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John S. Wyatt
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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 20

CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 4:32-37.
GOLDEN TEXT—Love one another from the heart fervently.—1 Pet. 1:22 R. V.

The Sanhedrin had tried threatening upon the disciples and this is generally pretty weak business. But their threat meant danger and the disciples were not unduly puffed up over their deliverance. With all their believing friends they prayed and in response the Holy Spirit came upon them in still further measure (4:32-37).

1. The Spirit-Filled Believers, 4:32-37. The two sections of this lesson are really one and are designed to bring out sharply the contrast between the Holy Spirit-filled church and an evil spirit-filled man. The communion of the early church was (a) Christian communion (see 2:44); and it was (b) for a special occasion; (c) it was benevolent—each had according to his "needs" (4:34, 35); (d) it was voluntary (5:4); and (e) it recognized the right to private property (see 5:4, 9). He, the Holy Spirit, does bring that unity, that altruism, those active social relations and services of which Pentecostal communion is the type. Unity and love are seen in genuine Christianity in all ages, but the forms of their expression may differ. The power of the Holy Spirit was manifested, not merely in love and unity which it produced, in the brotherhood thus evidenced, but also in the testimony given for the Lord Jesus Christ, "with great power gave the apostles witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." There is much witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ in our day, but not always "with great power." When we are filled with the Holy Spirit it is of Jesus, and especially of his resurrection, that we will bear witness.

Another result of being filled with the Holy Spirit was that grace was upon all. "Grace" means favor. We are not told whether it was God's favor or man's favor that was upon them. It seems to imply both (see Luke 2:52). No man looked upon his own interests, but "every man on the things of others." Distribution was made according as each had need, not according to his ability, not according to his notable service. The prominent illustration of Christian love in the brotherhood at Jerusalem was Barnabas. If we had more of such today we would have less of union labor troubles and missionary deficits. We do well to consider carefully the six distinguishing features of this early church: (1) A praying church (4:24-30), (2) A Spirit-filled church (31), (3) A united church (32), (4) A witnessing church (33), (5) A ministering church (34, 35), (6) A multiplying church (36, 37).

11. The Devil-Possessed Unbeliever, 5:1-16. Barnabas had received great praise for what he had done at the impulse of the Holy Spirit in his life. It is an exceedingly fair picture, but the scene of the early church had been from foes without, now it faces the greater peril of foes within. And when this great question, regarding the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit, is first brought to light, God, through his church, dealt with it in a stern manner. The devil is always presenting his imitations of everything good and holy. Ananias and Sapphira were not willing to make a like sacrifice. They, too, "sold a possession," but they secreted a part of the price and brought the rest with the intent to deceive the church. The Holy Spirit quickly informed the church of this hypocrisy and, Spirit-guided, they were not deceived. For Ananias to lie in the atmosphere of love and consecration engendered by the Holy Spirit made his crime the more unpardonable. The same words are used in describing his actions as those used in describing the actions of Barnabas up to a certain point. But what a difference we see subsequently. In the case of Barnabas his act was a deed of self-forgetting love; in the case of Ananias it was one of calculating hypocrisy. We thus see that the early church was not as perfect as some would have us imagine it to be.

The second section of this paragraph (vs. 12-16) is a record of what the results of this vindication of the Holy Spirit were. First the Spirit came upon the apostles and literally overflowed upon all those about them. In the second place those who were thinking of joining the church for mercenary motives were held back from so doing (v. 13). If the Holy Spirit were present in such power today there would be fewer hypocrites who would dare to join themselves to it.

The deception of Ananias was deliberate (v. 4); he had talked it over with his wife (v. 2, 9), and he was a grave danger to this early church. It threatened to choke the very fountain of love and unity which had sprung up in the midst of the selfish world. The stern judgment that came upon Ananias and Sapphira was richly merited and indeed was gracious, for it held and saved the church.

