

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

CHRISTIANITY IN ASIA

International Sunday School Lesson for July 13, 1941

Golden Text: "So mightily grew the word of the Lord and prevailed."—Acts 19:20.

Lesson Text: Acts 19:9-10; 23-32

Paul's second missionary tour lasted three years and about one-half of the period was spent in Corinth, the western extent of his journey. It seems that he left this city, without any great disturbance, turning his way home-ward again. A short stop was made at Ephesus, where Paul preached, and promised to return later.

Paul proceeded to Jerusalem, where he observed Pentecost and conferred with various leaders of the church. Then he went to Antioch, to tell the Christians there the wonderful story of the gospel extension at his hands into far-off regions. It was from this church that the great missionary journeys started. While at Antioch, some think, Paul wrote his Epistle to the Galatians. After a short rest Paul's energy and enthusiasm impelled him to undertake another journey.

Timothy and Titus accompanied Paul on his third missionary tour. Journeying over land, passing through the Cilician Gates, Paul revisited Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Pisidian Antioch, again strengthening and encouraging the Christian churches which he had established. He proceeded to Ephesus by a northward route, finally reaching this city of Asia Minor where he was destined to stay longer than at any other missionary city.

Ephesus was the capital of the Province of Asia Minor and one of the most important centers of the eastern Mediterranean, having extensive docks and a large commercial activity. It was well known for its literary and artistic expression, the latter being most famous for the magnificent Temple of Diana, which had required more than two centuries in the building and was ranged as one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world.

This building was 425 feet long by 220 feet wide, having one hundred and twenty-seven columns each 60 feet high, and constructed of very costly material. It was burned about the middle of the third century A. D., and was never rebuilt, although in the middle of the 19th century excavations by a British scientific expedition uncovered and located its site.

On his way to Jerusalem, Paul left Aquila and Priscilla to work in Ephesus. While there they came in contact with Apollos, a disciple of John the Baptist, and a learned and powerful speaker, who was yet ignorant of the fact that the promised Messiah had come, but he was open to instruction and the two Christians corrected his mental religious picture.

In subsequent years he became useful and some think he was the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews. When Paul came back to Ephesus he found many believers who had received no Christian baptism nor the gift of the Holy Spirit, and it was his task to instruct and acquaint the new members of the faith in these vital things.

For three months Paul preached in the synagogue of Ephesus concerning the Kingdom of God, contrasting the purity, reason and holiness of this ideal state with the licentiousness, superstition and wrong of heathen beliefs and practices. He made progress in winning souls but because of opposition from some of the Jews finally abandoned the synagogue and went with his disciples to the school of Tyrannus where he taught two years. During this period Paul probably made frequent journeys into the outlying territory for we are told that all that dwelt in Asia Minor heard the word and various churches were established, seven of which are mentioned in Revelations.

Paul's ministry was blessed by various manifestations of divine approval, rewarding the faith of those who believed. These occurrences led sorcerers and magicians to try to copy him and they sought to work their magical art with the name of Jesus. We have an account of the discomfiture of two such magicians. Under the influence of Paul's work many of those who practiced these secret arts realized their insufficiency and inadequacy and staked a great bonfire of valuable books about

the magic art.

Serious opposition was fomented by Demetrius, a silversmith, who inflamed the members of his craft against Paul and his teachings, because of the decreasing demand for statues of the Goddess Diana. It was a case of true religion hurting selfish business. A mob seized two of Paul's friends and a great uproar resulted, which was only quieted by a city official who reminded the mob that courts were open to it for any just grievances and that it would be held responsible for any disturbance of the peace.

CROSS ROADS

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and son spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Leary.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Welch, Jr., and daughter, of Washington, N. C., spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Leary. Mr. Welch returned home Sunday night, but Mrs. Welch and daughter remained over for the week.

Carlyle Hollowell, of Fort Jackson, S. C., spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hollowell.

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Hobbs and children, of Hobbsville, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hollowell.

Mr. and Mrs. George Peele and children, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Peele and baby, of Rocky Hock, visited Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hollowell Sunday afternoon.

Miss Frances Dail has returned from a trip to Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson Blanchard, of Greenville, Mrs. Francis Hicks and son, of Edenton, spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. J. Henderson Dail.

Hiller Fahey Byrum spent the week-end with Hutchings Byrum. Mrs. C. W. Blanchard, of Suffolk, Va., visited her sister, Mrs. J. Henderson Dail, Saturday evening.

