

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

CHRISTMAS LESSON: THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN.

Golden Text.—And when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts, gold and frankincense, and myrrh. Matt. 2: 11.

Lesson Text.—Mat. 2: 1-12.

(1) Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the King, behold there came wise men from the east (came) to Jerusalem, (2) Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen (saw) his star in the east, and are come to worship him. (3) When (and) Herod the king had heard these things (it), he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. (4) And when he had gathered (gathered) together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he demanded (inquired) of them where (the) Christ should be born. (5) And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea; for thus it is written by the prophet. (6) And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for (Judah) out of thee shall come (forth) a Governor, that (Which) shall rule (the) shepherd of my people Israel. (7) Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired (and learned) of them diligently (carefully) what time the star appeared. (8) And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; concerning the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word, again, that I (also) may come and worship him also. (9) When (and) they, had (having) heard the king, they departed (went) their way; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. (10) When (and) when they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. (11) And when they were come (came) into the house, they (and) saw the young child with Mary his mother, and (they) fell down, and worshipped Him; and when they had opened (opened) their treasures, they presented (offered) unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (12) And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

The tidings that came to Herod that the King of the east had brought him joy but in reality they troubled him, for he wanted to be king himself. So many a heart today that ought to welcome Christ as King with joy is troubled at the declaration that Christ is King, for we wish to be king ourselves. But not only Herod was troubled, but all Jerusalem, as well, Jerusalem the city of the great King, whose whole glory was to center in Him, was unwilling to receive Him when He came; was troubled about His coming instead of rejoicing at it (No. 1:11). How many in the Church would be troubled if they knew Jesus was coming tomorrow. Herod thought the proper place to go for information about the Christ was to the chief priests and all the scribes; he inquired diligently of the wise men; he told them to "go and search diligently." He laid his plans with great skill; he had left no loophole in his schemes, but he had left God out of his calculations, so in spite of his thoroughness, they all came to nothing. The scribes were well-instructed from the Scriptures and perfectly orthodox. They knew just where the Christ should be born, but they had no interest in His coming. There is much of that sort of Scripture knowledge and orthodoxy still. It did not scribe no good. Christ must be born in Bethlehem for thus it was written by the prophets, and whatever is written in God's Word must come to pass.

III. The Wise Men Finding Jesus, 9:12.

As soon as the wise men had received the desired information, they started immediately to find the King whom they sought. Again God leads them by the star, and leads them to the very spot where the young child was. They were more accustomed to being led by stars than any other way, and God adapts His leading to our necessity. While Herod and Jerusalem had been troubled at the thought that Christ was come, the wise men of the east rejoiced with exceeding great joy to find Him. Those who enjoy the largest privileges, often-times least appreciate them, and those who have the least light are not eager for more (cf. Mat. 8:16, 11). There is an eagerness to hear about Christ today in heathen lands that is sometimes lacking in so-called Christian lands. There is no greater joy to the true heart than that of finding Jesus. When they entered the house they fell down and worshipped Jesus. They gave gifts. His mother but they did not worship her. Worship may not have meant to them all that it means to us, but it is right to worship Jesus (Heb. 1:6). When they had worshipped Jesus they gave gifts. His mother and gifts. That is the true order; first, worship, then giving. They gave Him their very best, gold and frankincense and myrrh (cf. Ps. 72:10, 11). They were wise men indeed. They gave gifts to Him only their poorest. Note carefully the conduct of the wise men: 1. They sought Jesus. 2. They found Jesus. 3. They rejoiced over Jesus. 4. They worshipped Jesus. 5. They gave gifts to Jesus. God now guides them by still another method, a dream.

END.

MUSTARD GAS KILLS VENOMOUS REPTILES

New York, Dec. 24.—Second Corps headquarters at Governor's Island today received from Huzum, Washn., details of an experiment conducted by the Department of Agriculture to rid the State of venomous reptiles by means of mustard gas. The gas was forced into a bed of lava rock which previously had proved an impregnable fortress for rattlers. Soon there appeared snakes ranging from infants a few inches long to bull rattlers, nine feet in length. Dazed and blinded, they easily were clubbed to death.