St. Hubbs and W. ow At 34

Three Died Under Suspicious Circumstances and 3 Skipped With Other Women

Waynesville, Feb. 18.—The sentencing of Mrs. Frona McMahan, accused of murdering her husband, Dave McMahan, at Hubbs in August, to a term of three years in the penitentiary by Judge R. F. Long, brings to light one of the most startling tales ever unfolded in a Carolina court. Mrs. McMahan was under indictment for murder in the first degree. Her husband was found dead in bed at his home, and her version of the death is that she had arisen early to prepare breakfast, leaving her husband in bed. While in the kitchen she heard a pistol shot, and upon returning to the bedroom found McMahan dead with a bullet through his heart.

In giving her evidence, the little woman, a pronounced brunette, calm, self-possessed, smiling and serene, gave a detailed history of her matrimonial experience with the six men she had married in the brief period since her sixteenth birthday. She is now 34. She was first married to Thomas Meadows, in Graham county, at the age of 16. The wedding occurred on April 4. Two months and eight days after that Thomas died with a bullet in his side. The comely young widow was corroborated in her testimony that she had committed self-murder, by her two little sisters, who told that the man shot himself while in their presence. The magistrate squitted her of a charge of murder.

Two years later in Tennessee she was married to William McCall, with whom she lived for about five or six years, when he ran away with another woman. Without bothering about a divorce, a little less than a year later she married William Gregory, also in Tennessee. Shortly thereafter he obtained a position at Proctor in this State, and one day when he was journeying across the mountains to his home he was taken suddenly ill when about a mile away and died before aid could reach him. Less than six weeks the widow mourned for the departed for within that time David Shields had won her heart and hand. He was rather an old man and it was a month or so before he left for California without the formality of saying good-bye. The deserted wife was coaxed by a younger man, again without the divorce, this time to Lu her Shields her troth being pledged. In the course of a few months, however, the domestic harmony was shattered, a lady from Little Rock, Ark., persuading the husband away.

Then came the sixth husband, Dave McMahan. The couple had been living as man and wife for nearly two years and were getting along fine at the big plant of the Champion Lumber Company at Saurburt until one August morning last year the man was found dead in bed, a bullet hole through his heart.

The case against the woman was entirely circumstantial. She testified that he had gotten up and made a fire in the early morning and then came back to bed, she getting up then to prepare breakfast. A few minutes later the pistol shot rang out, while she was in the kitchen, according to her testimony, and he was discovered dead. There were several people in the house at the time, but no eye witnesses. From the wound and the position the pistol was found the State argued that he could not have killed himself, and that his wife was bound to be the guilty party. She pleaded innocence, and the jury could not agree.

In the case just decided the jury deliberated for 58 hours, but could come to no agreement, four of the jurors holding out for acquittal. When the case was definitely given up by the jury, to save the ordeal of another trial and upon advice of counsel the woman pleaded guilty of manslaughter and was sentenced.

Heavy Engagements On Western Front

Seventeen Fights Sunday Between Airplanes Along the British Line in Flanders.

Feb. 14.—The whole western front is the scene of heavy engagements. At some points the big guns have been engaged in hand-to-hand struggles, grapple fighting and mining operations have played a prominent part in the battles while airmen have fought each other above the lines and have been annihilated from below by the anti-aircraft guns. The Germans followed up their recent success in Champagne by the capture of an additional half-mile of French trenches around Tahure, in that district and their artillery bombardments in the neighborhood of Massiges and Naviria have been answered in kind by the French.

To the north of Soissons, around Teruy along the river Aisne the Germans endeavored to advance and capture trenches but devoted under heavy fire of the French. In upper Alsace the Germans turned loose their guns on French positions but the French during the night had evacuated them and the shelling did no other damage than to shatter the emplacements. Seventeen fights in the air is the record of Sunday reported officially by the British along their lines in Flanders. In addition there has been great activity south of La Bassée Canal where the Germans exploded seven mines. Heavy bombardments and an infantry attack in that section also is reported, the Germans succeeding in entering a British trench. They were driven out almost immediately.

In Albania the Arsen River which runs westward across Central Albania and empties into the bay of Durazzo, has been reached by the Austro-Hungarian vanguard according to Vienna. There have been no important events on the eastern front, but the Russians in the Caucasus have occupied one of the Erzerum forts and have taken large numbers of Turkish prisoners. Several Turkish batteries on the coast of the Black Sea have been silenced by the Russian warships.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, Vienna reports, has arrived there to visit Emperor Francis Joseph. This would seem to set at naught recent unofficial reports that Bulgaria had asked the Entente allies for a separate peace. Another British cruiser has met disaster. The Arcthus, noted for her fighting qualities, struck a mine and is believed to have been totally wrecked. Ten men lost their lives.

