

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

### DEBORAH: EMERGENCY LEADERSHIP

International Sunday School Lesson for July 17, 1938

**GOLDEN TEXT.** "Who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"—Esther 4:14.

(Lesson Text: Judges 4:1-5; 31)

The period of Israelitish history covered by the Book of Judges extended over about two and one half centuries, lasting from the death of Joshua to the advent of Eli. This period was chaotic, no centralized government existed, no great national leaders reigned over the country and the people wandered away from God.

There were various emergencies when the Israelites were threatened by their enemies, at which time a temporary figure would emerge to stand in heroic proportions, under whose influence the danger would be overcome. These leaders were called judges. There were twelve leaders of this type among them being Ethaniel, Thud, Gideon, Samson, and a woman, Deborah.

Deborah was a prophetess, living not far from Jerusalem, who had gained a wide reputation for her judgment and vision. The particular oppressor of the Israelites at this time was Jabin, King of the Canaanites in the North, and his military commander was Sisera. Deborah realized fully the suffering and trials which sorrowed some of her people and became the instrumentality by which relief came to them.

This courageous woman sent for Barak, who lived at Kedesh, evidently a leader of some consequence, and repeated to him the inspired message that he should lead the Israelites against the army of Jabin. Barak doubted and hesitated but became convinced when Deborah agreed to accompany him at the head of the attacking forces. So, the Israelites gathered at Kedesh and prepared for the campaign.

The battle which followed was precipitated by the counsel of the inspired Deborah. Although Sisera had nine hundred war chariots under his command and the Israelites none, Deborah's faith in the purpose of God was sufficient to overcome the fears which otherwise would have prevented an attack. As the battle developed a storm created confusion in the ranks of Sisera's army and it was entirely routed.

Sisera, the leader of Jabin's soldiers, fled from the battlefield and took refuge in the tent of Heber, the Kenite, who was friendly to Jabin. However, Jael, Heber's wife, killed the trusting leader by treachery. The

fact that Deborah hailed this death with triumph and glee illustrates the barbarity of the age, many centuries before the religion of Christ began to make even warfare more humane. Yet, it is well to bear in mind, modern wars also have their own atrocities.

Celebrating the victory, we have the Song of Deborah. This is more patriotic than moral and more warlike than religious, but it is well to bear in mind that to the ancient Israelites, Sisera was the embodiment of evil. What Deborah says of Sisera, as J. D. Jones comments, "is true of every evil man, of every evil power—of all wickedness and wrong—the stars in their course are fighting against them; the trend and constitution of things are working steadily and irresistibly for their defeat and overthrow. The universe is so made that it is against all wrong and on the side of right."

The modern reader of this episode may wonder at the storm which aided the Israelites, but history is not without similar incidents. When the huge Spanish Armada sailed to conquer England, a storm contributed more to its defeat than the English ships—as the English themselves said: "God blew upon them and they were scattered." When an early winter insured the defeat of Napoleon's invasion of Russia, the great Frenchman said, "God Almighty has been too much for me." The story of Joan of Arc, the little French peasant girl who left her sheep and flax to don the soldier's armor, and who rescued her France from the invaders, is another example of what a woman inspired by faith in God can accomplish.

Other women have likewise done their part to improve the world always inspired by a great faith. Florence Nightingale, Jane Adams, Evangeline Booth and many others might be mentioned. Frances Willard, the only woman whose statue is in the Statuary Hall, led the movement for women's suffrage and prohibition. The modern woman should take a patriotic interest in her government—none should shirk this responsibility.

As Minnie Pallister says: "Not interested in politics? Do they realize what they are saying? Do they care whether there is war or peace? Do they care whether people are ignorant and brutish or educated and refined? Do they care whether babies are fed or not? Do they care whether food is pure or poisoned? Do they care whether their children die of the small pox and diphtheria, or live healthy, wholesome lives? Do they care whether there are slums or homes—rubbish heaps or gardens—prisons or universities? If they care at all for any of these things then they must be interested in politics."

### CROSS ROADS

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry spent Sunday morning with Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Perry.

Mrs. Lindsey Evans spent the week-end in New Bern with Mrs. Bill Byrd.

Miss Mable Craft, of Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Craft.

Mrs. W. A. Perry and Eugene Perry spent Friday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Hollowell, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott spent Thursday in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Evans, of Camden, N. J., spent Saturday night with his mother, Mrs. Mattie Evans.

Mrs. W. A. Perry and Mrs. W. A. Craft visited Mrs. Lee Leary Monday afternoon.

Miss Frances Evans, of Manteo, spent the week-end with her sisters. She was accompanied home by Misses Marguerite Etta Evans and Etta Pardee, who will be her guests for the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Privott and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Layton, in Rocky Hock.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hollowell and daughter, of Edenton, and Mrs. S. R. Burch, of Baltimore, Md., visited

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hollowell Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott spent the week-end at Morehead City and New Bern.

Misses Willietta, Esther and Helen Evans and Mrs. Margaret White spent Monday in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wiggins and Lindsey Privott spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Wiggins, at Harrellsville.

Misses Dorothy and Helen Ray Privott are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Wiggins, in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Baumgardner and Ann Baumgardner visited Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hollowell Sunday afternoon.

