

International Sunday School Lesson for JULY 28, 1968

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PRAYING IN A CRISIS

Memory Selection: "O Lord hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God; for thy city and thy people are called by thy name."

Lesson Text: Daniel 9:1-23.

Today our Lesson lies in the Book of Daniel... a man of God who was not afraid to face trial and tribulation — and even dan-

Daniel, like Christ in Gethsemane, was sustained in hours of crisis by the strength he derived from communion with the Creator.

In this Lesson we study the underlying motivations of his prayer of intercession, and we, as individuals and professed Christians, can learn much from this study.

In the first place we cannot help but be impressed by the selfishness delineated in Daniel's prayer, for, if we are completely honest with ourselves we must admit that praying, in a crisis, to us, invariably stems from self-interest! True, we may be praying for the sparing of a loved one's life... but, are we not (basically) praying for deliverance from sorrow for ourselves? Just as we grieve the death of a beloved — are we not grieving for ourselves... and our personal loss? (If we truly believe our loved one has gone to a better life, free from pain and sorrow, why should we not rejoice?) But

... human nature being what it is, in such circumstances our loss is deeply personal, and our sorrow and sense of bereavement equally so!

Be that as it may, Daniel was a man of great stature and compassion. Humility was the keynote of his approach to God in supplication, and that supplication contained confessions of sins and shortcomings; recognition of the greatness of God was freely confessed; so, also, was an affirmation of faithfulness, and a basic, motivating love of God the Creator.

Sincerity was the keynote; and humility! Perhaps one of the most moving passages in the entire prayer is as follows: "We do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousness, but for thy great mercies..."

All truly Christian prayer puts the Will and the glory of God at the center of that prayer, and this is especially true of prayers of intercession. Consciousness of God's infinite mercy, of His love for mankind, is the core of Daniel's prayer, and of this — in our

EXECUTRIX NOTICE
Having qualified as Executrix of the estate of J. P. Deaver, deceased, late of Madison County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons have claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned at Rt. 4, Marshall, N. C., on or before the 4th day of January, 1969, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 4th day of July, 1968. SOPHRONIA H. BALL, Executrix 7-4, 11, 18, 25p

moments of personal communion — we should ever be aware. In times of crisis — personal and otherwise — man becomes acutely aware of his need of God. And perhaps that is the greatest compliment that one can pay our Creator! When things are going right for us, we tend to take so many blessings for granted... a very human failing! But when things are going wrong, then we seek a Strength beyond our strength; a Love beyond our capacities; an understanding beyond our understanding.

In prayer we become closer to God for prayer magnifies the Lord. And prayer asserts, tacitly, the faith of the individual IN God! With humility, and a willingness to subject one's wishes to the will of God, it asserts faith in God's over-all purpose for man. It declares faith and confidence in the character and purpose of God. In prayer, indeed, is demonstrated the harmony that exists between God and mankind.

In approaching the Lord in prayer we should pray for understanding of God's will in crises... not deliverance from them. For only by acceptance of God's will, will we grow to be strong and worthy of His bounty, and be acceptable in His sight. Let us pray to this end!

Two Minutes With The Bible

THE FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST
"... the righteousness of God... by the faith of Jesus Christ, unto all and upon all them that believe" (Rom. 3:22)

Note, the Apostle Paul here does not refer to faith IN Christ, but the faith OF Christ. Nor does he refer to what Christ believed, but rather to His worthiness to BE believed, His fidelity.

We must not forget that faith is a reciprocal matter; it is twofold. One is objective; it believes in another. The other is subjective; it is a trustworthy character. One refers to what a person DOES; the other to what he IS. If I have faith in you (objectively) you should keep faith with me (be trustworthy, subjectively).