Books Not Entirely Discarded.

After wading for months through papers and column after column of information concerning the progress being made by the various schools and colleges relative to football, basketball, baseball, etc., we have at least been rewarded with this single refreshing paragraph:

Chapel Hill, Feb. 18.—J. C. Eaton, a freshman in the University from Winston-Salem, led his class in the recent examination. Mr. Eaton performed the rare feat of winning ones on all his studies, five ones altogether. He is the only man in his class to do this. His brother, W. C. Eaton, almost equaled his record, securing three ones out of five subjects studied. Both boys are sons of Mayor Eaton of Winston-Salem.

Has Used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for 30 Years.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been used in my household for the past twenty years. I began giving it to my children when they were small. As a quick relief for croup, whooping cough, and ordinary colds, it has no equal. Being free from opium and other harmful drugs, I never feel afraid to give it to the children. I have recommended it to a large number of friends and neighbors, who have used it and speak highly of it." writes Mrs. M. E. Shertwell, N. Y. Obtainable everywhere.

Germans Make Forceful Attack

Have Gained Some Ground From French in the Artois Section.

Feb. 18.—The Germans are fiercely attacking the French positions in the Artois section as well as in Champagne. In the latter district Berlin reports the capture of a front of about 700 yards, while the French admit that the Germans have gained a foothold in some of their advanced trenches near the Tahure-Somme Py road.

In Artois near Hill 140 which lies to the southwest of Vimy the German attacks followed one another in quick succession, there being four during the course of the afternoon. Pushing forward in the face of a hail of shells and bullets, the Germans, on their fourth attempt, succeeded in entering one of the French line trenches, which, however, they failed to hold, being almost immediately driven out with considerable losses in dead and wounded, according to Paris. Northeast of Soissons, a German attack, preceded by a bombardment, resulted in the capture of a French trench near the Origny road, but here also they were thrown out, leaving their dead on the field.

On the British end of the line there have been seeping operations and bombardments by both sides. All around Soissons the German artillery was busy, preparatory to infantry attacks; but the attacks did not materialize owing to the French use of their guns in certain fire volleys. Considerable damage has been done to German positions in the Argonne forest by the French. Artillery duels are in progress in Lorraine and in the Vosges. The heavy guns are being actively employed on both sides in the northern section of the Russian front, but no important changes in position have occurred.

In the Isonzo region the Austrians have taken entrenchments from the Italians in the Bombon zone, while the Italian artillery has bombarded Austrian positions at various points, especially in the Gorizia sector. Austrian seaplanes have attacked the town of Ravenna, in northeast Italy and several other places in the vicinity. Fifteen persons are said to have been killed and a number injured.

On the Black Sea, Russian torpedo destroyers have sunk additional Turkish sailing vessels and have destroyed bridges and depots ashore. The French cruiser Admiral Charner, it is feared by the French Ministry of Marine, has been lost while patrolling the Syrian coast. The cruiser has not been heard from since February 8 when a German dispatch reported that a submarine had sunk a French warship. The German gunboat Hedwig von Wissmann has been sunk on Lake Tangyika, Africa, by the Belgians.

China Grove Lady Aspires to be an Actress

Miss Mary K. Townsend, a member of the faculty of the China Grove school, has entered a "Beauty and Brains" contest being conducted by a photoplay magazine.

The proposition is to send eleven young women to a film studio at Fort Lee, New Jersey, across the river from New York city, where they will be given a thorough try-out as film actresses. All of their expense will be paid on this trip and if they show any talent they will be given contracts for a period of not less than one year at regular salaries paid to stars. No effort will be spared to make film stars of these young women. Miss Lillian Russell and William A. Brady are among the judges of the contest. Their experiences and reputation alone assure contestants of every possible consideration based solely upon ability.

President's Hat In Ring

Is Unwilling to Enter a Contest for the Nominations, But Permits Use of his Name.

