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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 27

THE SEVEN HELPERS.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 6.
GOLDEN TEXT—Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.—Gal. 6:2.

It would be a source of great blessing if every teacher and scholar would read through the book of Acts several times during the year. Such reading will give vision, inspiration and a more comprehensive idea of the continuation of what Jesus "began" and which record is not yet fully written. The time of this lesson is about A. D. 35, though Ramsey places it at 33, 33; and the place, the city of Jerusalem.

I. The Occasion, vv. 1-2. For a time the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus continued in Jerusalem, but soon the pressure of circumstances thrust it forth as prophesied (1:8). There were two groups of men in the early church: those who had been born in Judea who spoke Hebrew (Aramaic), and those born in foreign cities and who spoke the Greek language. Trouble arose over the distribution of funds among certain of the dependent widows—the text suggests "secret displeasure." There was imperfection, selfishness, suspicion and jealousy in that early church.

II. The Method, vv. 3, 4. It does not appear that God gave the church a cut and dried program according to which it must act. Certainly the church had no precedent to follow, and step by step God was developing it. This lesson gives us a suggestion of those steps: (1) As the occasion demanded, (2) The Apostles refused to diminish their praying and preaching, literally it was "not pleasing" to God for the Apostles to "serve tables." Such work must be done, certainly, but it was not to be done by these God-appointed and selected leaders, their duty was clearly stated. The minister's business is praying and ministering the word. These things should fully engage his attention, and in them he is "to continue steadfastly." The minister cannot manifestly "know more about books than the schoolteacher; more about politics than the politician; more about medicine than the doctor; more about psychology than the college professor." No, that is out of the question, though he should be intelligent in these lines. But he should be preeminent in prayer and in the ministry of the word, and furthermore he should preach that word pre-eminently. (3) The church, not the apostles, must needs select these new officials. (4) The qualifications of these men, who were thus to care for these temporal affairs, were (a) "men of good report," not those bearing doubtful reputations, nor chosen because they were rich or shrewd in business. (b) "full of the spirit." It demands the Spirit-filled man to look after financial affairs as certainly as it does to teach or preach the word. (c) "full of wisdom." Men of common sense, a quality often sadly lacking among spiritually-minded men. Men meeting these qualifications will be men of "the spirit of power, of love, and of a sound mind" (literally sound sense). (II Tim. 1:7).

III. The Method of Choosing, vv. 5, 6. (1) The people did the choosing. The early church seems to have been remarkably democratic. (2) The choice was made after, and not before, prayer had been offered. This is a suggestion and a warning for present-day practice of choosing church officials. (3) It was a legal selection, not the selection of a minority, and it was confirmed by the laying on of the hands of the apostles.

IV. The Result, vv. 7, 8. First of all upon the people. (1) The word "increased."(2) The number of disciples "multiplied greatly," and (3) Some of the priests of the Jews were "obedient to the faith." Secondly, the result in the lives of the thus chosen and Spirit-anointed men gave evidence of the good hand of God. They were "full of grace" (Eph. 4:9, Acts 15:15); they were "full of power" (1:8). The first two of them soon became great and mighty preachers as well. Indeed as far as we can read they even outstripped the apostles themselves in real achievement for God. Stephen, of course, stands out pre-eminently. His character is suggested in verse eight. He was (a) "full of faith," (b) "full of the Holy Spirit," (c) "full of grace" (R. V.), (d) "full of power." How sad it is that so frequently our churches fail to make a wise and spirit-led choice of its leaders, and are content with few, or perhaps none, being added to its membership.

No man is fit to be an officer in the church of Christ unless he is filled with the Holy Spirit, (Acts 1:8, Luke 24:49).

Such a man will always stir up opposition of the powers of evil, even as did Stephen.

Those who opposed Stephen were moral and religious men (v. 9). Frequently the opposition a Spirit-filled man encounters is not from the immoral, the worldly, or the utterly ungodly; but those who stand out against him, and reason against him (v. 10), and often seek to kill him, are moral and religious men.

LOCAL NEWS of interest to ALL OF OUR READERS.

Our old friend, Lucky Freeze, having grown tried sitting in the dark has had his den fitted with electric lights. He can now read the almanac with much more pleasure these long evenings.

Thomas Kitchie says the weather is hindering progress on his new barn.

The ground hog will now proceed to give us what is coming to us. Look out for some weather.

R P. Stirewalt, the acrobat, barber, chef, etc., has opened a barber shop at Kannapolis, where his many friends hope he will command a good business.