Mrs. Tyree Buck has returned to her home at Winterville, after a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Winslow.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Winslow, of Belvidere, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. White and son, of Norfolk, Va., visited Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Winslow Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes Bunch and baby spent Friday at Ocean View.

Mr. and Mrs. Selby Byrum and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes Bunch and baby spent Sunday at Tuscarora Beach.

Mrs. Z. W. Evans, Mrs. B. W. Evans, Misses Esther, Frances and Mary Winborne Evans spent Monday in Norfolk, Va.

Mrs. Fannie B. Knight, of Tarboro, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. E. N. Elliott, and Mr. Elliott.

Mrs. Lindsay Evans and Miss Orene Hollowell left Wednesday for Asheville and Reidsville, where they will visit with friends.

Mrs. Mattie Evans, who has been quite ill, is now able to be out.

Mrs. W. H. Winborne left Sunday to visit her daughter, Mrs. W. G. Shaw, and Mr. Shaw, at Wagram.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Welch, Sr., Mrs. Drew Welch and son, Billy, attended the funeral of Edward Welch at Louisburg on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Welch died suddenly on Sunday night at his home in Boston, Massachusetts.

Mrs. W. A. Perry visited her sisters, Mrs. Mattie Evans and Mrs. Pete Forehand, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry entertained friends during the week-end.

Miss Marguerite Asbell has returned home after a visit with friends in Kinston.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and son spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Leary, Sr., of Rocky Hock.

Miss Myrtle Twine went to Portsmouth, Va., Wednesday for a few days' visit. Accompanied by her sisters she went to Ocean View Friday.

Mrs. E. M. Goodwin and Mrs. C. C. Spivey, of Portsmouth, Va., brought their sister, Miss Myrtle Twine, home Sunday and spent the day with their mother. Other guests in the afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ward and children, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Twine and children. Mrs. J. T. Twine and daughter.

Mrs. Ida Reed, of Center Hill, and Mrs. Emmett Jones, of Norfolk, Va., visited Mrs. J. D. Twine Sunday morning.

Mrs. J. D. Twine continues to improve slowly after a recent illness.

CAT SETS ON EGGS

Investigating the cause of the distress of two mocking birds in her yard, Mrs. H. E. Rice found a cat sitting on the eggs in the birds' nest which was seven feet off the ground.



Wings against the sky fascinate the six above. They enact leading roles in "I Wanted Wings" at Taylor Theatre, Edenton, today (Thursday) and Friday. The air-minded sextette is (left to right) Ray Milland, Constance Moore, William Holden, Brian Donlevy, Veronica Lake and Wayne Morris. Produced with Army Air Corps cooperation, "I Wanted Wings" was filmed at Randolph and Kelly Fields in Texas and March Field in California, Flying Fortress roost.

MERRY HILL

Those who visited Mrs. J. W. White Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Holloman and daughter, of Greensboro; Mrs. W. J. Smith and Miss Ruth Jenkins, of Williamston; Miss Mary Frances Brown, of Baltimore, Md.; Bill Holloman, of Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Miles White and son, of Windsor; Frank Adams, of Newport News, Va.; Mrs. S. B. Adams, Mrs. Will Farless and children, Mary and Iris Ann.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler Williams and children spent the Fourth of July holidays visiting with relatives in Elizabeth City.

Mr. and Mrs. Teossa Harrell, of Newport News, Va., spent last week with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Keeter and son, Wayne, of Newport News, Va., spent the Fourth of July holidays as guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Keeter and Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Outlaw. Miss Shirley Keeter, who has been visiting her grandparents here, returned home with her parents.

Brinkley Evans, of Fort Benning, Ga., spent a few days last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Britt, Jr., and son, Bobby, of Rocky Mount, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Smithwick during the week-end.

Miss Pattie Sue Mitchell and Miss Edna Phelps are attending the Chowan Baptist Assembly at Chowan College, Murfreesboro, this week.

Mrs. Guy Smith and children have returned home after spending last week in South Carolina with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis.

Mrs. Eugene Phelps and Mrs. Walter Cobb visited their sister, Mrs. Tobe Langdale, in Oxford, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Harden, of Fayetteville, are spending this week with his father, J. W. Harden.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cobb, of Portsmouth, Va., spent July Fourth with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Bowen and Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Cobb.

Mrs. J. W. White spent Wednesday in Elizabeth City as the guest of Mrs. John Butler.

Howard White, of Portsmouth, Va., spent Thursday night with E. J. Pruden, Jr.