Washington, Feb. 14.—President Wilson today formally gave his consent that his name be used as a candidate for renomination. In a letter to the Secretary of State of Ohio the president stated that he was unwilling to enter a contest for the nomination but was ready to permit the use of his name in the coming primary in order that the democrats of Ohio might make known their preference.

The president made known his position in order to comply with the Ohio primary law which requires candidates for delegates to the party conventions to make known their first and second choices before February 25 and also requires that the candidates for delegates have the consent of their choices to make use of their names. The president was formally notified of the requirements of the law last week and today he wrote Charles Q. Hilderbrand, secretary of State of Ohio, as follows: "I am enclosing you a letter the occasion of which I dare say will be quite obvious. Friends in Ohio have called my attention to section 4954 of the general code of Ohio as amended in 1914 with regards to primary elections and have requested that I indicate my willingness to have my name used. I accordingly take the liberty of sending you the enclosed letter as formal permission under the statute."

The letter the president enclosed was as follows: "While I am entirely unwilling to enter into any contest for the presidential nomination of the Democratic party I am willing to permit the use of my name that the Democrats in Ohio may make known their preference in regard to that nomination. "In order, therefore, to satisfy the technical requirements of the statutes of the state of Ohio, I hereby consent to the use of my name as a candidate for the presidency by any candidate who seeks to be elected a delegate to the national Democratic convention which is to assemble in June next."

Do You Find Fault with Everybody?

An irritable fault-finding disposition is often due to a disordered stomach. A man with good digestion is nearly always good natured. A great many have been permanently benefited by Chamberlain's Tablets after years of suffering. These tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. Obtainable everywhere.

Heroic Britishers Hold Turks at Bay.

London, Jan. 31.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The remarkable stand which has been made by Maj. Gen. Charles V. F. Townsend and his comparatively small body of British troops at Kut El Amara, Mesopotamia, where for nearly two months they have been besieged by a large army of Turks, has raised General Townsend to a high place in the esteem of the English public. The far away war theater has been watched with the deepest interest by those at home since the British repulsed the Turks at Otsephion and began their retreat to Kut, and the exploits of General Townsend have occupied much space in the newspapers, some military critics hailing him as one of the most brilliant soldiers the empire has produced.

During the long siege General Townsend has beaten off all attacks of the Ottoman troops and kept his little force intact. Every dispatch which has come through from the commander has been read with deepest interest by the public that has feared that the relieving army, which is said to have been held up by natural obstacles, would reach Kut El Amara too late. General Townsend's recent report that he had sufficient supplies for his soldiers partly relieved the minds of the British people, who now anxiously wait for the outcome.

State News Items

News Concentrated to Those who Want to Know About Home Affairs.

If you are a contributing member of the National Guard, you are exempt from jury duty, according to a ruling of Attorney General Bickett. The matter has caused much discussion in the state, judges holding differently as to the law, and a ruling was asked for by Adjutant-General Young. This ruling has been sent out to the Superior court judges of the State and will settle the dispute. George H. Miller, railway mail clerk between Salisbury and Knoxville, died in a hospital at Hickory Friday night from the effects of injuries sustained early Friday evening when he was thrown from a horse at his home on Hickory route two. Deceased was thirty years of age and unmarried and had been in the railway mail service eight years.

IT MUST BE TRUE

Salisbury Readers Must Come to That Conclusion.

It is not the telling of a single case in Salisbury, but a number of citizens testify. Endorsement by people you know bears the stamp of truth. The following is one of the public testimonials made in this locality about Doan's Kidney Pills: "S. W. Henry, contractor and carpenter, E. Kerr St., Salisbury, says: 'Backache was a common trouble with me and I was so bad that I could hardly stoop to pick up anything. If I did get down, I couldn't straighten up without taking hold of something. A few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills relieved the misery in my back and regulated the action of my kidneys.' Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Henry had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y."

Badin's Name Changed

Albemarle, Feb. 18.—The power city out on the Yadkin is no longer to be known as Badin but Yadkin Narrows is the name of the new postoffice established there, and already there are a number of applications for the postmasterhip of the new office. This is the third change in name since the great development started up in 1915. The first town was named Whitney, and the postoffice established there bore that name, and still bears that name. Then the Whitney company failed and the plant was purchased by the Southern Aluminium company, which company named the town laid out four miles down the river from Whitney, Badin, being named after the president of the Southern Aluminium company, Mr. Badin. Now the new company has again changed the name, upon the establishment of the new postoffice, from Badin to Yadkin Narrows.

