

International Sunday School Lesson

for JULY 22, 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.)

WE BELONG TO A GREAT COMPANY

Memory Selection: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." — Hebrews 12:1.

This is the last in a series of three lessons from the epistle to the Hebrews, the first of which taught that Jesus is the complete revelation of God, the Son of God. The second pointed out that Christ is adequate as our Saviour.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is considered by some biblical students as the most marvelous chapter in all the Bible and is called by some the Westminster Abbey of Faith. Someone has pointed out that the New Testament contains three surveys of Old Testament history: one, the history of the unbelief of Israel, set forth in the speech by James in the 7th chapter of the Acts; another, a briefer review, given by Paul in a sermon delivered in the synagogue at Antioch (Acts 13:13-14); and now, this chapter written by an unknown author.

The chapter opens with a definition of faith. It is defined as the belief that our hopes will be realized and the personal conviction that there is a reality in the unseen world. To the writer of Hebrews, this meant two things: The full assurance that the Christian hope in the promises of God will be fulfilled, and the belief that the unseen, or spiritual world, is the supreme reality. It is that which makes these hopes for things real.

Christians believe that the world was created by God. Just how God created the world, we do not know, but apart from God, there is no adequate explanation of the world's origin. The existence of the world is a reality, but it is faith that causes us to believe that God created it. This is the meaning of Hebrews 11:3 — God is the source of everything.

Chapter eleven of Hebrews has been called the "roll call of faith," and surely that is just what it is. Beginning at the beginning — with Cain and Abel — the author calls here after heroes whose faith was outstanding. Of course, the best example of personal faith in the Old Testament is that of Abraham, recorded in Genesis 12:4.

Abraham's faith was illustrated in three ways: first, by his obedience to the call of God to journey to a strange place, giving up all the things he had known, and to place his whole reliance on something he had never seen. This is the kind of faith which Jesus referred to when he said that his followers must be willing to give up parents, homes, everything, if need be, to follow him.

The second illustration of Abraham's faith was his confidence that God would be true to his promise to give him heirs. God had promised Abraham that he would be the father of a great family, but up to the time he and his wife, Sarah, became old, they had had no children. Their faith in God's promise was rewarded, however, in the birth of Isaac, even after they were old.

This leads to the third illustration of Abraham's faith: God asked him to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. Abraham, though not understanding God's command, was willing to obey, on faith. Once again, he was not disappointed. Faith, such as that of Abraham's, is the refusal to be deterred. Faith can ever be deterred. In his call of Abraham, God presented a challenge and a test to the early Christians. The faith of all ages, from that of Abraham to that of today, is the same: the refusal to be deterred.

To succeed in the Christian life, the hindering effects of sin must be removed, and we must keep our hearts free to run without hindrance.

BALL CITY

The Ball City Baptist Church reorganized their Sunday School Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Strickland of Marietta, S. C., are spending a few weeks with their daughter, Mrs. Arthur Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Allen, of Clyde, were visiting his brother, Mr. Avery Allen, and family.

Those visiting Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Fish and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Henson, of Marietta, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Alton Price, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Self, and Mrs. Lomas Murdock Jr., of Bakersville.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fish and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fisher were visiting Mrs. Rachel Coward Sunday; also visiting her was Mrs. Doshia Donaldson.

Mrs. Clyde Justice of Fines Creek has been visiting her father, C. W. Fish, and Mr. and Mrs. Denver Moore over the week end.

L. J. Moore and Junior Sutton spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Henson of South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Plato Gillespie and Mr. Charles and Dean Coward took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Doshia Donaldson Sunday.

We are very sorry to hear that Mrs. Grace Coward is very ill and in the Winston-Salem Hospital.

Mrs. Lomas Murdock Jr., of Bakersville spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Doshia Donaldson.

Furman Donaldson spent Saturday night with Charles Coward.

RICE COVE

We are having lots of rain these days.

Mr. Jacob Griffie spent Saturday in Marshall.

Mr. Olin Rice came in from Cleveland, Ohio Saturday and is with his grandmother, Mrs. H. C. Rice.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chandler arrived from Cleveland, Ohio Saturday to spend a few days with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Rice called on Mr. and Mrs. Ross Norton Saturday night and watched television.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Buckner, Mr. and Mrs. Lois Buckner and daughter, Kathy, called on Mrs. H. C. Rice Saturday.