The continual rain and gloomy condition of the atmosphere was not favorable for gathering news or much of anything else The editor made his usual rounds and was met almost at every point with the statement that there was nothing worth reporting, yet there was a squad around most every stove swapping yarns, and it might be said that few of them would do to print.

A good milch cow belonging to Mrs T A Albright died last week

Aunt Mamie Bingham has been quite ill for several days with an attack of la grippe.

The stork left a young boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Beasley Wallace Tuesday night

During the past two weeks workman have been busy removing the wires and taking down the old poles used by the Bell telephone system. We understand all the Bell operators will be removed and the service consolidated with the Concord system operating here.

Rev C A Brown has been gardening this week. He says, "the ground was in fine condition to work."

Mrs A Van Pelt went down to Charlotte yesterday to be with her husband who is there doing some work on a big flour mill.

Miss Lela C Brown returned to Bolton Monday night leaving on No. 43, to begin school work again after a suspension of the school for about three weeks on account of an epidemic of the mumps in the school,

Constipation.

When costive or troubled with constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are easy to take and most agreeable in effect. Obtainable everywhere.

Card of Thanks

I take this method of thanking the many good people who so kindly helped to save my property from the flames last Sunday morning.

Respectfully,
W. J. SWINK.

Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey.

For your cold, for your cough, for your feverish throat, nose and head, use Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar Honey. Honey soothes the irritation, Pine Tar cuts the phlegm, thus relieving congestion. Pine Tar also acts as an antiseptic, as a result general relief follows. Breathing becomes easier and further inflammation is arrested. Insist on Dr. Bell's Pine Tar-Honey. It is an ideal treatment. Price 25c.

Dwelling Destroyed By Fire

Last Sunday morning, between eleven and twelve o'clock, just after services had begun in the various churches of the town, an alarm of fire was made and the worshippers rushed forth to learn that a frame dwelling situated about a block from Main Street on Park Avenue, the property of W J Swink, was in flames. The building was occupied by Hubert Winford and family, Negroes, most of whom were at church, but all hastened to the scene of the conflagration and by quick work saved practically all of the furniture and household effects. Owing to the lack of fire fighting apparatus the building was a total loss, but the adjoining buildings were saved with the assistance of hose loaned by the Patterson Manufacturing Company. The destroyed building was probably worth $1500 and was fully covered by insurance. The origin of the fire seems to have been the result of a defective flue.

Do You Find Fault with Everybody?

An irritable fault-finding disposition is often due to a disordered stomach. A man with good digestion is nearly always good natured. A great many have been permanently benefited by Chamberlain's Tablets after years of suffering. These tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. Obtainable everywhere

Lantz Corriher's 71st Birthday.

Tuesday, the 22nd of February, being the 71st anniversary of the birth of Lantz Corriher, who lives near Enochville, a number of his war comrades, neighbors, relatives and friends spent the day with him and his family at the Corriher homestead

A sumptuous dinner was enjoyed by all present. The day was delightfully spent in social intercourse, telling war stories and experiences and living again the days that are past and gone, also in singing some of the war songs.

The following comrades were present; M. A. Emerson Concord, R. D., Caleb Goodnight Kannapolis, Lee Shullenberger and Joel Corriher Landis, J. M. Eddleman China Grove.

May we all so live that we shall meet again in the shade of the trees on the other side.

Among others present were the following: Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Keller, Mrs. J. L. Sechler; Mrs. Emerson of Gandersburg; Mrs Reed, Mrs. George Goodman and others.

Lutheran Chapel Church to be Renovated

The council of Lutheran Chapel have taken definite action looking to the complete renovation and beautifying of the old mother church this spring. A special committee consisting of Messrs. J. M. Blackwelder, J. A. Blackwelder and W A. K. Sloop was appointed to take the matter in charge and decide what shall be done.

Silver Tea by Methodist Ladies

The ladies of the China Grove Methodist Church will give a Silver Tea at the Hotel on Saturday night, February 26th, beginning at 7 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to come. A musical program will be rendered. Admission 10 cents.

Get it at Sifferds'.

Kaiser Directs Battle in France

Germans And French Engaged In One of Greatest Battles of War.

Feb 24 —Inspired by the presence of their Emperor and led by Crown Prince Fredrick William, the German troops are engaged in one of the greatest battles of the war on the western front centering around the fortress of Verdun. Attack has followed attack against the French line after bombardments, incessant and terrific, continuing for several days.

While the Germans have been unable, despite the rain of shells and ferocious onslaughts by the infantry, to break the French line, nevertheless the French on their right and left wings have been compelled to withdraw their lines, respectively to the south of Ornes and behind the town of Samogneux, six miles north of the fortress.