Albemarle learns with much pleasure that a bill has been introduced in the Congress of the United States by Representative R. L. Doughton, providing for an appropriation of the sum of \$70,000 for the purchase of a site for a Government building here. News reached here late last night of the hairbreadth escape from death of Carl Effrd of this place about Sunday Saturday evening near Badin when he ran his automobile headlong into the big canal, completely demolishing the car and breaking three of his ribs, and receiving other very bad injuries. Mr. Effrd was running at a rather rapid speed along the road from Whitney to Badin, which runs near the old canal cut out by the old Whitney company. By some means he lost control of the auto and plunged into the deep canal, the car having turned over like a schoolboy's toy, until it landed on the bottom of the big ditch. How he escaped instant death is little short of miraculous. Physicians say he will recover from injuries received unless there are some internal injuries which at present can't be discovered.

Garrison's Resignation Helps

Washington, February 11.—A new note of harmony and cooperation on National defense problems was struck in the House Military Committee today as a direct result of the resignation of Secretary Garrison of the War Department. It found expression in the adoption of a resolution declaring the committee's appreciation of the confidence President Wilson reposed in it and in the Senate committee as disclosed in his correspondence with Mr. Garrison.

The non-partisan character of the feeling was emphasized by the fact that the resolution was offered by Representative Kahn of California, ranking Republican member of the committee. Members of both the congressional committees declared that the War Secretary's withdrawal had brought out sharply the President's desire that Congress should work out its army problems in the light of its own best judgment, despite the personal preferences of the continental army scheme advocated by Mr. Garrison and the Army War College. The net result, they agreed was a clarification of the congressional atmosphere and the assurance of support for the bills that will be drafted from elements of both the Democratic and Republican sides that had heretofore been counted against the measures.

Constipation

When constive or troubled with constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are easy to take and most agreeable in effect. Obtainable everywhere.

Trickey Politicians In The Rear

Whoever Goes to Legislature Must Make That He is no Davidson Leonard.

Monroe, Feb. 18.—This year promises to witness one of the liveliest political campaigns ever experienced in this county. Nominations will be made in the primary for all county offices with the exception of the clerk of court, whose time does not expire until 1918. While the office seekers, it is thought, will not be many, intimations of various rings being formed throughout the county for the defeat of certain men now in office, are better freely made. So bitterly was the good roads question, which was defeated at the polls on Saturday, February 5, opposed by the outlying townships; and on the other hand, so favored by Monroe, that serious complications were liable to arise that will disrupt the smoothness that has characterized recent elections. The road question was strenuously fought both by the opposition and the affirmative. Plenty of newspaper space was bought in all four of the county papers and intimations of dubious motives on the part of those who favored the adoption of the proposed plan were made in articles over the signatures of various prominent Union County citizens.

The idea has been growing all along that the thing for Monroe to do was to "slip" a man in the Legislature, and in turn, let him "slip over" an appropriation. But nobody ever favored this scheme openly until The Observer came out with an editorial Wednesday, stating that the thing for Union County to do was "to slip over the bond issue, like the Davidson County gentleman did in the last Legislature." That ignited the flame and it is now said that it will be impossible for a Monroe lawyer, or any other Monroe citizen for that matter, to get elected to the next Legislature just on account of the suspicion that is lurking in the minds of the country people that the town is "trying to slip one over 'em."

Whoever runs for the Legislature this year will have to come out in the open if he wants to get elected, for most of the citizens of the other townships say that they have got to know how he stands on everything, especially good roads.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been used in my household for the past twenty years. I began giving it to my children when they were small. As a quick relief for croup, whooping cough, and ordinary colds, it has no equal. Being free from opium and other harmful drugs, I never feel afraid to give it to the children. I have recommended it to a large number of friends and neighbors, who have used it and speak highly of it." writes Mrs. M. E. Shertwell, N. Y. Obtainable everywhere.