E. J. Pruden, Jr., and Miss Sue Margaret Keeter spent July Fourth at Buckroe Beach, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bowen, Mr. and Mrs. Colon Gunter, of Newport

News, Va., visited Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Bowen Friday and Saturday. Miss Betty Coward, of Norfolk, Va., visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Coward, during the holidays. Mrs. Virgie Baker and children spent a few days this week in Williamston.

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tie County. Mr. and Mrs. Will Nixon visited Mr. and Mrs. Richard Goodwin Sunday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Williams visited Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Boyce Sunday evening. Mrs. Elijah Boyce is confined to her home by illness. Misses Dorothy and Mildred Wilson spent Sunday in Bertie County visiting the Misses Hoggars. Mr. and Mrs. Rufus White and daughter, Kay Frances, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller.

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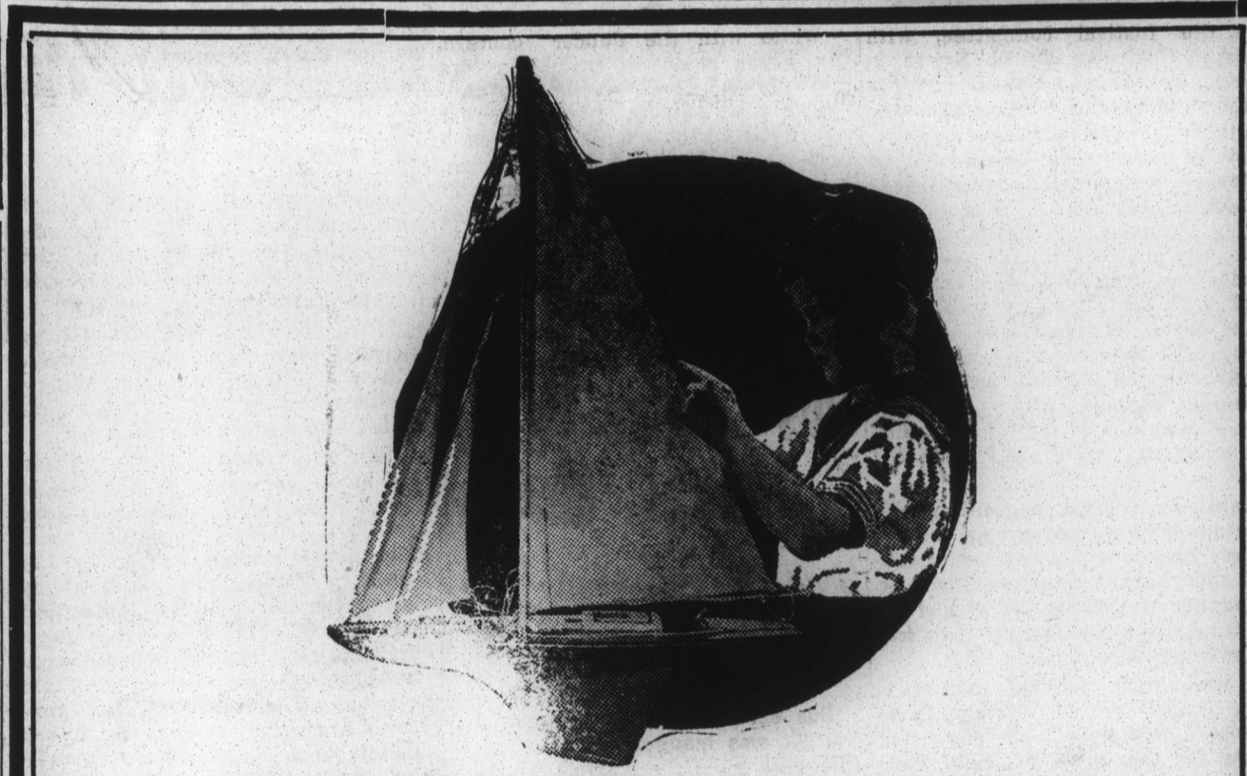
Evans Church News

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Watkins and other relatives, of Oxford, visited Mrs. R. C. Bunch and Glenn Bunch a few days last week.

Mrs. E. R. Wilson, Mrs. G. E. Harrell, Mrs. Joe Jackson and Miss Viola Wilson visited Mrs. Mary Wilson and Mrs. Bettie Harrell, of Rocky Hock, Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. E. B. Williams and Mrs. Spurgeon Tynch spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. W. L. Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cale, their daughter, Rosie Wilma, and Miss Frances Wilson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charney Cale, in Ber-



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