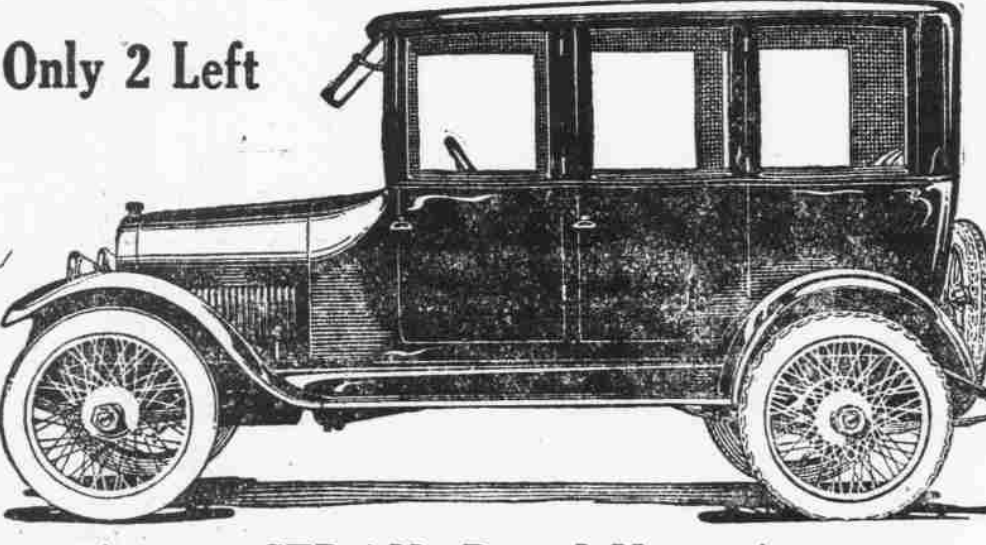
MAYSON RECALLS NEGRO'S SUICIDE

Desk Sergeant Says Only 2 Such Events Have Happened During His Stay.

Probably the most deliberate suicide on record around Charlotte took place in the city jail a number of years ago, according to J. C. Mayson, desk-sergeant, who recalls to mind a singular case where a negro took his life because of the mere fact that he had been placed in the city jail. "When I first came to Charlotte some years ago," began Mr. Mayson, "a negro was arrested for stealing some trifling object and placed in jail. "If you don't let me out I'm going to commit suicide," he calmly told the officers. "Thinking it nothing more than a joke, Officer Paxton told him to suit himself about the matter and if he didn't have the necessary implements he could secure them for him. With that he left the negro with a laugh, for everybody knows that suicide is something a negro never resorts to. "But Mr. Paxton decided he had better make sure about the threat, so he suddenly returned to the cell. To his horror he beheld the negro hanging to the top of the cell by his neck. He had used his belt for a noose. Mr. Paxton called for help and the negro was quickly cut down. In a few minutes he had been revived. "He was let out of jail in a few days, but he swore that if he was arrested again he would certainly kill himself that time. And sure enough, in a year or so the same negro was arrested for another crime. We had all forgotten the incident at the time and placed him in the cell as is customary. "In a few hours his friends came down to bail him out. They paid his bond and we went back to open the cell door. To our amazement we saw the negro dangling by his belt for the second time. We cut him down at once, but this time he had made sure of his job and was as dead as a door knob. It is about the only case I ever knew where a negro committed suicide. "Shortly after this, according to Mr. Mayson, a white man took his life in the same jail. These two suicides are the only two on record during Mr. Mayson's connections with the police department.

UNION NATIONAL BANK

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 12, 1921. The Directors of this Bank have declared a dividend of 6 per cent payable December 31, 1921, out of the profits of the past six months. Checks will be mailed. D. P. TILLET, Cashier.



Only 2 Left \$2,000 SEDAN, Brand New, \$1,000 We have only two of these Brand New Sedans left which will be sold this week at just ONE-HALF PRICE. If you contemplate buying your family a closed car for Christmas, here's your chance to save \$1,000. SMALL CASH PAYMENT—BALANCE EASY TERMS. BOOTH NEWTON MOTOR CO. Distributors Maxwell and Chalmers CHARLOTTE, N. C. Phone 3554.

The Art Of Savings Saving is not a Science; it is an Art. A science is something that can be taught from a book, an Art is something you can learn through practice. There is only one way to master this Art. Begin to Save, and keep it up. Open a Savings Account in this Bank. Security Savings Bank 4 South Tryon Street. Charlotte, N. C.

NOTICE We hereby notify all parties who rent from us to turn off the water and open the spigots to keep pipes from freezing as the landlords do not feel under obligations to repair burst pipes. This attention on your part will save you trouble. Home Real Estate and Guaranty Company J. ARTHUR HENDERSON, President. REALTORS Phone 589. 219 North Tryon St.