Mrs. Jacob Griffie called on her mother, Mrs. H. C. Rice.

Mr. and Mrs. Collis Chandler spent the day in Marshall Saturday.

Mr. Homer Rice, Joseph and William Lisenbee were in the Cove Thursday.

Miss Deloris Rice called on her aunt, Mrs. Jacob Griffie one day last week.

Mrs. H. C. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Griffie and son, Homer, called on Mr. and Mrs. Ross Norton Sunday to see Mrs. Rice's brother, who has been ill. He is somewhat improved.

Mrs. Magnolia Chandler and son Jimmie visited her mother one day last week.

Bryan Cemetery To Be Cleaned On Monday, August 6

It was announced this week that the Bryan Cemetery, located on Fisher Lane, is to be cleaned off on Monday, August 6.

All those who have relatives buried there are urged to be present and to bring a picnic dinner.

It was possible for Christ to come. As Paul later declares, all things are "gathered up in Christ."

The writer then goes into an urgent appeal (in chapter 12) based upon the record of achievements of faith described in chapter 11. Borrowing a metaphor from the Greek games, the writer depicts the Christian life as a race in the amphitheater. He describes the setting for the race—the arena surrounded by Jews and tiers of seats which are thronged with spectators watching the various contests and cheering for their favorites. The conditions for the race are depicted. The runners throw off all their superfluous garments so that they may be free to run without hindrance.

To succeed in the Christian life, the hindering effects of sin must be removed, and we must keep our hearts free to run without hindrance.

WASHINGTON AND "SMALL BUSINESS" By C. WILSON HARDER

Walter Reuther, automotive labor leader, is sounding gong for government to help automotive workers forced out of jobs by production cutbacks.

In his sphere, Reuther is an able fellow, but he is a product of Monopoly Labor that was forced into existence by the rise of Monopoly Business.

In appealing to government for aid, he is but following the classic format of all monopoly when something happens to shatter grandiose dreams.

Both Big Autos and Big Auto Labor forgot one fundamental fact about their industry. That fact is that their prosperity depends upon nationwide corps of independent businessmen who are automotive dealers.

A Senate Judiciary sub-committee headed by Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney of Wyoming has just released booklet covering preliminary study of Big Autos and practices pursued in dealer relationships. It presents fascinating material.

Public generally does not realize deterioration in automotive dealership business in past few years.

Huge profits by Big Autos are often taken to mean dealers share in this bonanza. Actually, motor maker profits have too often been coming out of dealers' hides. Dealer discounts on cars run as little as 16%, and that does not include the "phantom freight" items which dealers are supposed to pass on without a markup.

Then there is matter of accessories. A factory installed car

radio usually costs buyer around \$100. Yet experts say factory pays around \$20 for radio, but charges dealers \$60. Theoretically, dealer is supposed to make \$40, but in actual practice usually gives this away, plus big share of his mark-up in a trade allowance.

No one knows how much various power accessories cost factory. But the price to dealers runs far up in price far beyond reach of many buyers.

However, factories don't take into consideration this point. O'Mahoney committee found in one month dealers of a medium price car were forced to take 90% with automatic transmission, 50% with power steering, 40% with power brakes, high percentage with power windows and seats. Thus large share of cars had \$600 or more in luxury accessories which many buyers cannot afford.

But that's dealers hard luck. He has to make price concessions, work out other plans at his expense, to bring price down to prevailing consumer level.

Probably never in economic history have so many steps been taken by manufacturers to wreck their dealer organizations. It could happen in no other industry; could not have happened in auto industry without production in hands of so few.

Actually, if Reuther wishes to stabilize industry, he could do worse than send study teams around country getting dealer perspective, then working out plan for industry, rather than making appeals to Washington. The welfare of his union depends not on factories in Michigan, but in the health and well being of every auto dealer in every hamlet, town and city of the nation. As the dealers go, so will go the industry.

