

Sunday School Lesson

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON for NOV. 25, 1951
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THE PEOPLE AT WORSHIP

MEMORY SELECTION: "Take ye from among you an offering unto Jehovah: whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, Jehovah's offering."—Exodus 35:5. Lesson Text: Exodus 29:43-46; 35:21-29.

The great horde of people which came out of Egypt had to be trained in even the simplest rudiments of government, since they had been slaves for years and had had no government of their own. Up to this time in their history, and even before their journey into Egypt seeking good, the Israelites had not been organized into a Hebrew state—they were a family, with their herds-men and workers. The last fifty years they spent in Egypt had all but crushed them and the generation that went out with Moses had been thoroughly cowed.

One of his first duties, therefore, was to teach them the fundamentals of organized social and political life and, it is highly significant, that, at the very outset, Moses began by organizing the nation's religious life. It is also significant that the first building that they undertook to construct was a religious structure—a tabernacle.

Following the orders of Jehovah, outlined in Exodus, chapters 25-31, they built the Tabernacle, or tent, to form the visible place of Jehovah in the midst of His people, the place where he would meet them and receive their worship. It had to be constructed in the form of a tent so that it would be easily and quickly movable.

Just 12 months after crossing the Red Sea, the tabernacle was completed and sanctified as a place of worship of Jehovah. There God's five-fold promise is fulfilled: (1) The promise of God meeting, for he meets those who come reverently to his place of worship; (2) the promise of God glorifying, for the very tent glows with his glory; (3) the promise of God sanctifying, for he consecrates the tent, the altar, and the priests to minister in his courts; (4) the promise of God indwelling, for he will abide with a people who desire his presence among

them; and (5) the promise of God over-ruling, for if he is their God, he is also their refuge and strength.

In Exodus 28:1, we read that God set apart Aaron and his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, for the priesthood. When the tabernacle was completed their ordination took place and Aaron was exalted to the position of ruling priest of the nation. It was not until this time that Israel had a national priesthood. This does not mean, of course, that the people had not worshiped God up to this time. The period of their history from Abraham to Moses is known as the "age of the patriarchs," which means that the father exercised rulership over his family, leading them in their worship of Jehovah. The priests were to be responsible for planning and conducting public religious services. They were to offer sacrifices for sins, and, as the representatives of God to men, they were to seek God's will for the people. This the role we assign to our Christian ministers today, with the exception, of course, of offering sacrifices for sins.

Man is by nature a religious being. Scientists tell us that they have never discovered a race of human beings which does not worship some god in some way. The desire to worship is a deep-seated instinct, placed within the nature of man by his Creator. One worships that which he considers of greatest worth. The worship of one Supreme Being prevents the dissipation and waste of spiritual energies.

Our nation has emphasized four freedoms which it wants all peoples to have. One of the four is the freedom of worship. One aspect of this freedom is the matter of voluntary response in worship, as it was demonstrated in the gifts received for the tabernacle. Several times in the early account of the establishment of the "meeting-tent" as the place of worship is the idea of voluntary response. "Whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it" (Ex. 35:5) and "And they came, both men and women, as many as are willing-hearted" (Ex. 35:22). Just as we do not appreciate a gift made to us when it is made under compulsion, so God asks that what we do for Him or give to Him be done "of a willing heart."

Realizing that the most important part of a structure is its foundation, Moses wisely set the Hebrew nation on a strong religious foundation. It has endured, with ups and downs throughout the centuries. Our own nation had a strong religious foundation—religious convictions guided the early settlers, Bibles and hymn-books were the texts for our frontier schools, and leaders among

the colonists emphasized the importance of regular worship.

If we, as a people, neglect the worship of God, the inevitable result will be a nation weakened in its incentive, its ideals and its purposes. The caustic Thomas Carlyle once asked, reverently, "What greater calamity can fall upon a nation than the loss of worship?"

In this Thanksgiving season, let us stop and quietly and reverently give thanks to God for the privilege of worship—the freedom to worship bought at such a price by the Pilgrim Fathers—and then let us all make a resolution that we will be more earnest in our worship—both private devotions and public worship.

September Building Total Permits \$14,600,551

RALEIGH.—Building permits issued in 76 North Carolina cities totaled \$14,600,551 during September, increasing more than \$5,500,000 above the August figure, the State Department of Labor reports.

Main reason for the large increase was an unusually high figure for additions, alterations and repairs to nonresidential buildings, said Labor Department Statistician C. H. Pritchard. Additions, alterations and repairs to all types of buildings normally total little more than \$1 million, but in September these jobs soared to \$4,037,723, most of which was

for work on nonresidential buildings, Pritchard said.

The September figure for new nonresidential building construction, which totaled \$5,849,166, also was a couple of million dollars higher than the August total. Permits were issued for 53 stores, 29 workshop buildings, 12 office buildings, six school buildings, one public building, two institutional buildings, two amusement places, eight churches, three commercial garages, 13 service stations, and 61 private garages.

New housing permits, which also were issued in greater dollar volume during September than in the previous month, totaled \$4,713,662. These included permits for 548 single-family dwellings to be built at an average estimated construction cost of \$7,336 each, 39 duplexes for which the estimated construction figure averaged \$6,058 each, 20 apartment buildings costing an estimated \$365,000, and six tourist cabins. Permits were issued for a total of 715 family dwelling units.

