

INTRODUCTION

Throughout His ministry Jesus was in control of every situation. Demons fled away at His command. Disease and blindness were banished at His word or touch. Even death had to give up its victims.

Scarcely less amazing was Jesus' control over the huge crowds that gathered about Him. They gathered, spontaneously, without preparation or organization, yet they were never disorderly. Once some eager zealots did threaten to get out of hand. They wanted to make Jesus King with or without His consent. He simply went away in the hills, and their plot fell apart. Even the rulers in Jerusalem found themselves helpless against Jesus. They sent police to arrest Him, but the police were awed by His teaching. They picked up stones to stone Him, but He simply walked away in the crowd, or else stopped them with calm reasoning.

LESSON BACKGROUND

The closing verse of Luke 21 and the opening verses of chapter 22 remind us again of the setting for our lesson text. In the daytime Jesus taught in the temple; at night He stayed on the Mount of Olives.

THE LESSON

"The time was near for the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were afraid of the people, and so they were trying to find a way of putting Jesus to death secretly," (Luke 23:1-2). The day came during the Festival of Unleavened Bread when the lambs for the Passover meal were to be killed. Jesus sent Peter and John with these instructions: 'Go and get the Passover meal ready for us to eat.' When do you want us to get it ready?' they asked him. He answered, As you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house: The Teacher says to you, Where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal? He will how you a large, furnished room upstairs, where you will get everything ready.' They went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal. - - - But, look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me! The Son of Man will die as God has decided, but how terrible for that man who betrays him! Then they began to ask among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to do this," (Luke 22:7-13, 21-23).

The word passover is used in different ways. In our lesson today it means the week-longfeastof unleavened bread. This was a memorial of the escape of Israel from Egypt about 1447 B.C. Throughout the week the people ate unleavened bread, reminding them that their ancestors had left Egypt in a hurry, taking along the dough in their mixing troughs before the leaven had been added. Sometimes the word passover meant only the opening ceremony of the week, in which each family roasted and ate a lamb as the forefathers had done on the eve of their departure from Egypt. Or the word might mean the lamb that was eaten. The word itself was a reminder that the Lord had passed over the homes of the Israelites without harm in the night when He had destroyed the first-born in every Egyptian home. Quite naturally the name came to be used of the whole week of festival in memory of that great de-

liverance. Jesus had come to the vicinity of Jerusalem six days before the Passover.

Peter and John were given the tasks of preparing the Passover meal for the whole group. Probably Jesus then continued teaching. In many large families a few would be busy with preparations, and others could join the crowd listening to Jesus. By a miracle of divine knowledge, Jesus timed the departure of Peter and John precisely so they would meet the man who would lead them to the house chosen for their supper. Thus Judas would not know where it was till Jesus led the group there at supper time. Had he known, Judas could have slipped away to tell the priests. Police then would have been waiting for the group, or would have come upon them in the midst of their supper. Jesus wanted to have that

evening with His disciples uninterrupted. Apparently the traitor decided it would be too risky to follow Peter and John. If they would happen to look back and see him, how could he answer their natural questions?

This was the last Passover Jesus would share thus with His disciples. A number of things may be involved in fulfilling the Passover in God's Kingdom; but the most obvious thing is the death of Jesus, which was to come on the next day.

Jesus is our passover (1 Corinthians 5:7). In Egypt the blood of the lamb saved the Hebrews from death, and they were free to go to the promised land. So the blood of Jesus saves us from the death our sins deserve, and we are free to go to our eternal home.

There are many ways to go in applying this lesson to our own lives. May each of us find a lesson for ourselves. A) What task has Jesus given me? You? B) What gifts do I have; do you have? C) Jesus depends on us to lead others to Him. Am I dependable? D) Is it I (me) Lord? Have I (You) looked into my mind today to rid it of unworthy thoughts or feelings? D) Do I (You) listen to the warnings of the Lord or am I determined to go my own way? and F) Do I (You) realize that I can't fool Jesus?

> INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

Leak To Speak During Rev. Workman's Anniversary

need for more space as his mem-bership has increased from zero to 51 and is continuing to grow. You are welcome to attend As-

cension Lutheran Church. It is located at 1225 E. Morehead St. Tim Fangmeier is pastor. WATTS GROVE

Members of Watts Grove Bap-tist Church, Monroe, NC, will celebrate the eighth anniversary of the church's first family, Rev. N. Workman and his wife, Sis. Alice Workman, on Sunday, March 15, at 3 p.m.

Rev. R.H. Leak, pastor of New St. John Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker.

All are welcome to attend.

PLEASANT HILL

The men of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will be observe Men's Day on Sunday, March 15, 4 p.m.

Dr. George Cook Jr. from Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church along with his choirs and congregation will be the special guests.

At the 11 a.m. Worship Service, the Men's Choir will render music. The choir is under the direction of Charles Patton, and is accompanied by pianist Ronald Moore and organist A.C. McCollough.

You are invited to come out and share in this annual Men's Day celebration.

The church is located 517 Baldwin Ave. Rev. J.A. Cuthbertson is pastor.

