

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL
Sunday School Lesson

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Lesson for December 13

PAUL IN MELITA AND ROME

LESSON TEXT—Acts 28:1-31.
The apostle Paul, who was ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth.—Rom. 1:16.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Paul the Helper.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Paul in the World's Capital.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—A Prisoner Preaching.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Power of the Gospel.

I. The Shipwreck on Melita (vv. 1-10).

Through the storm they lost their bearings, and when they were safe on land they learned that the island was called Melita. Their experiences here may be noted as follows:

1. The Hospitable Reception of the Natives (v. 2).
2. Paul's Gathering Straws for a Fire (v. 3).

The world's greatest preacher and missionary, Paul, was not above picking up straws for a fire. All along the journey Paul busied himself in doing up things that would help some one. My prayer is rendered in the right spirit in this work.

2. Paul's Arrival at Rome (vv. 11-16).

Antonia the slaves that Paul gathered was a serpent. Perhaps it had already bit itself up for its master's keep, but crossed by the warmth of the sun, it started at Paul and fixed its fangs upon his hand. This was a serious thing. The natives expected to see him fall down dead, yet he shook it off, unharmed. At first the natives concluded that he was an escaped murderer, and that retributive justice was being meted out to him. When they saw he was unharmed, they concluded that he was a god. In the popular mind a man soon passes from a murderer to a god, or more frequently the reverse is true.

3. Paul Heals Publius' Father (vv. 7-10).

These people now received some return for their kindness. When this man's wife was healed, others came and were healed also.

II. Paul's Ministry in Rome (vv. 11-16).

When Paul reached Rome, Christ's charge to the disciples was fulfilled. After three months' stay at Melita Paul departed for Rome in the ship of Alexandria, whose sign was Castor and Pollux. At Syracuse, they were detained three days, perhaps for favorable winds. At Puteoli he found brethren at whose request he tarried seven days, after which he again set his face towards Rome. At Appollonia and at Three Taverns, brethren from Rome met him. From Puteoli the waves beat before Paul's sailing, and so interested were the brethren that they came for more than forty miles to meet him. This greatly encouraged him and he gave God thanks. He greatly craved the fellowship of other Christians and was much helped thereby. This was the first city in all his missionary life that thus welcomed him. It was typical of the welcome that was given to the gospel by the Gentile world. He was treated with great hospitality at Rome, for he was allowed to have a house and five aunts, except that his guard was constantly with him. Being attached to a soldier was rather irksome, yet it gave him a chance to preach to the soldiers, which he could not have had in any other way.

III. Paul's Ministry in Rome (vv. 17-31).

1. His Conference With the Leading Jews (vv. 17-22).

He did not, as usual, wait for the Sabbath day to speak to the Jews. He allowed only one day for rest, his object being to have a fair understanding with them. When they came he endeavored to conciliate them. He told them that though he came as a prisoner, he was not a criminal. Though his own countrymen had sought his life he did not come with accusations against them. The result of this interview was that the Jews cautiously took neutral ground, but expressed a desire to hear what Paul could say in defense of a sect which was everywhere spoken against.

2. Paul Expounding the Kingdom of God and Persuading Concerning Jesus (vv. 23-31).

He pointed out a real kingdom—the Messianic kingdom, with the historic Jesus as the king. The kingdom to Paul meant a definite reign of a definite person, not simply an improved state of society. This he showed from the Scriptures.

Small Things; Great Things

You are waiting to do some great thing; you are waiting to pull down some great evil. Perform the small things that are unseen, and they will bring other and greater things for you to perform.—John Bright.

Leading Us Along

In denying ourselves, Jesus is not asking us to limit ourselves. He is, rather, leading us along the road in which we shall find self.—G. Glenn Atkins.

Alexandra's Casket Followed by Four Kings



This remarkable photograph was cabled from London to the United States and shows four kings and a crown prince marching behind the casket containing the body of the late Queen Dowager Alexandra as the procession slowly moved over a carpet of snow from St. James palace to Westminster abbey. Left to right: King George of England, prince of Wales, King Christian X of Denmark, King Haakon of Norway and King Albert of Belgium.

Tomb of Poland's Unknown Hero



The tomb of the Unknown Soldier of Poland in Warsaw, covered with floral offerings just after the ceremonies attending the burial of the soldier took place. The President of the Polish republic and other high officials took part in the ceremonies. The body of the soldier was exhumed in a battlefield near Lemburg.

Fine Titian Goes to Minneapolis



"The Temptation of Christ," considered the best painting in this country by Titian, recently purchased by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. The purchase price is reported to have been more than \$200,000.