Seven times in St. Paul's epistles he refers to "THE FAITH OF CHRIST" and each time his purpose is to emphasize our Lord's worthiness of our complete confidence. That he does not refer to OUR faith IN Christ is evident on the surface. In the passage above he declares that the righteousness of God, which is "by the faith OF Christ," is conferred "UPON ALL OF THEM THAT BELIEVE" (Here's your faith in Him).

Similarly, in Gal. 3:22 he states that "The Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise, by the faith of Jesus Christ might be given to THEM THAT BELIEVE." Here again, we believe, because He is worthy of our confidence.

Again in Phil. 3:9, the apostle expresses his desire for a righteousness not of his own, "but that which is through the faith of Christ" — and then adds: "the righteousness which is of God BY FAITH." Here's man faith again! He has faith in Christ because Christ is completely faithful, completely worthy to be believed in. He paid the FULL penalty for our sins and is now in heaven dispensing the merits of Calvary — riches of grace, mercy and forgiveness.

But remember, "the faith of Christ" always precedes our faith IN Christ. What good would it do to believe in Him for salvation if He were not wholly to be relied upon for this? But He CAN be trusted "to save unto the uttermost all who come unto God by Him" (Heb. 7:25). This is why Paul could say to the terrified jailer at Philippi: "BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED" (Acts 16:31)

NOTICE
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MADISON
Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by Floyd Roberts and wife, Hazel Roberts, date January 10, 1963, and recorded in Trust Book 57, page 339, Madison County Registry, default have been made in payment of the indebtedness to be secured and said deed of trust, by the terms thereof subject to foreclosure, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the Court House door in Marshall, North Carolina, at 11:00 a. m., on August 12, 1968, the property conveyed in said deed of trust, the same being in No. 8 Township, Madison County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

TRACT I: Lying and being in No. 8 Township, and adjoining the lands of the U. S. Government, the Finleys and Thomms:

BEGINNING on a stake and white oak, formerly a chestnut, runs North 3.5 degrees East with the Government line 60 poles horizontal, to U. S. Government corner; North 77.75 degrees West 59 poles to U. S. Government corner; North 3.5 degrees East 80 poles to U. S. Government corner; South 49.25 degrees West 48 poles to U. S. Government corner; North 57.75 degrees West 9 poles 12 links to U. S. Government corner; North 72.5 degrees West 13 poles 14 links to U. S. Government corner; North 41.75 degrees West 7 poles 11 links to U. S. Government corner; North 86.5 degrees West 37 poles 12 links to U. S. Government corner; South 3.5 degrees West with Thomas' line 180 poles to a stake; South 86.5 degrees East 66 poles with the fence to a stake; North 3.5 degrees East 53 poles to a stake, near the road; South 86.5 degrees East 89 poles to the BEGINNING.

Containing 123.5 acres, more or less, according to a plat and survey by Birchard Shelton, Surveyor, dated November 15, 1944. See Deed recorded in Book 50, page 282 and Book 71, page 126.

TRACT II: BEGINNING on a white oak on line of Dan Finley, runs North 83 degrees East to Government line; thence a Northerly course to Walter Gunter's line; thence a Westerly course with Walter Gunter's line to a stake; thence a Southerly course with Gunter's line to a white oak, the BEGINNING.

TRACT III: Adjoining the lands of Ernest Holt and Dave Brooks, being in No. 8 township, and more particularly described and bounded as follows:

BEGINNING on a stake in the road 14 poles to a birch stump; thence down Charlotte's Branch 30 poles East to a rock; thence 8 poles North to a stake in Dave Brooks' line; thence West 34 poles to a pine stump; thence South 15 poles to the BEGINNING.

Containing two acres, more or less.

This sale to be made subject to all outstanding Madison County ad valorem taxes. This 11th day of July, 1968. CHARLES E. MASHBURN, Trustee 7-18-8-8c

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HAS ITS USE The teacher had been giving a lesson on the reindeer, its habits, and uses. One boy, was not paying slightest attention, so the teacher reprimanded him. "Now, Tommy, what is the use of the reindeer?" she asked him. The startled youngster looked nonplused, and then replied: "It makes things grow."

