

The Sunday School Lesson

by Bessie Wilbon

INTRODUCTION:

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon was a capable administrator as well as a powerful warrior. As he added country after country to his empire, he brought the brightest young men of each country to be trained in Babylon and to become his advisors. Thus he surrounded himself with men who not only knew were the best minds of his empire, but also knew the thinking and customs and prejudices of the different countries that were included in the empire. With such advisors he could more wisely rule his wide domain.

Daniel was one of the bright young men brought from Judah. Soon he distinguished himself by explaining to the king a dream that had stumped the older wise men of Babylon. Thereupon Nebuchadnezzar made Daniel chief of the wise men and governor of a province. Probably Daniel held that favored position as long as Nebuchadnezzar lived.

The first part of Daniel 7 describes a dream of Daniel. First we look at the climax of the dream in our Bible text this week. Verses 2-8 describe the four beasts. Verses 9-12 tell how God judged them and ended their rule. Then came the ruler whose rule will never end.

THE LESSON:

"During his vision in the night, I saw what looked like a human being. He was approaching me, surrounded by clouds, and he went to the one who had been living forever and was presented to him. (Daniel 7:13)

While I was looking, that horn made war on God's people and conquered them. Then the one who had been living forever, came and pronounced judgment in favor of the people of the Supreme God. The time had arrived for God's people to receive royal power. This is the explanation I was given: "The fourth beast is a fourth empire that will be on the earth and will be different from all other empires. It will crush the whole earth and trample it down. The ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire. Then another king will appear; he will be very different from the earlier ones and will overthrow three kings. He will speak against the Supreme God and oppress God's people. He will try to change their religious laws and festivals, and God's people will be under his power for three and a half years. Then the heavenly court will sit in judgment, take away his power, and destroy him completely. The power and greatness of all the kingdoms on earth will be given to the people of the Supreme God. Their royal power will never end, and all rulers on earth will serve and obey them." (Daniel 7: 21-27)

What Daniel saw was in the night visions, in a dream he had at night when he was sleeping in bed. One who had been living forever, the Son of Man, came into the dream. The Son of man indicates a human being; but readers of the New Testament know it as the name that Jesus often used for himself, and this one like the Son of Man surely is Jesus, the Son of God as well as the Son of man. In the dream He came with the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." In the dream He came to the Ancient of days. That was God, sitting on His throne of judgement. Ancient does not mean that He is weak and frail as many old men are. It means that He is older than all the earthly kingdoms He judges. He is older than days and nights on earth, more ancient than the world itself. He is eternal. As Daniel's vision showed Him on the throne. He was served by a thousand thousands of angels. Perhaps some of them escorted the Son of man and brought him near before God on the throne. The Son of man was given the rule over all the world and forever.

This is the second of three lessons from the book of Daniel. The theme throughout these lessons is "Through Oppression to Victory." The people of God may be oppressed; their victory is certain though we cannot predict the time of that final victory.

Oppression may be good for people. sometimes it is God's chastening. It is designed to make people better, and it actually does make them better if they allow it to.

This lesson has its setting in the time when God's chosen people were oppressed by Babylon. This was allowed because God's people had been ignoring Him and doing wrong. In oppression, some of the people turned again to the Lord. When Persia conquered Babylon, and set God's people free, those who went back to the homeland were devoted to Jehovah.

When people are oppressed, it is natural for them to ask, "How long?" When we are fighting the good fight of faith and the odds against us seem overwhelming, it is natural to ask, "when will it be over?"

Such question's are easier to ask than to answer. In our text and other Scriptures, the assurance of final victory is plain, but the time of that victory is not so easily seen. Oppressions by Babylon was to continue for seventy years. God made that very plain.

Some of us can remember when respected teachers assured us that Jesus would come with final victory at various times. We lose confidence in such self-appointed prophets, but we cling to confidence in the prophets appointed by the Almighty. Victory is sure. We know that. The time of victory is just as sure, but it is known only to God.

We do not know when the battle will be over, but we know when we are to put on the whole armor of God and fight the good fight of faith. The time is now.

We can't lose, if we trust Jesus and do our best. Lord we rejoice in Your plain promises. In return we promise to be faithful to you until the final victory is won. Amen.

Man Must Heed God's Messages

By J.L. Little

All down through the ages God has always had a representative on earth. If you fail to hear God's messenger, and turn him down, you are rejecting God, Himself, and one day in the very near future you'll have to give account for having rejected the truth. The greatest thing in all this universe is to know Christ as your Lord and your Saviour. Folks, Christ is salvation, plus nothing and minus nothing. You are not safe in a church.