Wild Duck Hunters Get Big Bags



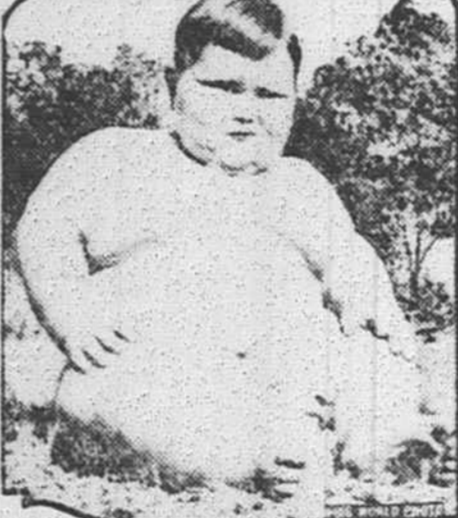
With the wild ducks in flight south, hunters along the Atlantic seaboard are bringing in good bags of game with which to grace the festive board. In this photograph Howard F. Brickley of Wilmington, Del., and C. J. McNutt of Oxford, Pa., are shown, surrounded by decoys, waiting for the flight of ducks over their heads, near Havre de Grace, Md.

MRS. BORAH'S CHARITY



Mrs. William E. Borah, wife of Senator Borah of Idaho, is "Lady Bountiful" to the patients of St. Elizabeth's hospital in Washington, where there are still many human wrecks as a result of the World war. Several times each week Mrs. Borah goes out to St. Elizabeth's with little luxuries for the patients.

CHAMPION OF SOUTH



Master Meredith S. Taylor, the three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Taylor of (Harris) Nicholas county, Ky., holds the southern championship for weight for age, topping the scales at 100 pounds. His other measurements are: Height, 43 inches; circumference of head, 22 inches; neck, 14 inches; shoulders, 46 inches; chest, 40 inches; arm, 12 inches; wrist 7 inches; thigh, 22 inches; calf, 14 inches; ankle, 9 inches; foot, 7 1/2 inches long and 3 1/4 inches wide.

SIAM'S NEW RULER



Prince Prajotok of Sukhodaya, who has been proclaimed king of Siam, following the death of King Rama VI, his brother.



"They haven't missed a single day at school!"

"They're well all the time. The doctor says they are the healthiest children he knows."

"He told me constipation is what makes so many growing children sickly. Poisons from the waste matter spread through the little bodies, and lower their resistance to disease. So I'm very careful to guard against constipation. I simply give them a little Nujol every night."

"Nujol isn't a laxative at all, you know, but it keeps them just as regular as clockwork. They like it, and the doctor says it's just the thing for them."

Nujol helps Nature in Nature's own way

Mothers are the best friends of Nujol. When their children's health is at stake they seek the remedy that medical authorities approve because it is so safe, so gentle, so natural in its action.

Constipation is dangerous for anybody. Nujol is safe for everybody. It does not affect the stomach and is not absorbed by the body. Nujol simply makes up for a deficiency—temporary or chronic—in the supply of natural lubricant in the intestines. It softens the waste

matter and thus permits thorough and regular elimination, without overtaxing the intestinal muscles.

Nujol can be taken for any length of time without ill effects. To insure internal cleanliness, it should be taken regularly in accordance with the directions on each bottle. Unlike laxatives, it does not form a habit and can be discontinued at any time.

Nujol

THE INTERNAL LUBRICANT
For Constipation

Ask your doctor for Nujol, or get it from your druggist. It is a perfect health-giver. Its possible to get constipation. Their elimination is normal and healthy.

Tact

"You had no business to kiss me, Senator Don Juan."
"But it was not a business, Madam. It was a pleasure."—Callaghan's Pelican.

One Good Reason

Randall: Why is it that you are so healthy and so happy?
Bachel: Oh, I kinder like to be a little bit going with the wind. —S. J. Wampus.

For Colds

ASPIRIN

Proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians for
Colds Headache Neuralgia Lumbago
Pain Toothache Neuritis Rheumatism

DOES NOT AFFECT THE HEART

Safe → Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets. Also bottles of 24 and 100—Dispensary.

The New Earning — It's getting so it's more important for a banker to be a good shot than to be able to read a column of figures. —Stony City Tribune.

Illiterate Chinese — "I don't know what that is, but it's a good thing." —Wagon Wheel.

It is no sin to be tempted, the wickedness lies in being overcome. —Landing.

—Balzac.

Children Cry for

Fletcher's CASTORIA

MOTHER:—Fletcher's Castoria is especially prepared to relieve Infants in arms and Children all ages of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and, by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving natural sleep.

To avoid imitations, always look for the signature of *Wm. D. Fletcher*. **Absolutely Harmless—No Opiates.** Physicians everywhere recommend it.