

Sunday School Lesson

For Sunday, March 12th
By Dr. Paul Caudill

Topic: JESUS BETRAYED, DENIED, CONDEMNED

Scripture Lesson: Mark 14:10-18:20

The events surrounding our Lord during the days immediately preceding his crucifixion took place with breath-taking swiftness. Jesus knew full well the road ahead, and sought to pre-

pare the twelve for the grim ordeal through which he soon must pass. On Tuesday evening (beginning of Jewish Wednesday), he had boldly predicted his crucifixion (Matt. 26:1-5). Moreover, at the feast in the house of Simon, the leper, he had permitted Mary to anoint him for his burial (Matt. 26:1-18). He had been bold enough to rebuke Judas for his mercenary outlook (John 12:7f.), and to point him out, during the paschal meal, as the betrayer. He even went so far as to warn them all of their disloyalty (John 13:31). But the disciples were slow to understand. Their ears were dull of hearing. Consequently, before they fully realized the true course of things, they found their Lord betrayed, denied, condemned!

BETRAYED

Mark 14:10-11

In a few terse lines, Mark graphically portrays the tragedy of the betrayal: "And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them. And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him". One of the twelve—how sorrowful those words sound now to us who love our Lord—one of his avowed followers, and not one of his declared enemies, betrayed him. For a fuller account of the betrayal, read also the passage in Matthew (26:14-16). Matthew says Judas deliberately bargained with the chief priests: "What are ye willing to give me, and I will deliver him unto you?" This, says Vincent, "brings out the chaffering aspects of the transaction", and reveals (Bruce) the opposite roles of character in Mary (who had just anointed Jesus) and in Judas: "she freely spending in love, he willing to sell his Master for money". Matthew adds, "they weighed unto him thirty pieces of silver" (Dr. Broadus says the "pieces" were probably shekels, "worth in our Lord's time something over sixty cents" each). It will always remain a mystery—from the standpoint of purely human consideration—how Judas, so deeply beloved by Jesus, and so

fully trusted by all his friends, could turn his back upon his Lord, and that for the paltry price of thirty pieces of filthy silver. But it is a mystery that continues to recur, over and over, in every age—in every generation. For, in the face of the betrayal we come face to face with the work of Satan as he seeks, persistently to overthrow the kingdom of our Lord. Judas is not the only professed follower of Christ who, at some time or other, and in some measure, has betrayed him. Day by day, the cause of the Lord Christ suffers because of this woe-ful fact. It may not be for "silver" that we betray him; there are a thousand ways in which one can manifest his perfidy. But the heart of Christ bleeds just the same, and the shadow of the cross falls hard by. And, be it remembered, this one thing stands sure: Whatever be the cause of the betrayal, it stems from the carnal desires of self!

DENIED

Mark 14:58-74

"That is an awful word, isn't it, 'denied.' And yet, that is exactly the state of Jesus as he approaches his crucifixion. Just think of it, the Son of God, Jesus, the Savior of the world, denied! Jesus knew that it would turn out that way, and he had warned his disciples; but they in their proud hearts and vain boastings had thought it impossible, and had vigorously protested their loyalty. Peter had been so bold as to say, 'Although all shall be offended, yet will not I... I must die with thee, I will not deny thee', and Mark adds, 'And in like manner also said they all'. But they little dreamed of the true character of the test to which they would be subjected, as Jesus faced the cross (How like his followers today—those who bear vivid testimony of their desires and purposes in Christ Jesus; but who, in the hour of testing, forsake their vows).

It is revealing to note the conduct of Peter immediately preceding his abject denial of Jesus. There is a sort of gradual drift—a fatal tendency—that finally breaks into a torrent of infidelity as he declares himself to have no part with Jesus. First we see him following him "afar off" (v. 58). He wanted to be near Jesus, but he dared not get near enough to implicate himself. That would be dangerous. It might even cost him his life, for these men who had Jesus in their custody now were a determined group, and powerful too. Consequently, he stood back, away from the main action, and "warmed himself at the fire". But he did not get to warm for long, undisturbed, for it was soon suspected that he was one of those who had been previously seen with Jesus—one of his company. What must he do? Should he make himself known and come boldly to the rescue of his Lord with his own testimony as to his goodness and greatness: He had boasted he would, and that but a few hours before. No, he would not; he would deny him. And so, with bitter cursing, he disclaimed any relationship with Jesus.

Mark tells of how, upon Peter's denial, the crowing of the cock was heard, as Jesus had predicted, and then closes the scene with the following piquant words: "And when he thought thereon, he wept." One can hardly leave the scene of Peter's denial, and that of the other disciples—for they all denied him in their own way, "they all forsook him and fled" in his hour of trial—without asking himself the question: To what extent, and in what respect, have I denied my Lord, since first I began to follow Him? Only as we seek to ask and answer this question with respect to our own life will the passage come to have vital meaning.

