

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

SERVING WITH THE LIVING CHRIST

International Sunday School Lesson for June 26th, 1938

Golden Text: "And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them."—Mark 16:20.

Lesson Text: Mark 16:1-8, 14-16, 19-20.

Our lesson last week concerned the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Our lesson this week relates his resurrection and his final command to his apostles.

The Christian faith is based on the resurrection of Jesus. As Paul said, our faith is in vain if there was no resurrection. The triumph of Jesus over death is the assurance of immortality to every man and the confirmation of the divine in the personality of Jesus of Nazareth.

Our lesson text gives us some details of two occasions upon which Jesus appeared to his fol-

lowers after his resurrection. In all the New Testament accounts eleven different appearances of Jesus during the forty days between his resurrection and his ascension. In connection with this week's lesson, it would be interesting for each reader to follow these, and, therefore, we give them in chronological order with the scriptural reference:

- (1) The first appearance on Sunday morning was to Mary Magdalene near the sepulchre, recounted in Mark 16:9 and John 20:11-18. (2) Shortly afterwards Jesus appeared to a group of women returning from the grave, as related in Matt. 28:9 and 10. (3) Luke, 24:34, tells about an appearance near Jerusalem to Simon Peter alone. (4) Two disciples on the road between Emmaus and Jerusalem were met by Jesus, who talked and walked with them. Luke 24:13-31. (5) On Sunday evening at Jerusalem Jesus appeared to all the apostles except Thomas. John 20:19-25. (6) Eight days after the preceding appearance (one week according to our count) Jesus appeared to the apostles including Thomas. John 20:26-29. (7) Sometime subsequently,

probably two weeks, Jesus appeared to seven disciples who were fishing in the Sea of Galilee. John 21:1-13.

(8) At a mountain rendezvous in Galilee Jesus appeared to the eleven disciples. Matt. 28:16-20.

(9) Paul, in 1 Corinthians, 15:6, in relating some of the appearances of Jesus mentions one to more than five hundred of his followers in Galilee.

(10) Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:7 tells of an appearance to James alone, the place not mentioned, but probably Jerusalem.

(11) The final appearance, just before the ascension, which took place at the Mount of Olives, near Bethany, in the presence of all the apostles, related in Luke, 24:50, 51 and Acts 1:6-12.

There are skeptics who question the dependence which can be placed in the gospel story, but these are in the minority. The story itself rings true. Minor conflicts on detail indicate an independence of testimony, which would not be present had the entire narrative been manufactured. Then, we have the admitted difficulties encountered by some who refused to believe, all faithfully recited in the gospel story, which would certainly not have been the case had the story been an attempt to deceive.

The facts as related are so unusual, so unlike those which a creator of a story would have invented, that they testify to the authenticity of the episodes. One would never fabricate the details of Jesus appearing first to women not in that far-off day when women's rights were unrecognized. The writer of an imaginative narrative would have had Jesus appear after his crucifixion before Pilot, or kings, or some great personage, rather than the simple Galilean followers.

Probably one of the most effective justifications we have for the acceptance of the resurrection of Jesus lies in the miraculous change which occurred in his disciples between the crucifixion and the day of pentecost. When Jesus was arrested, his disciples fled; later they were back in Galilee at their old tasks. Then they saw Jesus, believed in his resurrection, and received the gift of the holy

This Week in Washington

Washington, June 11.—(Auto-castercast)—With the ending of the last regular session of the 75th Congress and the scattering of its members to their respective homes, Washington's attention is now focussing upon the nomination primaries and the November election.

The more thoughtful political observers are examining the trend of political sentiment in the nation, with an eye to the outlook not only for the Congressional elections but for the major contest between the two great parties in 1940.

Bearing upon the whole political situation are some of the things which Congress did in the session just ended, and some of the things which it left undone. Its major accomplishments were the enactment of the Farm Control Act, the Federal Housing Act and the Wages-Hours Regulation Act.

The principal measures before it which it left for the next Congress to tackle are the President's proposal for a complete reorganization of the administrative machinery of the Federal Govern-

ment, and the plans for relieving the railroads.

President's Demands Fulfilled By the list of accomplishments most, of course, he added the appropriation of an additional three billion dollars and more for recovery and relief, the President's so-called "pump-priming" program, and the authorization of the construction of the greatest Navy in the world.

In spite of the show of independence of the Executive which manifested itself in the speeches and votes of many members of the majority party, the Administration got pretty nearly all that it demanded from the 75th Congress. It was pretty well demonstrated, in numerous instances, that the Administration would not hesitate to use the power which control of huge relief expenditures gives it to punish Senators and Congressmen who have attempted to block its program, and to bring into the next Congress members who will be more sympathetic with New Deal policies.

In spite of such demonstrations in the early primary contests, Congress found it expedient to place no restrictions upon the President's personal power to allot a great part of the billions appropriated at his sole discretion. Even in the matter of the expenditure of five hundred million dollars for investigation of monopolies, four-fifths of that sum is to be used by Presidential allotment.

Administrative Bureaucracy Those who take the long view of public affairs read into the history of the six years which will end with the November elections something in the nature of a social revolution, based upon concepts of the functions of Government which in their practical application at least, are new in the American scheme of things. In this view, the present Administration and the New Deal have merely given practical effect to ideas and political concepts which have been developing for years.

And those who hold that view are beginning to express the belief that any effective opposition to the Democratic party in the 1940 elections must be based upon a complete recognition by the Republican party leadership of social and economic conditions which call for remedial action by Government.

The major complaint against the policies followed by the present Administration is that they place too much control in the hands of an administrative bureaucracy. That many of the things which it has been attempted to remedy are real evils calling for governmental action is gaining recognition even among the Republican members of Congress. Representative Bruce Barton of New York, listing the "Seven Deadly Sins" in the present economic system introduced, failed to get action upon a series of joint resolutions creating commissions of Congress to study and report on the farm problem, unemployment and relief, social security, taxes, foreign trade policy, railroads and public competition with private industry.

Government Control The growing belief here is that the Republican party will be compelled to recognize the growth and strength of a mass undercurrent of public opinion which demands the control by Government of so many heretofore unrestricted activities as to amount to a social revolution. Federal responsibility for farm subsidies, employment,

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Table listing various food items and their prices. Includes Pickles (Cucumber, Sliced Green Tomato, Peach, Pear, Onion, Dixie Relish, Whole Mixed Pickle, Chili Sauce), Canned Meats (Beef, Pork, Chicken), Cured Meat (Ham, Shoulder, Strip of Side or Bacon), Bread (Graham, Rolls, Corn Meal Muffins, Baking Powder Biscuits), Cakes and Cookies (Pound Cake, Angel Food Cake, Layer Cake, Devil's Food Cake, Ice Rox Cookies, Ginger Snaps, Doughnuts), Miscellaneous (Half Dozen Baking Powder Biscuits, Layer Cake, Angel Food Cake), and Cloth (Best Apron, Best General Wear Dress, Knitted Goods, Needle Work).