

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lesson III.—First Quarter, For Jan. 19, 1913.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Gen. iii.—Memory Verses, 17-19—Golden Text, John viii, 34—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

In chapters I and II we have seen the only absolutely perfect man and woman that ever walked this earth, in a perfect paradise without sin. God Himself their companion and friend and they having dominion over all things.

There is no such glorious reality mentioned as existing on earth again till we come to the record of the new earth in Rev. xxi, but a great and unceasing conflict between God and His and our great adversary, the devil, to whom we are introduced in today's lesson. It is interesting to note that we have the beginning of his record in Gen. iii and the end hereof in Rev. xx, the third chapter from the end of the Bible.

In this lesson we have the first mention of the devil, of unbelief, of sin, of suffering, and also of a deliverer, a redemption and a great restoration. An understanding of this chapter helps greatly to understand the whole Bible.

This great adversary is described in Rev. xii, 9; xx, 2, as the great dragon, that old serpent, called the devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world. He is also called the god of this world, the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience (I Cor. iv, 4; Eph. ii, 2). The whole world is said to be under his control (I John v, 19). The Lord Jesus said of him, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me" (John xiv, 30). In this his first appearance after Adam was given the dominion over the earth he used the serpent, which was then evidently the wisest and probably most beautiful of all creatures beneath man, afterward condemned because of this partnership to go prone on the earth (verse 14).

Notice in verses 1-5 that in the devil's first recorded utterance, "Yea, hath God said?" he questions the word of God, and in the words following questions the love of God. In verse 6 he makes God a liar (compare 2:17) and in verse 5 sets before Eve an ambition to be as God. Those who in any way talk or act thus show at once in whose employ they are. To all such, however they may pose as servants of Christ, unless they truly repent, our Lord tells them that He will say to them, "I never knew you; depart from Me" (Matt. vii, 23, 23). Verse 6 reminds us of I John, 2:16, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life, all of which are of the world and not of God. With all that they needed, all fullness from the hand of God, Adam and Eve fell. But with hunger and loneliness, under the same temptations, the last Adam resisted the devil and overcame him.

By the same sword of the Spirit we may overcome (Eph. vi, 16, 17). See some of the results of sin—fear, trying to hide from God, the man blaming God for the gift of the woman, the leaf aprons a substitute for garments of light and glory, insecurity as the minding of the flesh is death (Rom. viii, 6 margin), they died that day, as God had said they would. This is the first "afraid" in the Bible and the first attempt to hide from God. Contrast all the "fear notes" and the life hid with Christ in God. Note the first question of God, "Where art thou?" (verse 9) and see the Good Shepherd seeking His lost sheep.

When all is confessed then God begins to speak and act on their behalf and to reveal His eternal purpose. There is a curse upon the serpent and upon the ground and sorrow predicted for the woman and the man (14-16). The Old Testament as we have it ends with the word "curse," but in the last chapter of the New Testament we read, "There shall be no more curse" (Rev. xxii, 3), and the reason why is given in Gal. iii, 13—Christ under a curse for us. The thorns of verse 18 take us also to Golgotha, or rather, to Jesus before Pilate and then to Rom. viii, 20-23, where we see Him who wore the crown of thorns redeeming the earth. Lesson verse 15 shows the great Deliverer as the seed of the woman, born of a virgin, suffering at the hands of the adversary, but finally conquering him. Here is also the salvation of Eve, for enmity between the sinner and the devil is an evidence of salvation. It is the work of God. "I will put."

The method of salvation is fully set forth in verse 21, where we see the Lord God shedding blood, probably of lambs, and by skins thus obtained providing redemption clothing for Adam and Eve instead of the leaf aprons of their own making. The guilty pair can do nothing but drop their own efforts and accept God's provision, in which was simply and clearly set forth the shedding of the blood of the lamb of God on Golgotha in due time.

When we receive His righteousness instead of our own then we may sing "He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation. He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness" (Isa. lxi, 10). The resurrection and future glory of the redeemed may be seen in verse 24 and are fully set forth in a booklet on "The Tree of Life and the Cherubim," which may be obtained at 5 cents each or 50 cents a dozen by addressing D. M. S., box 216, Harrisburg, Pa. I have been praising God for over thirty years for the blessing obtained through those articles.

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Administrator's Notice.
Having qualified as administrator of the estate of **A. S. Green**, deceased, late of Catawba county, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased, to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of December, 1913, or this notice will be placed in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.
This 12th day of December, 1912.
JOSEPHUS H. BOLCH,
12-19-7t. Administrator.

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Notice
To All Whom It May Concern: Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the General Assembly of North Carolina, Session 1913 for the repeal of the existing charter of the City of Hickory, with all amendments thereto, and for the enactment of a new charter in lieu thereof.

