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SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson III.—Third Quarter, For July 20, 1913.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Ex. III, 1-14. Memory Verses, 13, 14—Golden Text, Matt. v. 8—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. McStearns.

How many years are often passed over in silence, as in the life of Elijah, of whom we know nothing till we see him standing before Ahab, and John the Baptist, of whom we know nothing from his birth to his call to service, and these forty years of Moses' shepherd life. There came a day toward the close of these forty years when Moses, having led the flock to the back side of the desert even to Horeb, the mountain of God, saw something unusual, even a bush burning, but not consumed. As he turned aside to see why the bush was not consumed God called unto him out of the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses."

If Moses had not turned aside to see that great sight he might perhaps have missed the call. If we would prayerfully consider every unusual thing that comes unto our lives we might hear the voice of God more often than we do. Note how Moses in his old age speaks of "the good will of Him that dwelt in the bush" (Deut. xxxiii, 16). Stephen in his sermon refers twice to the angel of the Lord which appeared to Moses in the bush (Acts vii, 30, 35). When Moses replied to the voice of Him that spake, saying "Here am I" or "Behold me," he was told that it was the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob who was speaking to him, and he was told before the interview ended that this was His memorial name forever unto all generations (verses 6, 15, 16; iv, 5).

The Lord Jesus referred to this incident at the bush in His reply to the Sadducees and used the same threefold name (Luke xii, 20, 27). The Lord after telling Moses who He was that spake to him then gave Moses to understand that it was none of his affairs as to how it was to be done; he must put off his shoes, for it was a holy place, the presence of God, and He was to be the doer of it all. Joshua had the same orders as he was about to lead Israel into the promised land (Josh. v, 15).

The key to the meaning of unshod feet is found in Deut. xi, 24; Josh. i, 3. In that light consider Isa. lviii, 13, and lay it to heart. While considering the name of Him who talked with Moses we might notice that other wondrous names given in reply to Moses' question, "I am that I am," or simply "I am" (verses 13, 14). In the New Testament, where we read His statement "I am he," you will notice the word "he" is in Italics, so that He said simply "I am," as in John viii, 24; xviii, 6, and then He often added a name such as I am the door; I am the way, the truth, the life; I am the good shepherd; I am the Son of God, and many others in the book of Revelation.

Having told Moses who He was, He then told him His purpose: I have seen, I have heard, I know, I am come down to deliver and to bring them up unto a good land (verses 7, 8). He asked neither advice nor help from Moses; but, having declared His purpose, He put before him a great offer in the words, "Come now, therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt" (verse 10). Notwithstanding God's revelation of Himself Moses did not grasp it, but began his objections and assertions of incompetence in such words as "Who am I that I should go?" "O my Lord, I am not eloquent. . . . I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue" (iii, 11; iv, 10).

How patient and graciously the Lord dealt with him, saying: "Certainly I will be with thee. . . . I have sent thee." "I will be with thy mouth and teach thee what thou shalt say" (iii, 12; iv, 12). When he was told to gather the elders of Israel and lay before them the Lord's purpose and was assured that they would hear him and was then told what he and they should say to Pharaoh he again objected, saying, "They will not believe me nor hearken unto my voice, for they will say the Lord hath not appeared unto thee" (iii, 16-18; iv, 1). Then he was given three signs, the rod and serpent, the leprous hand and the water turned to blood, each full of significance and bearing directly on the case.

When he persisted in insisting that he could not speak his brother Aaron was given to him to be his spokesman or prophet, and the Lord said, "I know that he can speak well. . . . and thou shalt speak unto him and put words in his mouth (iv, 14-16; vii, 1). Truly He is the God of patience, and we need to live in and be filled with the love of God and the patience of Christ (Rom. xv, 5; II Thess. iii, 5, margin). The Lord knew well the heart of Pharaoh and that he would need sore judgments to humiliate him, but He would be patient even with him and bring Israel out with great spoil, even that which belonged to them (iii, 19-22). They did not borrow but asked or demanded (verse 22, R. V.).

Note in vs. 22, 23 that the Lord calls Israel His son, His firstborn, and His firstborn being oppressed, the firstborn of Egypt must suffer if there is no repentance. The meeting of Moses and Aaron in the mount of God after forty years of separation and Moses' communication to Aaron of all that the Lord had said and done is interesting.

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Postmaster White Fails to Make Bond And Loses His Job.

(By Parker R. Anderson.)

Washington, July 11.—Postmaster General Burleson today issued an order removing Postmaster S. Arthur White, of Mebane, from office and requested Major Charles M. Stedman of the fifth congressional district to recommend a man as soon as possible to take Mr. White's place.

The order removing Mr. White was issued, the postoffice department officials say because the postmaster had failed to furnish a satisfactory bond. They claim that White has been requested repeatedly to furnish the bond required by the postoffice officials here and his failure to do so has caused him to lose his job.

Major Stedman said today that he would name a man for the Mebane postmastership promptly. He has no one in mind for the place, but, acting upon the advice of the postmaster general, he will see to it that the office is filled by a Democrat within a very short time.

The removal of Mr. White was a great surprise to North Carolinians here. Mr. White, it will be remembered, was one of the few Republicans to be confirmed by the senate last fall. Because of strong pressure brought to bear upon Senators Simmons and Overman by patrons of the office, both Democrats and Republicans, the two Tar Heel senators allowed Mr. White's confirmation to be made. There were a dozen or more other nominations pending at the time which never saw daylight, among them that of Mr. Thomas S. Wallace, at Wilmington. Mr. White's Commission expires in 1916.

It is not quite clear why Mr. White has not furnished the required bond. He is a man of considerable standing in his community and the postoffice department is at a loss to account for the delay on his part. So far as is known no other charge has been brought against the Mebane postmaster.

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NORTH CAROLINA, In the Superior Court, Catawba County.

Mrs. Lottie Taylor

vs. Howard Taylor.

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION.

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above named has been commenced in the Superior Court of Catawba County by the Plaintiff above named for the purpose of securing an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony existing between the parties Plaintiff and Defendant. The said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the fall term of the superior court of Catawba County to be held on the eighth Monday after the first Monday in September 1913, it being the twentieth day of October, 1913, at the court house of Catawba County in Newton, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in the action, or the Plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the third day of July, 1913.

C. M. McCorkle,

Clerk Superior Court Catawba Co.

D. L. Russell, Attorney

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A NOTE TO YOU HICKORY, N. C., July 16, 1913.

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