The title of our message at this time is; "HIS HOLY NAME." At the mention of the Name of God, all of us should fall on our faces in adoration and worship. I heard a man use the Name of my heavenly Father in vain and I told him I wished he wouldn't use the Name of my heavenly Father like that. The Name of my heavenly Father is holy and sacred. I abhor your use of His Name like that. But my heavenly Father has something to say about those who use His Name in vain; "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Exodus 20:)

I would not be in that man's place for ten million worlds. for God, Himself, has declared that He will not hold that man guiltless. Which means God my heavenly Father will meet that man at the judgment. When you see the wrath of God that is going to be poured out on your rebellious soul for using God's Name in vain, you'll wish ten million worlds that you had not done it. But it will be too late then. All over the world, in all walks of life, from the lowest of society to the highest ranking men in government, you hear men and women blaspheme the Name of God. You count it as a light thing, but my heavenly Father does not count it as a light thing and He will meet you on the other side. The soul who loves God would never trample the holy Name of our heavenly Father in the muck and mire as you see Christless souls doing today. There is very little reverence for the Name of God even among religious folks. Only the enemies of the Lord use His Name in vain. god's people love, praise, and exalt the Name of our heavenly Father above every name. I do. Do you? If you don't then you are not saved. Where do you stand?

I invite you to continue to listen to our late pastor, L.R. Shelton, with THE VOICE OF TRUTH

BROADCAST each Sunday morning at 7:30 over WAGI-FM, 105.3 Mc. and at 10:30 over WGHB-AM, 1250 Kc. You need to hear God's message.

POST OBITUARIES

LONG & SON MORTUARY

Mr. Barney Wayne "Butch" Forney, of 4704 Yorkwood Dr., Greensboro died on Sept. 23, 1989, in Greensboro. Funeral service was held Sept. 28 at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery.

Mr. John Henry Lineberger, of 3136 Stancill Place died Sept. 29, 1989, at his place of residence. Funeral service was held Oct. 2 at St. Paul Presbyterian Church. Burial was in church cemetery.

ALEXANDER FUNERAL HOME

Mr. Samuel Jackson, of 3820 Sally Ln. died at his place of residence. Funeral service was held at Alexander's Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in V.A. National Cemetery, Salisbury.



Thank You Charlotte and our people!

A special thank you to our customers, our supporters, our crews and management during these times of inconvenience.

We appreciate your patronage. Without our dedicated employees, we would not have made it.

Michael Haley
President

Robert T. Blood Jr.
Senior V.P.

Bill Austin
Senior V.P.



IT'S A GOOD TIME FOR THE GREAT TASTE.



United Holy Church Honors Teamer

Continued From Page 3B

Church officials and friends from Charlotte and various cities will join in honoring Dr. Teamer for his loyal service in the Convocation.

GREATER BETHEL

The Lay Organization of Greater Bethel AME Church will celebrate its Annual Day Sunday, Oct. 8. The speaker will be Katie G. Dorsett. The service will begin at 11 a.m.

Mrs. Dorsett is a member of Greater Bethel. She has received her B.S. degree in business from Alcorn State University, her M.S. degree in business education from Indiana University and her Ed. D. in curriculum and instruction. She is a member of NAACP.

The church is located at 205 Grandin Road. The public is invited to attend.

ANTIOCH

The Antioch Baptist Church will observe their 103rd church anniversary and begin homecoming services Sunday, Oct. 8 at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Thomas Clifton of Flat Rock Baptist Church of Clover, S. C. will be the guest speaker.

The annual fall revival will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9 through Friday, Oct. 13. Dr. Clifford A. Jones, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, will be the guest evangelist.

The church is located at 232 Skyland Ave. Rev. Pres Preston Pendergrass is pastor. The public is invited to attend.

SIMPSON-GILLESPIE

Simpson-Gillespie United Methodist Church will hold their second annual barbecue Saturday, Oct. 28 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The church is located at 3545 Beatties Ford Road. For more information call 399-2717.

CHAPPELL MEMORIAL

The theme for Chappell Memorial Baptist Church on Sunday, Oct. 8 will be "Lean On Me." Sunday School begins at 9:45 and morning worship will begin at 11 a.m.

The church is located at 412 S. Hoskins Road. The pastor is Rev. Norman E. Kerry, Jr. The public is invited to attend.

BURGLARS HATE OUR DOORS

... He'll give up before our door will! Because, he needs time and our doors don't give burglars time.

OUR SUPERIOR HAND-CRAFTED FEATURES:

- 2-inch Steel Frames ■ Pre-Hung weather stripped Door Jamb ■ Steel Security Flange ■ Tempered Safety Glass ■ Double-Seal, adjustable Sweep ■ Welded Pickets and Aluminum Castings ■ Heavy-duty, 7-inch Hinges ■ Shock-absorber Wind Chain.



PATIO GATE

WINDOW GUARD

Ornamental Iron, Security/Storm Doors. Over 80 designs to PROTECT and INSULATE

No Down Payment . . . 100% financing available

We fabricate matching:

- Door-Side Panels
- Window Guards
- Patio Security Gate
- Railing and Fence

FREE AT HOME ESTIMATES NO OBLIGATION

SECURITY METAL CRAFTERS

7810 TYNER STREET
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28213
(704) 597-7264

FREE DENTURE CUSHIONS!

Problem dentures? Now you can get the comfort, hold and fit you always wanted from your dentures. Just call for your free sample of Ezo Cushions.

Ezo Cushions hold dentures that powders and pastes can't help.

Until you can visit your dentist, get relief with Ezo. The best-selling brand since 1969. Rated excellent in consumer tests. Special Limited Offer! Act Now While Supply Lasts.

CALL 1-800-524-1120



Available Double-Cylinder Dead Bolts