Four cities reported more than \$1 million each in building permits during the month. These were Durham \$3,312,175, Charlotte \$2,290,185, Asheville \$1,892,538, and Raleigh \$1,099,890. Greensboro reported \$959,729, Rocky Mount \$646,544. All other cities and towns were below \$500,000. The four top cities combined had more than half of the State total for the month.

City Detective Floyd Niswonger got a straight answer to a straight question. He asked a man picked up on

suspicion of illegal entry into the United States:

"How did you get into this country?"
The man replied:
"Mister, I'm a full-blooded Sioux Indian, I was born here. How did you get here?"

Buy Union and fight the aggressors who would destroy American labor standards.

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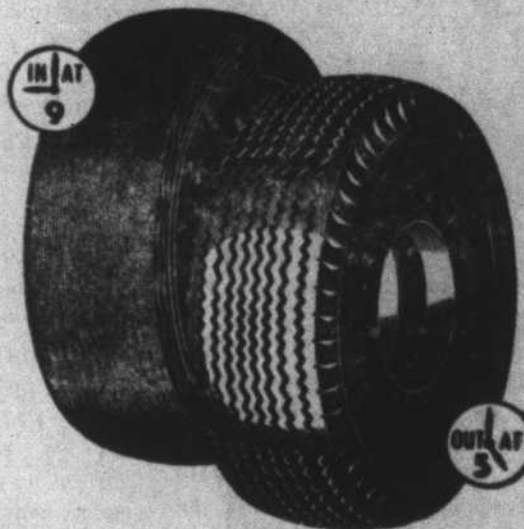
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ARE you one of those smart and patriotic Americans who began an automatic saving program with Series E Government Bonds in 1941? Then you're one of the lucky people who can profit by a new law now! A bill recently passed by Congress now makes it possible for your United States Defense Bonds to continue earning interest ten years longer than was originally planned.

For example, a Series E Bond which cost you \$18.75 in 1941 will pay you \$25 in 1951. But if you hold that bond ten extra years, until 1961, it will pay you \$33.33, an average interest of 2.9% compounded annually. You get similar increases on Series E Bonds of every denomination.



And there is nothing for you, as a bond holder, to do. You need not exchange the bonds you have. You need not sign any paper, fill out any form. You simply keep your bonds as you have been keeping them.

You may still redeem any Series E Bond at any time after you've owned it for sixty days. (The tables on this page show what you can get for it.) But unless you really need the cash you're much better off to hold your bonds. For U. S. Defense Bonds are as safe as America itself.

When you buy your bonds regularly and hold them, they are steadily building a sum big enough to buy something really worth while—a home, a business, a retirement fund, an education for your children.

And bonds are safer than cash! If you lose or accidentally destroy cash it's gone for good. But when you have your cash in Defense Bonds, the U. S. Treasury will replace lost or destroyed bonds at no cost to you.



So if some of your bonds are coming due, take advantage of this new offer of your government—just sit back and let them go on making money. Meanwhile keep adding to your savings by buying more United States Defense Bonds regularly—through the Payroll Savings Plan where you work or the Bond-A-Month Plan where you bank. System is the secret of saving.



If you want to be paid your interest as current income—The new law also allows you to exchange your Series E Bonds, in blocks of \$500 or more, for Special Series G Bonds which pay interest semi-annually at the rate of 2½% per year. For full details, ask at any Federal Reserve Bank or Branch.

Here's how Series E Defense Bonds earn the first 10 years

Maturity value	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
Issue price	18.75	37.50	75.00

Period after issue date	Redemption values during each year		
1 year	\$18.75	\$37.50	\$75.00
2 years	19.00	38.00	76.00
3 years	19.25	38.50	77.00
4 years	19.50	39.00	78.00
5 years	19.75	39.50	79.00
6 years	20.00	40.00	80.00
7 years	20.25	40.50	81.00
8 years	20.50	41.00	82.00
9 years	20.75	41.50	83.00
10 years	21.00	42.00	84.00
Maturity value (10 years from issue date)	25.00	50.00	100.00

Now look how your maturing bonds go on earning under the new law!

Original maturity (or face) value	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Issue price	18.75	37.50	75.00	150.00	375.00	750.00

Period after issue date	Redemption values during each year					
11 years	\$25.31	\$50.62	\$101.25	\$202.50	\$506.25	\$1,012.50
12 years	25.94	51.87	103.75	207.50	518.75	1,037.50
13 years	26.56	53.12	106.25	212.50	531.25	1,062.50
14 years	27.19	54.37	108.75	217.50	543.75	1,087.50
15 years	27.81	55.62	111.25	222.50	556.25	1,112.50
16 years	28.44	56.87	113.75	227.50	568.75	1,137.50
17 years	29.06	58.12	116.25	232.50	581.25	1,162.50
18 years	29.69	59.37	118.75	237.50	593.75	1,187.50
19 years	30.31	60.62	121.25	242.50	606.25	1,212.50
20 years	30.94	61.87	123.75	247.50	618.75	1,237.50
Extended maturity value (20 years from issue date)	33.33	66.67	133.33	266.67	666.67	1,333.33

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