Talk About Savings! Men, it makes sensible boys and girls laugh to read the papers and see the mad scramble for their weekly surplus by some money-lending institutions! What do they offer for it? What do they lend it at? Does it earn and do you get there 6-14 per cent net, clean, and taxes actually paid for every cent of it? That's exactly what the Mutual Building & Loan Association does, if your money is left till the shares mature. No other system does it anywhere. WHY SALLIE, IT'S ABSURD! Talk about others attempting to compete with the Mutual as a place for your savings! Do they think people will remain idiots and fools? Verily it looks that way. WHAT OF THE SUCKERS that buy Blue Bird Oil Shares? There's some in Charlotte, but they belong in Morganton. At 10:45 last night I got a special delivery from "Faithfully and Sincerely, Henry H. Hoffman, President." No, the snakes and monkeys haven't got me yet. A LITTLE WHILE AGO a friend withdrew a thousand from us and bought rubber stock. It went into air. Another, and many withdrew good money and bought Cotton Mill stocks at 2, 3 and 4 hundred and today, Alack! Alack! there's no Santa Claus for little Nell. The wise, the provident, the happy are those who stick by the old ship, the Mutual B. & L. Theirs the broad smile, the glad hand, and it's always thus. Mutual Building & Loan Association JNO. R. PHARR, Pres. E. L. KEESLER, Sec. & Treas.

FOR RENT Five room apartment on North Myers street, \$55 per month. Southern Real Estate, Loan & Trust Company 1 SOUTH TRYON STREET. PHONE 28

OUR ONE BIG IDEA—RELIABILITY Our attention and effort primarily is concentrated on filling orders for medicines, and every prescription is compounded by a registered pharmacist with the best drugs on the market. Walker's carelessness is a warranty of accuracy and of dependable compounds. Walker's Service means prompt filling and delivery of orders, whether large or small. Walker's Drug Store Corner Seventh and Tryon Streets NORRIS CANDY PARKER PENS AGENTS FOR KILM

START THE BALL ROLLING—join our CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB You May Join One or More of the Following Classes CLASS 5—First week 5c, second week 10c, increase each weekly payment 5c and receive in 50 weeks \$63.75 CLASS 5-A—First week \$2.50, second week \$2.45, increase each weekly payment 5c and receive in 50 weeks \$63.75 CLASS 25—Pay 25c straight each week for 50 weeks and receive \$12.50 CLASS 50—Pay 50c straight each week for 50 weeks and receive \$25.00 CLASS 100—Pay \$1.00 straight each week for 50 weeks and receive \$50.00 CLASS 200—Pay \$2.00 straight each week for 50 weeks and receive \$100.00 CLASS 500—Pay \$5.00 straight each week for 50 weeks and receive \$250.00 Plus 4 Per Cent Interest for Prompt Payment. Independence Trust Co. CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Studebaker Service Our Foreman and Mechanics have had years of experience and special training at the factory on Studebaker cars; they are capable and efficient. No, therefore, save you time and money on repairs. A Big Dollar's worth for your dollar every day. A. E. Cameron, Service Manager; C. L. Taylor, Shop Foreman. RUST MOTOR COMPANY 514-516 S. Tryon. Distributor "THIS IS A STUDEBAKER YEAR" Phones 218-219

Foreman - King Motor Company The Home of Good Used Cars. Dr. H. C. Henderson. Dr. R. B. Gaddy HENDERSON & GADDY DENTISTS Office Hunt Bldg. 202 1/2 N. Tryon St. Phone 218

WHY Deny yourself the comfort and peace of mind which comes from financial independence, and is so easy to attain? There is only one sure way—systematic saving. The smaller your salary, the greater your need to save. Fix upon a definite part of your earnings to be saved—say 10 per cent—then deposit it every day in a Savings Account with American Trust Co. Member Federal Reserve System CHARLOTTE, N. C. Capital, Surplus and Profits, \$1,800,000.00 Resources \$10,000,000.00 W. H. WOOD, President T. F. Hemby, Vice Pres. George Stephens, Vice Pres. W. S. Lee, Vice Pres. John G. Nichols, Vice Pres. J. E. Davis, Sec. and Treas. H. L. Davenport, Asst. Sec. & Treas. R. D. Hawkins, Asst. Sec. and Treas. P. C. Whitlock, Trust Officer. John Fox, Asst. Trust Officer. Walter Lambeth & Bro., Mgr. Insurance Department

Revenue Act Of 1921 We have for distribution to our customers and friends copies of the above Act. We shall be pleased to have you call or write for one of these interesting booklets. The Merchants and Farmers National Bank 5 WEST TRADE STREET. CHARLOTTE, N. C. CAPITAL, SURPLUS & PROFITS \$600,000.00

Specials In Real Estate WE HAVE FOR QUICK SALE 1 house, North Caldwell street 1 Plaza Lot for Cash 1 70-foot lot, Piedmont 1 Myers Park corner 1 Myers Park 1-2 acre lot 1 Colonial Heights lot, 60x250 1 Vail Avenue bungalow 2 South Tryon Street lots at 4 West Park Avenue lots at 2 Mint Street lots at 1 North Charlotte Lot on car line 1 Wilmore Drive lots at 3 7-10-acre lots, Mecklenburg Heights. F. C. Abbott & Company PHONES 238-3022