

International Sunday School Lesson
—for—
JULY 8, 1956

(These comments are based on the International S. S. Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, U. S. A., and used by permission.)

Memory Selection: "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you." — 1 Peter 5:7.
Lesson Text: 1 Peter 1:3-9; 5:6-11
JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

This lesson is reminiscent of that for the first Sunday of this month, when Peter, writing to the early Christians was encouraging them to remain faithful even during persecution and consequent suffering.

Just what ought the Christian's attitude be toward suffering or sorrow or ridicule or persecution because of his faith in Jesus? To some, this only strengthens their faith, to others it increases their fear, they become rebellious or resentful, and some even give up their faith altogether.

The letter which Peter wrote, which bears his name, was written to Hebrew Christians, "sojourners of the Dispersion." These believers were suffering terrible hardships. Run out of Jerusalem because of their belief in Jesus Christ, they were forced oftentimes to leave loved ones and all that they owned behind.

Not satisfied to persecute the believers in Jerusalem, the fanatical Jews and hostile pagans pursued them everywhere they went, making their lives as miserable as they possibly could. What were these believers to do under the circumstances? Were they supposed to bear such cruelties as a result of their faith?

Peter, in writing to them, does not tell them merely to "forget it," but he does not suggest that they organize an army of resistance. Peter knew himself such persecution. He points out to them that, while they may be suffering here, they have a "living hope" for the future, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead — an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

The Christian's inheritance is secure — it is preserved and kept in heaven where no one can break through to take it.

Like gold is refined only by the fire, so all the sins are taken from the life of the Christian by the process of the fiery trials of sorrow, trouble or persecution. Peter reminded his readers that Christ was to be the object of both their faith and love, which, fixed on him, would bring unspeakable joy and the assurance of future glory.

Peter urged the Christians to trust in God, to cast their anxieties on him in quiet confidence that he would provide for their need and supply them with the necessary grace and strength to come through victoriously. The inspiring testimony of many missionaries to the truth of this statement should cause all Christians to rely more on God and trust Him to take care of them.

It is well to remember that while suffering may be the result of our own sinfulness, carelessness or ignorance, much suffering is without cause from our standpoint. We may have to suffer innocently. However, whatever the cause, we are stewards of the experience, and through our Christian faith we can make suffering turn out for good.

We have all admired the ability of some men and women to "take" the sorrow and suffering which may have come to them in good spirit. We all need to be prepared for such experiences, since we never know when it may be our turn to undergo them. As one writer declares, "All Christians must be prepared to take it," however hard and rocky the way of their Christian witness, however trying the problems in their personal relationships. It takes endurance to work in hard places, to live Christian lives in un-Christian homes, to toil on without praise, and to believe the victory will come when all the odds seem to be against you."

Probably the most-used verse against the sin of worry is that of 1 Peter 5:7, which is given as our memory selection: "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you." If Christians would realize that our Heavenly Father knows our problems, and cares about them, wanting to help us solve them, then worry would go out of the window. We are told by medical authorities that many of the illnesses which afflict human beings today are caused by fear and anxiety and tension caused by worry over things which cannot be helped.

If you would have a plan whereby you may win the victory in living for Christ, read 1 Peter 5:7-9.

BIG BRANCH
(NEAR MARS HILL)

The Mars Hill Community Sunday School class enjoyed a picnic dinner on the lawn of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Jolley on Sunday of this week. Everyone there seemed to enjoy the nice food. Mr. Jolley is the Community teacher.

We are very sorry that little Billy Goforth is so sick. He has been in an Asheville hospital for a week and has had four doctors attending him. The doctors say he has contracted TB from drinking cows' milk. Billy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Goforth of West Asheville. The doctors say more children catch TB from the use of milk than any other way. It would be wise for everyone who has cows to have them tested for TB.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Moss and their little son, J. C., have gone to Florida for a few days. We hope they enjoy their trip very much.

Mr. L. C. Smith has been sick for a few days but is better now.

Mr. Ernest Thomas is making some nice improvements on his house.

Mrs. Tom Baird has been sick for two weeks but is much better now, and is able to do her house work.

SPRING CREEK

There was a large crowd attending Liberty Church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ansil Sawyer and family spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dockery of Newport.

Miss Margaret Fowler spent last week with her sister of Azalea; also Elbert Fowler.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Billy Waldroup a daughter Thursday, June 28, 1956.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Stamey and son, Charles, of Hot Springs, spent last week with her mother and father of Hot Springs.

Miss Betty Plemmons and Ann Plemmons and Margaret Fowler were visiting Miss Lucille and Fay Massey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Fowler were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Caldwell Sunday.

Miss Viola Caldwell of Washington is spending some time with her parents on Spring Creek.

Mr. Steve Fleming of New Jersey was visiting his family through the weekend.

Mr. F. N. Willett Jr., was visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Willett, during the weekend. He is a student at Warren Wilson College.

HUNTER CREEK

Mr. and Mrs. Coble Ball were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Claude Ball and family and Mr. and Mrs. Burns Hunter and family Sunday.

Those visiting Mr. and Mrs. Luther Ball Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ball and family of Candler, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Buckner and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Crowe and son of Greenville, Tenn.

Mrs. Hubert Deal Jr., left Saturday for Washington, D. C., to join her husband who is employed there.

Miss Dorothy Hunter and Marie Ball were visiting Mrs. Steve Wallin recently.

Donna and Diana Ball were visiting Marie and Linda Ball Sunday.

The Children's Home Society of N. C. attempts first to preserve the natural home for a child before finding a home through adoption.

POETRY CORNER

Contributed By
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE

TOPMOST PEEVE
In all of living's wear and tear—
It grows as I grow older—
The topmost peeve I have to bear
Is a chip upon my shoulder.
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE
Weaverville, N. C.