Friends of the proposed legislation desire suggestions, criticisms, and cooperation, on the part of the citizens of Hickory. Inquiries may be made at the office of the Chamber of Commerce, to which office, communications, also, may be addressed.

NEW CHARTER COMMITTEE
December 18th, 1912. 12-19-5t
Charity in Compromise.
The best methods of compromise are always the simplest, and the simplest are founded on grounds of mutual charity.

Senators **Hoke Smith** and **Gore** are fighting to abolish the rule of seniority by which Senators of longest service get the committee chairmanships after a change of administration. Mr. Wilson says he will keep his hands off of this fight. The Greensboro News' Washington correspondent says this will prevent Mr. Simmons from becoming chairman of the finance committee, as only two Senators are against him.

Col. **Roosevelt** declares he is opposed to **Frank Munsey's** proposition to get the P. O. R. S. and old Republican parties.

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SOUTHBOUND			Eastern Standard Time			NORTHBOUND		
No. 5	No. 3	Miles	STATIONS	Elevation in ft. above Sea Level	No. 2	No. 4	Daily	Daily
Mixed Daily	Pass. Daily				Pass. Daily	Pass. Daily		
P. M. A. M.	L. V.	Dante, Va.	Ar.	1760	P. M. P. M.	12.45	10.15	
1.10	8.00	0.0	St. Paul, Va.	Ar.	1484	12.17	9.46	
1.35	8.25	7.5	Dunannon, Va.	Ar.	1305	11.40	9.11	
2.21	8.51	21.9	Blackmore, Va.	Ar.	1772	11.20	8.58	
2.45	9.08	30.2	Hill, Va.	Ar.	1280	11.01	8.34	
3.01	9.21	36.0	Speer's Ferry, Va.	Ar.	1378	10.42	8.15	
3.27	9.41	46.4	Cameron, Va.	Ar.	1306	10.24	7.55	
3.44	9.56	51.6	Kinsport, Tenn.	Ar.	1213	10.08	7.41	
3.59	10.09	58.9	Pactious, Tenn.	Ar.	1285	9.56	7.30	
4.18	10.20	62.8	Fordtown, Tenn.	Ar.	1434	9.42	7.18	
4.40	10.32	67.8	Gray, Tenn.	Ar.	1526	9.30	7.07	
4.56	10.43	72.6	Johnson City, Tenn.	Ar.	1624	9.01	6.35	
5.34	11.15	85.1	Union, Tenn.	Ar.	1624	8.29	6.01	
6.32	11.43	95.7	Erwin, Tenn.	Ar.	1662	8.17	5.49	
6.47	11.55	101.1	Erwin, Tenn.	Ar.	1662	8.10	5.41	
6.54	12.02	101.1	Chesota, Tenn.	Ar.	1703	8.00	5.32	
7.05	12.12	104.3	Tnaka Spgs, Tenn.	Ar.	1708	7.58	5.23	
7.18	12.15	105.1	Hindale, N. C.	Ar.	2085	7.28	4.59	
7.59	12.47	117.9	Green Mtn, N. C.	Ar.	2152	7.12	4.43	
8.24	1.05	124.9	Foocane, N. C.	Ar.	2401	6.38	4.04	
9.22	1.51	140.1	Thermal, N. C.	Ar.	2256	6.57	4.23	
8.46	1.21	131.8	Boonford, N. C.	Ar.	2462	6.32	3.53	
9.38	2.03	114.6	Spruce Pine, N. C.	Ar.				
P. M. P. M.					A. M. P. M.			

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Carolina & North-Western Railway Co. Schedule Effective Nov. 24th, 1912.

Northbound.			Daily			Mixed			Mixed		
Ex. Sun.	No. 8	No. 10	Ex. Sun.	No. 6	No. 6	Ex. Sun.	No. 60	Ex. Sun.	No. 50	No. 50	No. 50
Chester	LV	7:55 a m	Yorkville	8:42	11:45 a m	Yorkville	1:05	Gastonia	3:00 p m	Lincolnton	7:05 a m
Gastonia	5:40 p m	Lincolnton	6:31	10:25	Hickory	7:05	11:05	Newton	7:40	11:45	8:40
Hickory	8:40	Mortimer	2:20	4:10	Edgemont	2:30	4:30				
Southbound.			Daily			Mixed			Mixed		
Ex. Sun.	No. 7	No. 9	Ex. Sun.	No. 63	No. 61	Ex. Sun.	No. 51	Ex. Sun.	No. 51	No. 51	No. 51
Edgemont	LV	11:55 a m	Mortimer	12:05	7:40	Yorkville	7:40	Yorkville	2:45 p m	Hickory	4:20
Hickory	7:30	8:27	Newton	8:50	9:27	Gastonia	10:25	Gastonia	4:40	7:00	8:35
Yorkville	5:39	Chester	6:25							10:25	

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