

By Clara B. Lawrence

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON



Mrs. Lawrence

SUBJECT: Recalling God's Action

June 21, 1981

Lesson
 The Listening Ear of Obedience
 The Testimony of Obedience
 The Teaching of Obedience

Deuteronomy 4:1-2
 Deuteronomy 4:5-8
 Deuteronomy 4:9-10

Background Scripture
 Deut. 3:12 and 4:14--Deut. 1:26-28

LESSON BACKGROUND

In the foregoing chapters Moses had been addressing the Israelites with the Promised land in sight. They were now camped East of the Jordan River, opposite Jericho and the Promised Land. He reviewed events that had occurred in their march from Horeb to the plains of Moab. Moses reminded them how God had faithfully fulfilled His promises; and for this reason they should step out obediently in response to His faithfulness. The reason for Moses' advice was because of their unwillingness to enter the land after they had heard and accepted the reports of the ten spies who had visited the land. (Deut. 1:26-28).

This was a time for decision and commitment, for because of unbelief and rebellion against God and Moses they had wandered in the wilderness for a generation or more. (40 years.) But they still had another opportunity to have a homeland with God's offer of a good life.

While camped on the Oases of the Kadesh-banner region they made an attempt to enter Palestine from the south. Moses forbade their attempt to fight their way into the country, but they forced the issue at Hornah and were defeated. God kept His covenant with Israel and brought them safely through Edom and east of the Dead Sea, meeting their every need.

LESSON EXPLAINED

Moses is now moving from the narrative part of the book into his first sermon on the First Commandment for the purpose of strengthening the people's commitment to the covenant. He begins his sermon with these words: "Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you,....The word "therefore" was to express what he had in mind in his reviewing incidents in Israel's history to stimulate them to obedience. The word "hearken" is used here in order for them to not only hear but "do." "Statutes" refers to all things prescribed or enacted by law, whether moral, ritual or civil. And "judgments" means all rights, public or private. The two words go together and comprise the whole law which was binding on Israel.

Verse 2 underscores the wholeness of the law when it forbids adding or subtracting anything from the law as Moses taught. He was saying, "God's word was sufficient." Verses 3 and 4 (not shown) are reminding the people of the destruction of Baal-peor, (god of the Moabites) and how God had preserved those who remained steadfast. (Joshua 22:17-Psalms 106:28).

The character of God is revealed in verses 5-8. Moses asked a question that pointed up the nearness of God and the righteousness of His law. He is a God that gives wisdom and understanding. He will answer when called upon.

As Moses continued his sermon, he stressed that they would have great influence on other nations; therefore, they should obey the law of God and testify to others what God has done for them. He probably warned them that the possible reputation of Israel in its new homeland would not be easy to attain...Moses exhorted them to "be on your guard!...make certain that you do not forget, as long as you live, what you have seen with your own eyes." (TEV).

The call applies to us today as it applied to Moses' call to the Israelites, is to remember the Lord's gracious dealings with us, and teach them to our children and to "watch ourselves closely." (4:9 NIV).

TRUTHS TO LIVE BY

1. We are to actively do- as well as know- God's commandments.
2. "Let never day nor night, unhallowed pass, But still remember What the Lord has done."

By: Shakespeare



REV. AND MRS. H.S. DIGGS
Proud church leaders

Here Sunday Mayfield Memorial Church To Honor Rev., Mrs. Diggs

Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Diggs will be honored by the members of Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church June 21 at 6 p.m. in recognition of their 12th anniversary.

Rev. and Mrs. Diggs arrived in Charlotte and officially assumed responsibilities of leadership of the young flock on the first Sunday, October 1969. At that time, the church's corporate worship services were being held in Oaklawn Elementary School on Oaklawn Ave.

For five years the newly formed church fellowship held morning and evening worship, Sunday School, Baptist Training Union, choir rehearsals, and meetings at Oaklawn School, Shiloh Institutional Baptist Church and Baptismal and funeral services at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, then located on Campus Street.

Being forced to move because of the energy crises, Mayfield decided to seek new quarters for corporate worship services, hence a move was made to 700 Sugar Creek Rd., West, where the former Sugar Creek Baptist Church building was located. In 1974 the church membership voted to purchase the former Sugar Creek Baptist Church property and in 1975 the business arrangements were consummated. In 1979, the Mayfield Fellowship moved into its new sanctuary which made the building of a physical plant adequately complete.

Mayfield is proud of the leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Diggs. Rev. Diggs attended the public elementary schools of Rock Hill, S.C., the high school department of Friendship Jr.

College of Rock Hill, S.C., Winston-Salem State University of Winston-Salem, A&T State University, UNC Chapel Hill, Hood Theological Seminary of Livingstone College of Salisbury, and Johnson C. Smith University School of Religion. Rev. Diggs holds membership in the Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church Peace Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries, Mecklenburg Baptist Association, General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, N.C. Council of Churches, Council of Churches USA and World Baptist Alliance.