FLOWERED PENDULUM
The upstanding pendulums away
From their places
Clocks
Keeping time like Grandfather
I paused just to see these yellow-
wooded faces
Under bonnets of pink hollyhocks.
ETA HANDE-BLANCHARD
Asheville, N. C.

which advises you to place yourself in God's hands, yielding to his will. Don't try to carry your load alone, let God help. Be on the alert against temptation, resist the devil and remember you are not the only one who is having difficulties. In helping someone else, you will help yourself.

HERE COMES THE BOOKMOBILE

We have just finished totaling the circulation figures for the month of June. More books were loaned than in any previous month in the history of the Madison County Public Library — 1873. May was the next highest with 1678 books going out. We were on the route 15 times in May, and only 12 in June. It just happened to come out that way because of the 28-day schedule. Tuesday, June 5, was the best day, with a circulation of 305 books. That is Paint Rock-Shutin-Blood River-Hot Springs day. The next highest was Barnard-Big Pine-Walnut day when 246 books were borrowed. 976 of the total number represents children or teen-age books, and 897 adult. We can see that we must get busy tomorrow morning and process all those new books that came in last week or 'Bookie's' shelves will be looking kind of empty.

What with the end of the fiscal year — June 30 — and budgets and statistical reports staring us in the face, we did not have time on Friday to look over the new books very carefully. But what we saw while unpacking and checking looked very good. What's more we will be putting in a new order right after July first, so let's have your requests the next time I come around your way.

Several people have asked me lately if I ever have time to read any of those books that 'Bookie' hauls around. The answer is: "Yes," but not as many as I would like to read. 'Bookie' is a pretty smart old girl, and someday maybe she will be able to go from one stop to the next all by herself, while I sit back and read. I can just see myself closing up the sides of the bookmobile after selecting a nice interesting book, settling back real comfortable-like, and saying, "Bookie, that's all for today. Suppose you take me home now, while I enjoy this good book. Please don't disturb me, unless something real important comes up." Well, I can almost see this — but not quite.

Freeman Cemetery To Be Cleaned Off July 12

All who have friends and relatives buried at the Freeman Cemetery, please come and help clean off the cemetery on Thursday, July 12, at 10 o'clock.

MRS. JAMES ROBERT

BABY RABBIT FOR EASTER

Des Moines, Ia. — Although he wasn't scheduled to arrive until Easter Sunday, Thomas Lee Rabbitt Jr., surprised his parents and arrived a couple of days ahead. He and his mother, Mrs. Thomas L. Rabbitt Sr., are doing fine.

Don't Forget To See The NEWS-RECORD To Your Boy in Service

BALL CITY

Everyone enjoyed the singing convention at Mount Pleasant Sunday. Lots of damage was done from the hard storm that occurred on Friday on the upper end of Spring Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonas Murdock Jr., and his brother, Paul, spent the weekend here with her mother, Mrs. Doshia Donaldson, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. William Moore and son, Jerry, of Leicester, took dinner Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore.

Miss Betty Price of Cleveland, S. C., is spending a week with her cousin, Jo Ann Allen.

We are very sorry to hear that Mrs. Alice Plemmons is on the sick list. We hope she will soon be better.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Fish and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mathus, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore and family, Mrs. Doshia Donaldson and family and Mrs. Wilma Allen were visiting the revival meeting at Liberty Baptist Church in Haywood County Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fisher were visiting Mrs. Rachel Coward Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Fish and family were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Avery Allen Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fish were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Troy Mathus Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Medford Burgess of Waynesville were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore Monday.

Former Pastor At Hot Springs Is Buried On Friday

A veteran editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate, Dr. Alva Washington Plyler of Greensboro, died June 28, 1956 following an illness of four years. He was 88.

Dr. Plyler was editor of the Christian Advocate for 24 years, retiring in 1945. He died at Butner Hospital near Durham. The funeral was held at Greensboro Friday from the West Market St. Methodist Church.

A graduate of Trinity College, Dr. Plyler received doctorate degrees from Asbury College and Duke University. He was ordained a minister in the Methodist Church in 1892. After serving several Tar Heel churches, he was presiding elder of the Asheville district in 1905 and of the Salisbury district in 1903.

He served churches in Charlotte, Lexington, Wadesboro, and Greensboro before being named presiding elder of the Greensboro district in 1921, the same year he was named editor of the Christian Advocate.

Dr. Plyler also had held pastorates in Hot Springs and Weaverville and a number of other churches in the Western North Carolina Conference.

The Rev. Charles P. Bowles, pastor of the West Market St. Methodist Church, officiated at the funeral. Assisting was Dr. E. C. Few, district superintendent, and Dr. Ernest McClarty of Salisbury, both former pastors at Greensboro. Burial was in Green Hill Cemetery.

Survivors include the widow, the former Grace Davis Barnhardt; one daughter, Mrs. Richard Maxwell Jr., of Westfield, N. J., and three grandchildren.

ON LEAVE HERE



SFC CALVIN J. THOMAS
SFC Calvin J. Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eason Thomas of R-1, Alexander, is spending a leave here with his parents.

Sergeant Thomas has been stationed with the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Germany for the past 20 months. Upon completion of his leave, Sgt. Thomas will rejoin his unit and will remain in Germany for approximately 16 months.

GRAHAM CONVERTS RED

Reading, England — Charlie Potter, 44-year-old Communist party organizer, went with a friend to hear Billy Graham, famous evangelist, just to see what it was all about. Now Potter says he has rejected his Marxist beliefs, thrown up his job and started a new life as a Christian evangelist, giving Graham credit for his conversion. "I shall travel around trying to show people that Christianity is the answer to communism," he said.

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