Only between Malancourt and the left bank of the Meuse has there been any diminution in the intensity of the artillery fire. With Brabant, Haumont and Samogneux and the wooded sections north and northeast of Beaumont, in their possession the Germans from the Meuse eastward to Fromezey are forcing the fighting, seemingly regardless of the cost of life.

The French guns have answered the German guns shell for shell and the casualties on both sides are very great. The French official report describes the battlefield between the Meuse and Ornes as piled with German dead.

In Champagne at several points, and in the Argonne Forest German works have been pounded by the concentrated fire of the French guns, while in Lorraine the French repulsed a German reconnoitering party that attempted by capture a French post north of St. Martin.

On their end of the line near Hulluch, the British exploded a mine and occupied the crater and also bombarded German trenches near Frelinghein and Bossinge.

On the Russian front from the Riga region to East Galicia, there have been engagements at various points, but no great results have been attained by either side. In the Caucasus, Petrograd reports that the Russians continue successfully to press back the Turks. The usual activities by the Austrians and Italians on the Austro-Italian front continue.

A French air squadron has dropped a large number of bombs on the outskirts of Metz, a big fire being observed after the attack.

Official announcement has been made in the Japanese Diet by the Minister of Foreign Affairs that Japan does not intend to send troops to the aid of Russians

For Children's Cough Remedy.

You cannot use anything better for your child's cough and cold than Dr. King's New Discovery. It is prepared from Pine Tar mixed with healing and soothing balsams It does not contain anything harmful and is slightly laxative, just enough to expel the poisons from the system. Dr King's New Discovery is antiseptic, kills the cold germs, raises the phlegm, loosens the cough and soothes the irritation. Don't put off treatment, Coughs and colds often lead to serious lung troubles. It is also good for adults and the aged Get a bottle today. All druggists.

The China Grove Garage

The garage to be built by J L Bostian and sons, on Main Street, is to be complete on or about the 1st of April. It will be a frame building 30x54 feet with a double floor. it will be occupied as a branch garage by the Rouzer Garage Company of Salisbury, which will carry a line of automobiles, parts, fixtures, oils, etc, and a repair department in charge of competent workmen will be conducted in connection therewith. See advertisement in this paper.

The Thursday Afternoon Club

The club was entertained by Mrs. A. M. Hanna at her home on Main Street last Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Albert Miller met the guests in the hall and directed them to the cloak room. The handsome spacious home was beautifully decorated for the occasion, quantities of early spring flowers, artistically mingled with evergreens, producing the effect of a lovely spring garden.

After a short while of merry conversation and fancy work the hostess gave each guest contest cards in the shape of a hatchet entitled "Parts of Washington's body." Mesdames E E. Gray, B. S. Shuford and J. H. Keller proved the most successful contestants. In cutting for the prize it fell to Mrs E E. Gray, a miniature hatchet.

At five o'clock the guests were invited to the dining room where the George Washington idea was carried out in full. The candliers were festooned with flags and beneath was lovely arranged a representation of Washington crossing the Delaware.

The refreshments consisted of frozen cream in the shape of Washington and small cakes hatchet shape, and Martha Washington cakes National airs appropriate for the occasion were sung.

The invited guests, besides the club members, were Mesdames I. F Patterson, Allen, C. G. Voss, C. E. Miller, Albert Miller; Mrs. Van Horn, Mrs. R. O. Harvill of Thomasville.

The club adjourned to meet in two weeks with Mrs. R. D. Jenkins.

THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER.

DEO, OPT. MAX.

Father of all! in every age,
In every clime adored,
By saint, by savage and by sage,
Jehovah, Jove, or Lord!

Thou Great First Cause, least understood
Who all my sense confined
To know but this, that thou art good,
And that myself am blind;

Yet gave me, in this dark estate,
To see the good from ill;
And binding Nature fast in Fate,
Left free the human will.

What conscience dictates to be done,
Or warns me not to do,
This, teach me more than hell to shun,
That, more than heav'n pursue.

What blessings Thy free bounty gives,
Let me not cast away;
For God is paid when man receives;
To enjoy is to obey.

Yet not to earth's contracted span
Thy goodness led me bound,
Or think Thee Lord alone of man,
When thousand worlds are round.

Let not this weak unknowing hand
Presume thy bolts to throw,
And deal damnation round the land,
On each I judge Thy foe.

If I am right, Thy grace impart,
Still in the right to stay;
If I am wrong, oh, teach my heart
To find that better way.