Mrs. Sara A. Sisk Passes; Formerly From Hot Springs

Funeral services for Mrs. Sara Alice Sisk, 85, a native of McDowell County, who died Tuesday, July 10, 1956 in an Asheville nursing home after a long illness, were held Sunday at 2:30 p. m., in the chapel of Jess Ray Funeral Home, Asheville.

Burial was in Violet Hill Cemetery.

Surviving are one son, R. H. Sisk, of Hot Springs; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Sisk had made her home at Hot Springs for sometime prior to entering the nursing home.

HITS WRONG CAR

Dallas, Tex. Skidding on an icy street proved disastrous for Richard W. Williams Jr., 37. His newly-acquired car skidded and side-swiped a passing police car. When the patrolman overtook Williams 17 blocks later, they identified him as a former Leavenworth inmate, who has served four terms for car theft. The car he was driving had been stolen.

The man with the least character is continually trying to have it vindicated.

Industry is the mother of success—luck only a distant relative.

With Our Boys In Service

Camp McCoy, Wis.—Pvt. James L. Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Ramsey, Marshall, is helping provide support for National Guard and Army Reserve units on active duty training at Camp McCoy, Wis., this summer.

He is a gunner in Company H of the 1st Infantry Division's 50th Regiment, regularly stationed at Fort Riley, Kan.

Ramsey, a 1952 graduate of Marshall High School, was employed by the A&P Tea Company, Charlotte, before entering the Army in September, 1955. He completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C.

Augsberg, Germany—Pvt. William G. Raab, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Raab, Route 1, Alamo, recently participated in a field training exercise with the 11th Airborne Division in Germany. Raab is assigned to the 1st Battalion, 11th Airborne Division.

Here Comes The Bookmobile

Last Tuesday morning when I went out to get "Bookie" and start on my way to ride the Beech Glen-Paint Fork-Buckner route, I could tell in a minute that there was something wrong with her. She had a very pained expression on her countenance, and was standing sort of lop-sided. In a very pitiful voice poor old "Bookie" squeaked out her troubles. "It's my foot," she said. "I have suffered something terrible all night. Now it's flat. Call the doctor quick." Straightway, I ran to the house and phoned the automotive doctor, Bob Craine. He sent his assistant, Danny Moore, right up. After some first aid treatment, we got "Bookie" down to Mr. Craine's office, where we found that she had run a sharp rock right through the hard part of her foot and into the soft part. Then a slight operation, a little treatment and good ole "Bookie" was walking on that foot just like nothing had happened. We showed the rock that was extracted to Mr. Lippard; and he said it had gold in it. Now "Bookie" is going around bragging to everybody that she punctured her foot with a gold nugget.

"Bookie" sez to me, "When you say you are going to do something, you ought to do it." "Yes, 'Bookie,'" sez I, sort of meek-like. "What did I say I would do?" "The no-overduers honor roll," sez "Bookie." "Thanks, 'Bookie,'" —thanks a lot; I am getting awfully forgetful. In fact, just between us, I only have it ready for the last two weeks. "Well," sez "Bookie," "Just be honest and truthful and tell the folks that. It is going to be a fairly long list anyway, so maybe it would be best, if you put two weeks in our column this time, then each week right after we run that route." "Bookie," sez I, "You are such a comfort to me. How could I ride the route, or write this column without you?"

NO-OVERDUERS HONOR ROLL FOR WEEKS OF JULY

Mars Hill Negro Church, Grover Gillis-Paint Fork, Hamburg Church, Dairy Bar, Briggs' Mill, Payne's Chapel-Little Pine, Wiley Roberts-Little Pine, Riley Fisher's-Redmon, Riverview Service Station-Jay, Chauncey Metcalf-Red Oak, Triplett's, Conner's-Panhandle, Long Branch Church, Ray Friabee-Long Branch, Dockery's-Long Branch, Wyatt's-Long Branch, Wallin's Service Station-Highway 25-70, Martin's Service Station-Highway 25-70, Worley's Store-Little Pine.

Three new stops on Walnut Creek and one on Long Branch were omitted, because they have not yet had time to keep books over two months, which is the period it takes to become an "overduer." We feel sure they are going to make this honor roll,

given the chance. James Ramsey's-East Fork, Peek's Store, Ody's Store-Petersburg, Brigman's Mill-new stop. The borrowers there looked and seemed like future honor-rollers.

