmisten, Bud Billings, C. O. Vance, Manley Williams.

**BALD MOUNTAIN**

I. L. Miller

**STONY FORK**

Clifford Ray

**BLOWING ROCK**

Rev. Oscar Harris, Rev. Payne, Kent Brown, Mr. Culbreth.

**NEW RIVER**

June Brookshire, Rev. Ray Hendrix, Woodrow Greene, Collis Austin, Ed Brookshire, Carson Story, Frank Bolick, Charlie Daugherty, Jud Barnes, Stuart Barnes, Clint Norris, Verne Greene, Gurney Norris, Homer Lane, Ralph Hartley, S. B. Greene, Mrs. Andrew Woodring, Rev. G. M. Watson, James Austin, Rev. Victor Trevette, Clyde Bentley, H. E. Brookshire, John Cook, Walter Edmisten, W. C. Downs, Edwin Brookshire, Mace Fletcher, R. H. Vandyke, Laid Moretz, Grady Greene, Homer Arnette, W. G. Todd, Raleigh Moretz, Boyd Williams, Roy Greer, Bernard Cook, Archie Carroll, R. V. Brown, Howard Parlier, Clyde Bodenhammer, Earl Bodenhammer, W. C. Carroll, W. J. Cook.

**BLUE RIDGE**

F. L. Hampton, N. L. Harrison, Joe Hayes, Vance Keller, C. C. Critcher, Dayton Cook, Alfonso Elrod, Darius Hampton, Fred Critcher, Bill Brown, W. D. Ashley.

**BEAVER DAM**

Carl Wilson, W. W. Eggers, Raymond Eller, Howard Lawrence, Fred Hagaman, Grover Johnson, Don Greene, C. B. Reece, Jake Eggers, Vann Farthing, Perry Farthing, Dave Greene, Charlie Johnson, Roy Norris, Collis Greene, A. E. Trevette, Alfonso Tester, John Ward, Charlie Cornette, Clyde Cornette, Grady Smitherman, Council Ward, Albert Ward, George Smitherman.

**MEAT CAMP**

Arle Proffitt, Ernest Moretz, L. E. Wilson, Fred Proffitt, W. A. Proffitt, S. G. Wilson, Warren Greene, A. E. Moretz, W. H. Jones, Chester Jones, Fred Michael, Bynum Proffitt, M. C. Brown Edward Greene, R. S. Jones, Howard Tester, Ted Clawson, Mrs. Howard Gragg, Grady Wilson, Kennie Brown, Lloyd Stanberry, Vaughn Tugman, Rev. Ernest Stephens, Mrs. Glenn Miller, George Trevette, Mrs. Waldo Tugman.

**COVE CREEK**

Fred Castle, Jeb Reece, Kenneth Thomas, M. L. Warren, Jr., Lewis Burkett, Ben Cole, Harve Combs, Mary Sue Dishmen, Mollie Combs, Hazel Greene, Cecil Glenn, Odas Wilson, John Sherwood, Clay Perry, John Wheeler, Clint Eggers, Boyd Cook, Frank Henson, Jack Henson, John Hagaman, Will Reece.

**LAUREL CREEK**

Grayden Hagaman, Ronald Ward, Dwight Cable, Lawrence Shepherd, Bert Tester, Will Harmon, E. Y. Edmisten, Charlie J. Greene, B. M. Grogan.

**BOONE**

Mrs. Gordon Winkler, George Greene, F. W. McCracken, E. S. Qualls, Ralph Greene, H. W. Wilcox, F. C. Miller, Dwight Edmisten, Mrs. B. W. Stallings, Mrs. Wiley Hartzog, Mrs. Lee Reynolds, Alvin Cannon, A. E. South, R. F. Greene, Ronda Honda Horton, Rock Hatton, E. F. Troutman, Sam Moss, Mrs. J. C. Yoder, J. K. Parker, M. C. Hollar, I. T. Barnette, W. G. Bond, S. C. Eggers, G. D. Barnette, J. T. C. Wright, John Howell, Perry Greene.

**MASS MEETING**

Sunday 2:00 p. m. First Baptist Church, Boone

**SPEAKERS**

Dr. I. G. Greer O. M. Mull  
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