Save me alike from foolish pride,
Or impious discontent,
At aught Thy wisdom has denied,
Or aught Thy goodness lent.

Teach me to feel another's woe,
To hide the fault I see;
That mercy I to others show,
That mercy show to me.

Mean though I am, not wholly so,
Since quickened by Thy breath;
Oh, lead me wheresoe'er I go,
Through this day's life or death.

This day, be bread and peace my lot,
All else beneath the sun,
Thou know'st if best bestowed or not,
And let Thy will be done.

To Thee, whose temple is all space,
Whose altar, earth, sea, skies,
One chorus let all being raise;
All nature's incense rise!

—Pope.

SALISBURY AND ROWAN COUNTY LOCALS

The first arrest in the county since last Friday was made on Tuesday when an Asheville man was arrested here on a charge of drunkenness.

W. A. Daniel of this city, one of the State organizers for the P. O. S. of A., instituted two new camps this week, one on Tuesday in East Durham and one on Monday in Durham, and assisted in instituting one at Bostian school Wednesday night.

Mrs. E. H. Brown of East Spencer, sustained a fracture of one of her ribs and other injuries when a horse which she was unhitching started off, pulling a buggy over her body.

Lady Gladys, the fast mare owned by R. J. Holmes of Salisbury, won the free-for-all race at Tampa, Fla., on Wednesday.

A meeting of citizens was held on Tuesday night in the old Court House for the purpose of discussing the proposed free bridge over the Yadkin River to connect Rowan and Davidson Counties, and the proposed road to Albemarle and Badin. Committees were appointed to push the matter.

Miss Weston Cappe has resigned her position in the local business office of the Bell Telephone Company and has accepted a position as assistant manager of the Western Union Telegraph office in Greensboro.

There were no important cases in Rowan Superior Court during the past few days.

The Mothers and Daughters supper to be given here on the evening of March 10th will be featured by an address by Rev. Thomas W. Lingle of Davidson College.

The degree team of Uniform Rank, Woodmen of the World, of East Spencer, will execute the degree work in the institution of a lodge of Woodmen at Lexington on March 18th.

A PSALM OF LIFE.

WHAT THE HEART OF THE YOUNG MAN SAID TO THE PSALMIST.

TELL me not in mournful numbers,
"Life is but an empty dream!"
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
"Dust thou art, to dust returnest,"
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each tomorrow
Finds us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting.
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!
Let the dead Past bury its dead!
Act,—act in the living Present!
Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

—Longfellow.

Get it at Sifferd's.

Miss Stella Adams Celebrates Her Birthday

One of the most entertaining parties of the season was given by Miss Stella Adams at her home in Landis on Friday night, February 18th, to a number of her friends in honor of her seventeenth birthday.

The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion with potted plants. The colors being pink and green. The guests were met at the door by the pretty little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sechler of Landis, and made welcome.

About 10 o'clock all were invited to the dining room by Miss Ruth Linn.

A large crowd was present among them couples from China Grove.

After ten games were played refreshments were served in the parlor by Misses Ruth Linn and Valrie Sechler. Many nice presents were received from all.

Miss Adams has indeed proven herself a very pleasing hostess by this and all her pleasant ways.

We hope Miss Adams many happy returns of the day.

A GUEST.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling or imperfect hearing and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Rev Brown Again Pounded

Note was made in THE ROWAN RECORD last Friday of the pounding given Rev. C. A. Brown by his Center Grove congregation on Thursday, February 17th, 1916. On the following day, February 18th, over a hundred of the members and friends of Lutheran Chapel congregation repeated the pounding with increased severity. Pastor Brown and family had not recovered from the effects of the pounding on the previous day, but, since they had began, said he, that he was prepared for almost anything.

A most sumptuous dinner was served in the yard in the pleasant sunshine. A kind heavenly Father was smiling upon us. The blessing was then invoked by pastor Brown upon those present and the families represented. Every one ate to their entire satisfaction and yet much remained.

The pounding was of the old fashioned kind in the most liberal quantities, provisions for man and beast, that will be a constant reminder for many days to come of the good will and liberality of these good people.

For their good will and material help, Pastor Brown and family are truly grateful, and implore God's richest blessings upon all who so kindly remembered them, both in things temporal and things spiritual.

Many People Don't Know.

A sluggish liver can cause a person an awful lot of misery. Spells of dizziness, headaches, constipation and biliousness are sure signs that your liver needs help. Take Dr. King's New Life Pills and see how they help tone up the whole system. Fine for the stomach too. Aids digestion. Purifies the blood and clears the complexion. Only 25c. at your druggist.