He also serves in various capacities of leadership as pastor of Mayfield Baptist Church, Executive Board Member of the Peace Association, member of the Board of Directors of Mecklenburg Baptist Association, Dean of the Mt. Peace Congress of Christian Education, Executive Board member and Dean of the N.C. Baptist Ushers Convention, Executive and General Board member of General Baptist State Convention of N.C., member and Executive Board member of Progressive National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., Instructor in Adult Division of Progressive National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, member of Board of Directors of Christian Rehabilitation Center of Charlotte Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, member of the Advisory Board of Friendship Jr. College of Rock Hill, S.C., National Education Association, N.C. Association of Educators, and he is a teacher at

First Ward Elementary School.

Mrs. Diggs holds memberships in the Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, serves as president of Mt. Peace Women's Auxiliary, Mecklenburg County

Union, Fourth vice president of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of N.C., Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, Mt. Peace Ministers' Wives Alliance, Interdenominational Ministers Wives Alliance, N.C. Ministers' Wives Alliance, Progressive National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., and the National Interdenominational Ministers' Wives Alliance. Mrs. Diggs serves as an instructor in the Mission Department of District Three of Women's Baptist Convention of N.C.

She attended the public schools of Rock Hill, S.C., and Columbia School of Nursing, Columbia, S.C., where she received a Practical Nursing degree.

Rev. and Mrs. Diggs are the parents of four boys and two girls.

All friends of Mayfield and Rev. and Mrs. Diggs are requested to be in attendance at this service. Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church is located at 700 Sugar Creek Rd., West.

A&T Alumni

The Queen City Chapter of A&T State University Alumni Association will meet Friday, June 19, at 8 p.m. in Parlor C of the Executive Inn. All interested alumni are asked to attend.

Officers for 1981-83 will be elected at the meeting.

Mrs. Hood Grabs First Place In Churchwoman Race

Continued from Page 1
 But it is at Little Rock AME Zion Church where Miss Ashemore has her greatest satisfaction. "With the help of my wonderful pastor, Rev. W. M. White, I have progressed a lot in the church," states Miss Ashemore. For 16 years she has been a member of Little Rock community and has served as a member of the Youth Choir and volunteer secretary worker.

Mrs. Mattie Caldwell There are several reasons why Mrs. Caldwell decided to roll up her sleeves and assist the Charlotte Post by becoming a candidate in the "Churchwoman of the Year" campaign. But primary of all reasons is the long history her family has had with The Charlotte Post.

It all started with Mrs. Caldwell's mother, Mrs. Willie Mae Porter. She worked with the Post as a news correspondent and later as a salesperson. Years later Mrs. Caldwell's daughter Anita worked for Dr. Tross, former owner of the Charlotte Post for four years. Her family have also been carriers for the Post when they lived in Brooklyn. "I have a deep concern for the Charlotte Post," stated Mrs. Caldwell.

A member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Mrs. Mattie Caldwell was one of the first women trustees at Ebenezer; she is co-chairman of the Trustee Board, the director of the Young Adult Missionary, co-chairman of the nominating committee, co-leader of Missionary Group No. 3

and a member of the music committee. In her community, Mrs. Caldwell is equally as important. She is a member of the Mayor's Human Relations Committee. She is the second black president of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg PTA Council. She is a member of the Black Women's Caucus and a past member of the County Commissioners' Council on Aging, assistant secretary of Clanton Park Association, a member of Mecklenburg's Black Political Caucus, a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League and a member of the NAACP.

Also a part of Mrs. Caldwell's daily activities are the memberships as a worthy matron of Deborah Chapter 424, Order of Eastern Star; Secretary of Isabella Hyder Temple, Order of Elks; Deputy of Order of Court Calenthe, N.C. Assistant Secretary of Rameses Court No. 78. Employed by the U.S. Postal Service, Mrs. Caldwell is a former president and presently secretary of the Charlotte local branch of the National Alliance of Federal and Postal Employees.

Mrs. Caldwell proudly boasts of being the mother of eight children, who have all attended or graduated from college. Seven of them are living. Her son, Melvin, is deceased. Her other children are Carolyn Gibson, Marilyn McClain, Thomas Porter Caldwell, Anita Mobley, Williard Caldwell, Doris Caldwell and Kenna Caldwell.

Mrs. Delores Cherry Her philosophy sums up the kind of person Mrs. Cherry is: "I love to help

neighbors and friends whenever they're in trouble." As a member of Henderson Grove United Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Cherry is president of the Spiritual Choir, secretary of the Senior Usher Board, a member of the Hymn Choir and a member of the Missionary Society.

Carrying out the philosophy, Mrs. Cherry is a member of Wilmore In Action, an organization aimed at bettering living conditions in the community.

She and her husband, William, are the proud parents of nine children: Alonza, 28; Larry, 27; Jeffrey, 22; Reginald, 21; Sandra, 20; Lynette, 17; Timothy, 16; Kathy, 14; and Lori, 9. An employee of Oxford Building Services, Mrs. Cherry especially loves to cook and sew.

Teacher
Education
 An intensive teacher education course with credit toward a master's degree or an advanced certificate will be offered July 20-25 at the Richmond County High School in Rockingham.

The course is offered through the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Office of Continuing Education and the College of Human Development and Learning. The instructor will be Dr. William Heller, dean of the college.

Inquiries should be addressed to Ken Burrows, Program Director, UNCC, UNCC Station, Charlotte, N.C. 28223 or call 597-2424 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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