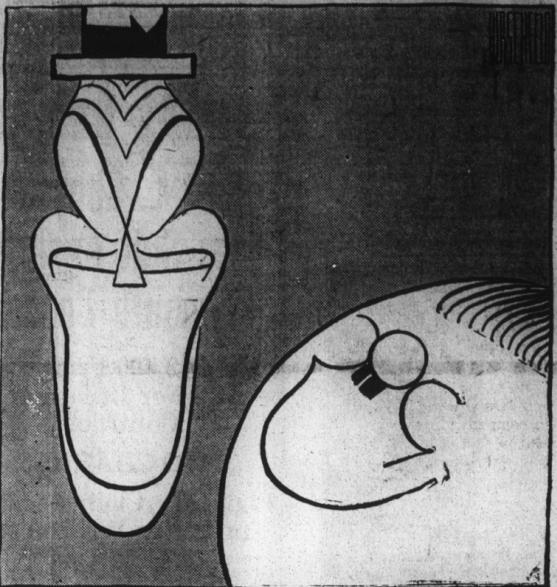
Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Byrum visited Mrs. Charlie Chappell, at Belvidere, Monday afternoon.

Mrs. A. B. Hollowell and son, Asa, Jr., Miss Esther Elliott and Billy Hoggard, of Aulander, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott.

Norman Hollowell and Alma Boyce spent the week-end in Morehead City. They were accompanied home by Mrs. Boyce, who had been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Styron.

Mrs. A. B. Hollowell, Mrs. E. N. Elliott, Miss Esther Elliott, Asa Hollowell, Jr., and Billy Hoggard spent Wednesday in Elizabeth City

## LAUREL AND HARDY IN "SWISS MISS"



The two comedians are sketched by the noted illustrator, Herschfeld. They are to be seen at the Taylor Theatre, Edenton, Wednesday in the musical-comedy extravaganza, "Swiss Miss," which marks their first co-starring appearance in more than a year. Also in the cast are the Viennese singing star, Della Lind, Walter Woolf King and Eric Blore.

as guests of Mrs. Clarence Twiford.

Asa Hollowell, Jr., and Billy Hoggard spent Tuesday with Melvin and Lindsay Evans, Jr.

Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and Mrs. J. C. Leary visited Mrs. Mattie Evans on Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Leary, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and son visited Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Hobbs, at Hobbsville, Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Hollowell and daughter visited Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hollowell Sunday afternoon.

Several of the fishermen from here attended the meeting at Morehead City Monday.

W. H. Winborne and Miss Sarah Winborne visited Mrs. A. B. Hollowell and Miss Esther Elliott, at the home of E. N. Elliott Sunday evening. Melvin and Lindsay Evans, Jr.,

### ROCKY HOCK

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Smith were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Stallings, at Colerain, Sunday.

Miss Lois Lane, of Center Hill, visited Miss Mary Leary Sunday.

Mrs. Kenneth Miller, of Winfall, spent several days last week with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pierce.

Miss Lessie Bunch has returned to her home, after spending last week at Colerain with Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Stallings.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Saunders, Miss Lillie Mae Saunders, Louis Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Parrish spent Sunday at Nags Head with Mrs. Nannie Hurdle and attended the pageant at Fort Raleigh Sunday night.

Charlotte Leary, of Edenton, and Marian Harrell, of Brayhall, were guests of Miss Mary Leary last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bunch, of Edenton, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bunch Sunday evening.

### OAK GROVE

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Mansfield and baby, from Ballahack, visited Mrs. Annie M. Byrum Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jackson and family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Jones Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Davidson and family, of Ahsokie; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Peele, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bunch and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. C. Lane and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lane and daughter dined with Mrs. Martha Peele Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Daughtrey Bunch and daughter, Mrs. Jet Bunch, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Jodie McClenny, in Greenhall.

Misses Mary and Bertie Mae Jones and Jessie Nixon called to see Misses Velma and Grace Jackson Sunday evening.

Miss Ethel Harrell spent the week-end with Miss Sallie Marie Harrell.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Harrell and children, of Beech Fork, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harrell Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Selby Byrum, of Corapeake, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Nixon.

Several of the fishermen attended the meeting at Morehead City on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harrell and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Levi Nixon Sunday evening.

J. C. Bunch, of Franklin, Va., visited his aunt, Mrs. Elisha Harrell, and Mr. Harrell, recently.

### Only Fair

Before passing the national debt on to the young grad, ordinary sportsmanship would suggest that we find him a job.—H. V. Wade in the Detroit News.

### Prison Reform

A young poet who was imprisoned after writing an objectionable poem has promised never to write another poem. And yet some people say that our prisons do not reform.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

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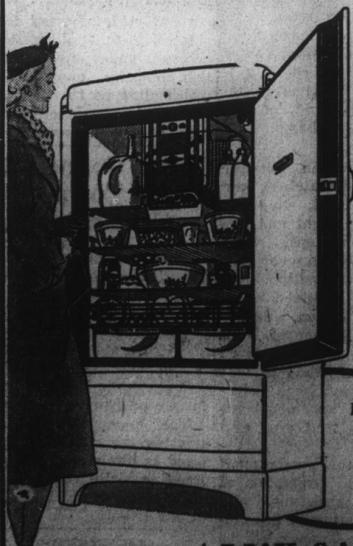
Edenton

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### New "DOUBLE-EASY" QUICKCUBE TRAYS

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2. TRAYS COME FREE AT FINGER-TOUCH... with exclusive Frigidaire Automatic Tray Release. Every tray, in every model, a "Double-Easy" Quickcube Tray! No other like it! See the PROOF!

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