CONDEMNED

Mark 15:12-15

Our lesson closes with the condemnation of Jesus. After Jesus was betrayed, arrested and forsaken, he was hurried through a series of trials, by his enemies, as a means of justifying, in the public eye, the sentence of death which they would eventually impose upon him. First, they had Jesus examined by Annas, the ex-high priest (John 18:12-14:19-23). From there, they go to the residence of the high priest Caiaphas, where the scribes and the elders were gathered together. There he is hurriedly tried and condemned, while they mock and buffet him. Both of these so-called "trials" were conducted, apparently before dawn on Friday morning. When morning was come, therefore, the Sanhedrin gathered in formal assembly and ratified the condemnation that had been previously declared by the high priests (Luke 22:66-71). From there on, the road to his death was short and certain. Quickly he was arraigned before the Roman procurator, Pilate (John 18:28-38), before Herod Antipas, the Galilean ruler (Luke 23:6-12), and finally again before Pilate (Mark 15:6-15). Pilate gave the people the opportunity to choose between Jesus and Barabbas. They chose Barabbas, leaving Jesus condemned. Even so, men today choose materialism with all its vain promises, and leave condemned their only Savior, Jesus of Nazareth.

Miss Moseley Is Enjoying Army Life and Duties

"I've taken over one soldier's place in the Army. I'm doing work I enjoy, and I'm having fun—in fact, I'm enjoying everything in the WAC thoroughly," says Cpl. Rebecca O. Moseley, former North Wilkesboro teacher, who is visiting here while on furlough from her station at Tyndall field, Florida.

In her work as librarian in Special Services at Tyndall field, Cpl. Moseley works in shifts with two army men who are soon to be replaced by WACs. A working knowledge of the Dewey decimal system helped Cpl. Moseley in being placed in the library.

"All the WACs at Tyndall field are really happy where they are", Cpl. Moseley chuckled, thinking of some of the after-work fun the girls have had.

"There are dances two or three times a week, the post movies, a recreation hall, bowling alleys where tournaments are now being held, all kinds of entertainment organized by a WAC in special services, USO shows—Incidentally, we're going to have the Camel Caravan visit us soon", added Cpl. Moseley.

When Cpl. Moseley left North Wilkesboro April 27, 1943, after teaching here several years, she went to Daytona Beach for her basic training. On completion of basic training, she was sent to Newark, N. J., where she attended the radio mechanic school for 13 weeks. She was an instructor in the Waller trainer, a panoramic gunnery trainer, when she finished her schooling.

While in school, Cpl. Moseley took to heart the adage "All work and no play, etc." and spent almost every week-end in New York City where she took in everything from seeing Ethel Barrymore in "The Corn Is Green", Arturo Toscanini, and the New York Philharmonic, to taking in the lighter things such as visiting the popular night clubs.

From New Jersey, Cpl. Moseley was sent to Tyndall field as an instructor in the Waller trainer. When she arrived there in September there were only about one-third of the 150 WACs now stationed there. Soon after arriving in Florida, there was a desperate need for another librarian and Cpl. Moseley was assigned to the job since the trainer division could spare her at the time.

"The WACs are doing such a good job at our field," states Cpl.

Moseley, "the Army officers are seeing for more of us and have even gone so far as to begin building more WAC barracks in order that the size of the WAC detachment at Tyndall field can be increased."

"I've met girls from California, New Mexico, New York, Minnesota, and the Carolinas, besides those from many other states," says Cpl. Moseley, "and we all get along just fine. Sometimes I wonder why I didn't go into the WAC sooner—I guess it was because I didn't know how fine it would be", concluded Cpl. Moseley.

A freezer locker plant is being proposed for Elkin, reports D. R. Perkins, assistant county agent of the State College Extension Service.

The farm labor situation in Edgecomb County is acute and a number of farms that were operated last year will lie idle in 1944, says County Agent J. C. Powell of the State College Extension Service.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Mrs. Claudia Parks, deceased, late of Wilkes county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Roaring River, North Carolina, on or before the 15th day of February, 1945, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 15th day of February, 1944.
W. E. PARKS,
Admr. c. t. a. Mrs. Claudia Parks, deceased. 3-23-6tpT

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
North Carolina,
Wilkes County:

In The Superior Court
J. P. GREGORY,
vs.

LUNAR GREGORY

The defendant above named will take notice that an action, entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Wilkes county, North Carolina, to get a divorce proceeding; and that said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the term of the Superior court of said county to be held on the first Monday in May, 1944, at the courthouse of said Wilkesboro, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or this plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 21st day of February, 1944.

C. C. HAYES,
Clerk of Superior Court
by J. F. Jordan, Atty. 3-16-4t-t

VITAMIN A
The War Food Administration is assigning about 40 per cent of the available vitamin A to enrichment of poultry feeds. This vitamin supply will come back to the 5 billion eggs allowed civilians in 1944.