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NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA MADISON COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by Bald Mountain-Paint Rock Development Association, Inc., dated September 3, 1966, and of record in Trust Book 57, page 433, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Madison County, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured; and said deed of trust, being by the terms thereof, subject to foreclosure; and under the authority of an order entered in the matter of Bald Mountain-Paint Rock Development Association, Inc., in bankruptcy, No. 25, 233, dated June 12, 1968, in the United States District Court for the Northern Division of the Eastern District of Tennessee, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the Court-house door in Marshall, North Carolina, at eleven o'clock in the morning on August 17, 1968, the property conveyed in said deed of trust, the same lying and being in the County of Madison, State of North Carolina, in old No. 9 Township, now No. 6 Township, and more particularly described as follows:

Lying and being in the County of Madison and State of North Carolina, in No. 9 Township, adjoining the Tennessee State Line, the Southern Railway, the French Broad River and perhaps others, and more particularly described as follows:

First Tract: BEGINNING on W. H. Blackwell's corner in Tennessee State Line, and runs with said Blackwell's line to the French Broad River; thence down with meanders of said river to the old Lance and Gudger line; thence with the Lance and Gudger (now Waddell and Gudger) line to the beginning, containing ten (10) acres, more or less.

Reference is hereby made to the Madison County Registry to Deed Book No. 47 at page 446 where is recorded a deed dated April 24, 1926, from Sol McFeeters and wife, F. R. Waddell.

Second Tract: BEGINNING on A. J. Ellenburg's corner in Cance Hollow near the Southern Railroad, just below Paint Rock Station; thence with a northwesterly course to the Gid Rogers corner; thence with the Rogers line to his upper corner above his house in the hollow; thence a southwesterly course with the said State Line to the J. H. Huff corner; thence with the Huff line to the A. J. Ellenburg upper corner to the Cance Hollow; thence with the A. J. Ellenburg line to the beginning, containing sixty-one (61) and nine tenths acres, more or less.

But this sale will be made subject to all ad valorem taxes accruing after December 31, 1967, and said sale will be subject to raise bids and the confirmation of the Court. This the 16th day of July, 1968. CLYDE A. DUNN, Trustee 7-25-8-15c

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Your Social Security

The percentage of Americans 65 and over enrolled in the "doctor bill insurance" part of Medicare went up from 92 to 95 per cent during the 6-month open enrollment period that ended April 1, James E. Robertson, Social Security district manager, stated. "Almost 700,000 older people who had missed out on their first chance to enroll for the medical insurance to supplement their basic hospital insurance, signed up during the recent enrollment period," Robertson said.

Now 18.6 million of the Nation's 19.6 million persons 65 and over are enrolled for the voluntary medical insurance that helps pay doctors' and Surgeons' bills and a variety of other health care services. About 17.9 million had this medical insurance protection at the beginning of the open enrollment period.

Robertson pointed out that participation in this doctor bill insurance rose from 92 to 95 per cent "despite an increase of \$1 in the monthly premium paid by those enrolled. And only 36,000 older people gave notice between October 1, 1967 and April 1, 1968 of their wish to 'disenroll'."

The increase in the premium rate from \$3 to \$4, announced in December 1967 and effective with the month of April 1968, was necessary in part to finance the improved medical insurance coverage and partly to cover increasing medical costs. (The monthly premium paid by those who sign up for this supplementary plan represents one-half the cost of the protection. The Government pays the other half of the cost.)

"Future enrollment periods are set up on a 3-month basis, the next 'open period' being scheduled for January through March, 1969 — with coverage beginning July 1 of that year," he explained.

"In the meantime, I advise those approaching age 65 to enroll for this important Medicare protection. And I strongly advise each to sign up during the 3 months before the month of his or her 65th birthday, so there will be no delay or loss of protection."

LONG GONE

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