GREATER BETHEL Greater Bethel AME Church will celebrate Men's Day during the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, March 15.

Dr. Randolph A.K.W. McClain of Newark, Del., will speak. A former member of Greater Bethel, Dr. McClain is a Marketing Specialist with E.I. Du Pont De Nemours and Company of Wilmington, Del.

The public is invited to attend. The church is located 201 Grandin Rd. Rev. David L. Morrison. SEIGLE AVENUE

Members of Seigle Avenue Church of God will form a Mass Choir to render a program on Sunday, March 15, at 5 p.m.

The True Vessels of Christ will be the special guests. All are welcome to attend.

The church is located at 1620 Seigle Ave. Rev. W. D. Bailey is pastor.

GBSC CONGRESS NO The General Baptist State Sunday School Congress of North Carolina will hold a Vacation Bible School Workshop for pastors, superintendents and Vacation Bible School workers on Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Friendship Baptist Church. 3301 Beatties Ford Rd. Dr. Clifford Jones is host pastor.

Dr. Leo Williams, Director of the state's Christian Education Department, and his staff from Raleigh, NC, will conduct the workshop. The workshop will address these topics: "Better Means of Conducting Better Vacation Bible School in '87;" "The Best Ways to Increase Attendance;" and "The Latest Materials for All

Associations in the Metrolina District, including Mt. Peace, Lane Creek, Mecklenburg, Gas-ton, Rising Star, Ebenezer, Mud Creek, Gold Hill, Rowan and others, will be in attendance.

Cost of registration is \$7. All materials are included in the fee.

Dr. J.B. Humphrey, president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, encourages all pastors and Vacation Bible School workers to attend.

TABERNACLE

On Sunday March 15, at 3 p.m., members of Tabernacle Baptist Church will host the "Baby of the Year" program.

This annual effort is sponsored by the Youth Missions Department. As a special highlight, the youth choir of Salem Baptist Church will be featured.

Darlene Hutto is youth president. Magnolia Henderson and Willie McClain are the youth ad-

The participating babies are:
Charonis Bailey, Stancil Stowe,
Desmond Henderson, Fiona
Massey, Lachanna Kirk, Nakita
Sellers, Shasta Jones, Grian
Douglas, Latoya Pough, Desmond
Gause, Patrician Fox, Thomas

and Tommy Poindexter. The public is cordially invited

The church is located at 1135 edbud St. Rev. C. David Stack-

MT. PEACE WOMEN Mt. Peace Women's Auxiliary District 2 will hold its Annual Day on Sunday, March 15, 6 p.m., at Tabernacle Baptist Church.



Rev. and Mrs. N. Workman ...To be honored

Tabernacle's pastor, Rev. C. David Stackhouse, will be the guest speaker.

Katherine House is chairman. Rev. Minnie Conner is program chairman. Sister Minnie Mungo is president of the Women's Auxiliary.

All are welcome to attend. Tabernacle is located at 1135 Redbud St

NEW ST. JOHN

"The race is not for the swift or the brave but for the one who endures to the end," says Rev. Robert Leak. And this idea is the thought behind Rev. Leak's sermon theme: "God's People May Be Knocked Down But Never Knocked Out." This sermon will be delivered Sunday, March 15, during the 11 a.m. Worship Service at New St. John Baptist Church.

The Gospel Christian Singers are celebrating their sixth anniversary at New St. John with programs on Friday, March 13 at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, March 15 at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. Leak and the choirs and congregation of New St. John will, on Sunday, at 2:30 p.m., be the special guests of Watts Grove Baptist Church on the occasion of the anniversary of Watts Grove's pastor, Rev. N. Workman.

You are invited to attend and share in all services at New St.

The church is located at 2000 St. John Rd. in the Hickory Grove area. Rev. Leak is minister.

WALLS MEMORIAL The Progressive Ladies Auxiliary of Walls Memorial AME Zion Church will observe its anniversary on Sunday, March 15.

For this occasion the Auxiliary will feature the Union County Mass Choir in concert. This musical group is under the direction of Rev. Waymon Jordan and has toured the Southeast for the past several years.

Mrs. Frankie White is president of the Progressive Ladies Auxiliary. Mrs. Shirley Thomp-

son is program chairman. Ine church is located at 2722 Bancroft St. Rev. J. Tyrone White is pastor.

See MAYFIELD On Page 8A

"God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them."

Genesis 1:27

'The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the almighty hath given me life."

Dow

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURC The Dow Fellowship is presently meeting at Idlewild

Elementary School, 7101 Idlewild Road, Charlotte, N.C. SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY SERVICE BIBLE STUDY 9:45 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 A.M. John W. Wallace, Pastor WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY &

LEADERSHIP TRAINING 7:30 P.M.

6311 Coach Hill Lane Charlotte, N.C. 28212

REMEMBER: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" James 1:22



Rev. Glover

VISIT LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH

Temporarily Holding Services At: Shamrock Drive Baptist Church 4301 Shamrock Drive

Rev. David E. Glover, Pastor

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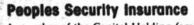
New Life School 1:00 Worship Services 2:15

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