Vance Ricker's-Paint Rock, M. J. Ricker's-Paint Rock, Foster's Store-Antioch, Upper Shutin Church, Gowan's Store-Shutin, Eugene Wills-Blood River, Ted Russell's Store-Bluff, W. E. Forrester's-Meadow Fork, Stewart Plemmons-Spring Creek, Pink Plemmons-Spring Creek, Ebbs & Gardner's Store-Spring Creek, Dewey Roberts-Spring Creek, Roscoe Sprinkle's-Grapevine, Rochester's-Grapevine, Coy Gosnell's-Grapevine, Coates' Store-Arrington Branch, Wiley Peek's-East Fork, Peek's Chapel-East Fork,

My friend said the Lord became as real to her as any person she ever saw or knew. She experienced the truth of these words, "Lo, I am with you always."

PRAYER

Father, we thank Thee for the consciousness of Thy presence. Give us grace to make every experience a blessing. We pray Thee to direct our paths this day. In the name of Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." —Mrs. Paul Arrington, Home-Maker (Mississippi)

Today's MEDITATION

The World's Most Widely Used Devotional Guide



The Upper Room

Read Hebrews 11:23-27

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

In Europe I have a friend who lost home, husband, and sons during the war. She was a woman of Christian influence. The enemy sought her. She fled. After days of endless wandering, tired in body, shrouded in grief, she stopped still, engulfed in terrifying loneliness. As she looked across the vastness, she felt a sense of solitude.

But she looked up. There were the stars in their places, twinkling through the atmosphere. "God still is," she thought. He spoke to her through these words from Deuteronomy: "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee." She then prayed: "O God, my Father, I have no one but Thee. I place my hand in Thine. Hold me. Lead me."

My friend said the Lord became as real to her as any person she ever saw or knew. She experienced the truth of these words, "Lo, I am with you always."

PRAYER

Father, we thank Thee for the consciousness of Thy presence. Give us grace to make every experience a blessing. We pray Thee to direct our paths this day. In the name of Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." —Mrs. Paul Arrington, Home-Maker (Mississippi)

BIG BRANCH (NEAR MARS HILL)

We are very glad to see Mr. Ralph Neill home from the hospital. He seems to be doing very nicely. We hope he will soon be well.

The Rev. and Mrs. A. Z. Knight and two daughters, of Jacksonville, Fla., were visiting the Rev. Mr. Knight's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Burns Baird last week. They seemed to enjoy their visit very much.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bryan and son, Jerry, of Nashville, Tennessee came up for the funeral of Mr. Bryan's uncle, Mr. John Bryan, and came on to Mars Hill to visit relatives and friends. We were very glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Bryan and Jerry and we hope they will come back on the Branch to visit us again soon.

We were sorry that Mr. Lewis Bryan was not able to come to his brother's funeral.

We are glad to see the improvement Mrs. G. C. Robinson has made on her home.

Little Billy Goforth, who has been so sick, is now showing some improvement. We hope he will soon be able to come home from the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Moss and their son, J. C., have returned home after a trip to Florida. They reported a nice trip and hope they can go back again.

PAINT ROCK

We have been having some rain for the last few days.

The two-weeks Bible School at Grace Chapel closed on Friday.

A/2c Billy Ward has returned to Homestead Air Force Base, Fla., after a 10-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ward.

Charles Woody, of the U. S. Air Force, is home for a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Woody.

Mrs. J. N. Lamb is spending this week with her children in Asheville.

Mr. Mack Holt has returned to work after being off for sometime for the Southern Railroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ward and two children have returned to their home in Plant City, Fla., after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Ricker have a new son, born this month. Mrs. Mack Holt called on Mrs. Junior Ricker on Monday.

Someone has advised that people should do two things each day that they dislike, just for practice. One of these would likely be getting up.

FOR ATHLETES FOOT

Use T-4-L for 3 to 5 days. Watch the old itched skin slough off leaving healthy, hardy skin. It not pleased with powdered, instant-drying T-4-L, your 40c back at any drug store. Today at Moore's Pharmacy.