It's the Quality of leadership that makes Leaders

ATLANTIC
All our Beers are the Leaders

Atlantic Company - Breweries in Atlanta, Chicago, Chattanooga, Norfolk, Detroit

CONCENTRATED FIRE

You'll get out of debt faster if you concentrate on one obligation instead of pecking away at several scattered debts. See us about combining your debts into one easy-to-repay Personal Bank Loan.

THE NORTHWESTERN BANK
Serving Northwestern North Carolina

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Spur

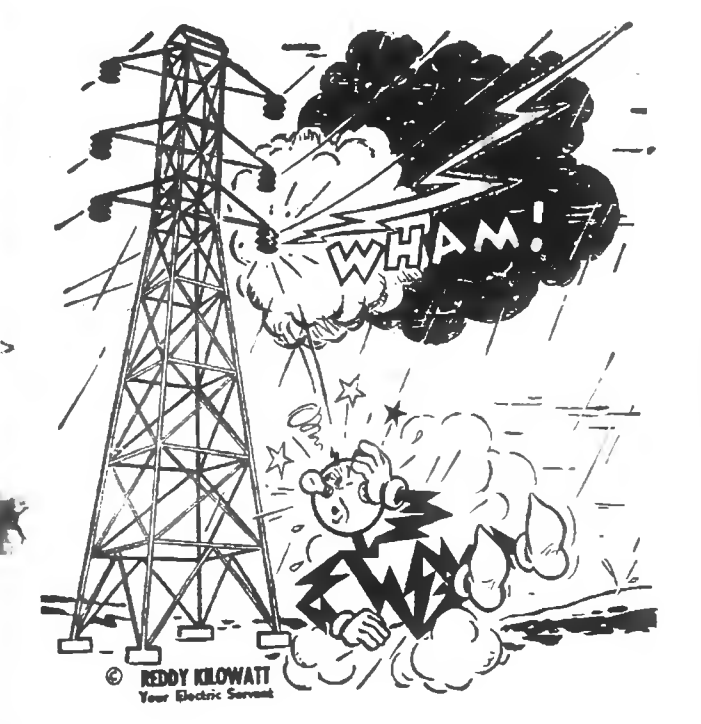
THE COLA DRINK WITH CANADA DRY QUALITY

AT THE TIME OF NEED

REINS-STURDIVANT

RELIABLE AND READY FOR EMERGENCY

Reins-Sturdivant
North Wilkesboro, N. C.



I'm not knocked out often and, when I am, it takes a terrific wallop. Even then I COME BACK FAST!

Thanks for your patience when something beyond our control interrupts your electric service. I get back to work as fast as our all-weather trouble shooters can make emergency repairs.

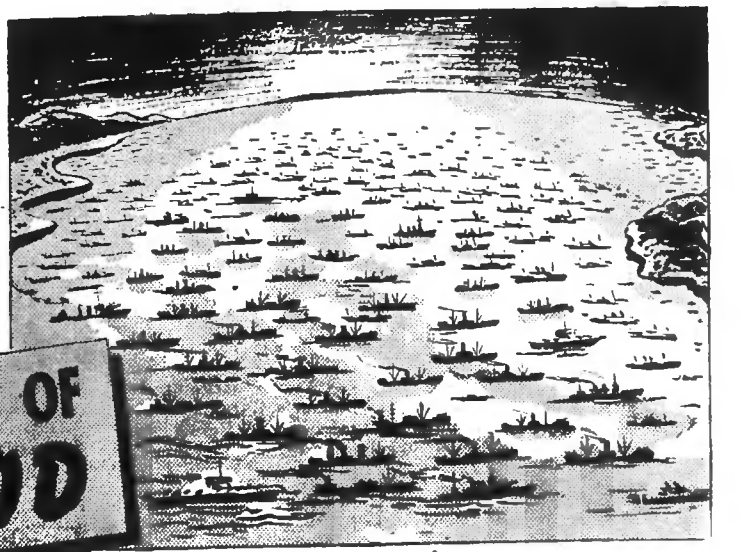
Yours obediently,
REDDY KILOWATT.

DUKE POWER COMPANY

INVASION CALLS for MORE PULPWOOD

DURING this Invasion Year of 1944 thousands of shiploads of food, ammunition and supplies must be rushed overseas. One item called for in the production schedule is:

14,000,000 CORDS OF PULPWOOD



• This mill will make every effort to contribute its full share in meeting military and essential civilian needs in 1944. But to do so, it will have to have more pulpwood than it was able to purchase last year.

We are appealing to every pulpwood producer in this area to increase his production. We are asking every one who has cut or who could cut pulpwood to devote all spare time possible to help meet this emergency.

This is one thing you can do to back up the invasion plan.



WE WILL PAY
\$8.00 Per Cord of 160 Cubic Ft.
Delivered to Our Yard

FRAZIER PULPWOOD CO.
Forester Avenue

West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co.
T. J. Frazier, District Agent