

The Sunday School Lesson JOB TEMPTED TO DOUBT GOD'S GOODNESS

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL
(The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for July 7 is Job 1 and 2, the Golden Text being Job 1:22, "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.")

THE STORY of Job, which we have for today's lesson, is one of the most dramatic and intensely interesting in the Bible. Here again we take up the problem of disaster which hits at the good as well as the evil.

There are people who think there never was a person in the Old Testament times named Job. There is, however, much evidence to show there was, and his courage and faith under unspcakable affliction is a lesson for all of us—old and young, rich or poor.

The story of Job's life starts: "There was a man in the land of Uz (whose location cannot be definitely determined at the present time), whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God and eschewed evil."

Then the account tells of his seven sons and three daughters and his great riches in the form of sheep, oxen, female asses and camels. When his sons held feasts in their homes, and invited their sisters to these merrymakings, Job "sent and sanctified burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, it may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually."

Satan Goes to and Fro
Now the story changes to the abode of God—Heaven. On a day when the Sons of God (the angels) came to present themselves to the Lord, Satan (whom you remember was once an angel fallen because of his pride) came too, and the Lord asked him: "Whence comest thou?" And Satan answered, "From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it."

Then the Lord asked Satan if he had noticed His servant Job, "of whom there is none like him in earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil?"

Satan replied that he had, and suggested that the reason Job was so good was that he had everything the heart of man could ask; and furthermore gave it as his (Satan's) opinion, that if Job should lose his possessions he would not be such a good man, but would curse God to His face.

So to test Job and see if his worship was merely face devotion, the Lord gave Satan power to take away all that Job had.

One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting at the home of one of the sons, a messenger came to Job, telling him that the Sabeans had come upon his oxen plowing with the asses feeding beside them, and had taken them all away, killing all of his servants but the one who escaped to tell him the dreadful news.

Then another messenger came and announced that fire had fallen from heaven on all his sheep and

the servants that tended them, and that only he had escaped to tell him.

His Children Killed
Yet another messenger came to poor Job, telling him that the Chaldeans had taken away his camels and killed all the servants with them. And most dreadful of all, another came, saying that as his sons and daughters were feasting a great wind came from the wilderness, blew down the house, and killed them all, excepting the one who came to him.

"Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, saying: Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Satan then asked that the Lord put forth His hand and afflict Job with a loathsome disease and see what he would say. The Lord told Satan he must spare Job's life, but that He put him in Satan's hands and he could so afflict him, to test him further.

When boils appeared on Job's body, from his head to his feet, his wife said to him: "Dost thou still

retain thine integrity? curse God, and die." But Job told her she was speaking foolishly. "What?" said he, "shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?"

"In all this did Job sin with his lips," the accounts say.

At the end of this chapter (Job 2), three friends came to find and comfort him, but they "knew him not" at first, and when they did, they wept, rent their mantles, put dust on their heads and sat down with him on the ground for seven days and seven nights.

We shall read about his further trials and how he bore them and what he answered his friends about his affliction in the next lesson.

Forest Service To Give Movies

Assigned to the Pisgah Forest for the next few weeks is one of the Forest Service "showboats" with portable motion picture equipment furnishing its own electricity for the operation of the projector. The truck is equipped with a small motor and generator so that the rural school and communities where commercial power is not available may receive benefit of this entertaining as well as instructive program.

Designed to help the public better appreciate the value of our forests, the pictures are a part of

the U. S. Forest Service visual education program in the interest of FOREST FIRE PREVENTION.

In technicolor, "4000 GIFTS OF THE FOREST" gives an idea of the multiplicity of practical products and unique uses of the forest trees and their derivatives. Rivaling the brilliance of the Rhododendron Grand Parade, this idea is presented by means of colorful floats passing in review before the sovereign, "King Douglas, the Fir." "RE-CREATION" is the amusing story of a typical big-city family which is drawn closer together through the inspiration of the National Forest while spending their vacation there. Some of the beautiful scenes are taken from the Pisgah and nearby Nantahala Na-

tional Forest, with other sequences of athletic activities and historic sites from the National Forests in all sections of the country. This family, as the title implies, finds through recreation there is "RE-CREATION."

Plans are now being formulated for showing these to the summer recreation camps in the vicinity of the Pisgah Forest, and to various Boy Scout groups.

The pictures are presented without charge and the public is urged to attend.

The outlook for lard appears to have some hopeful spots because of the large buying program planned by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

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MODERN FROG LEVEL

Lots of people haven't stopped to realize how Frog Level has improved, and has become the most important spot in town. It's the only part of Waynesville what has train service. It is the only part of town where a clear mountain stream flows, bringing with it coolness and adding beauty to our section.

Frog Level is almost a complete town within itself. You can get everything from an automobile on down—or up. Why, at Burgin's alone, there is a complete line of goods in every department—dry goods, clothing, notions, shoes, meats, groceries and feeds. No matter where you go, there is not much chance of getting a better line of goods at lower prices than at Burgin's in Frog Level.

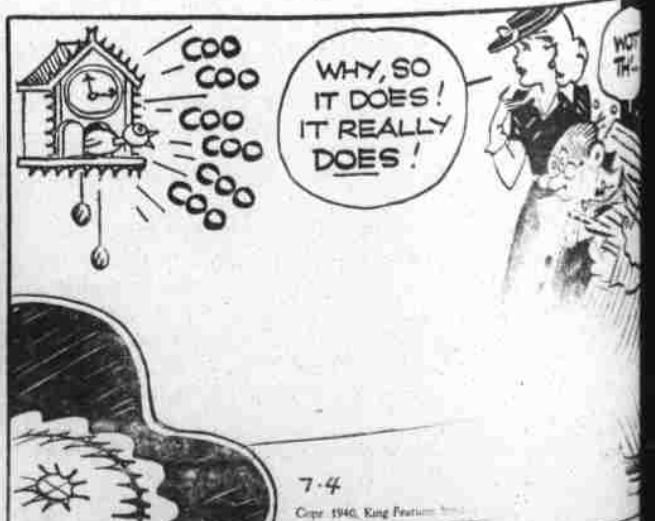
Next week, very same time and same spot, another article on "The Extras of Life."

P.S.—The folks back home didn't like my dressed-up picture, so here's my every-day one.

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