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SUNDAY SCHOOL

LESSON

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D.,
 Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago
 Released by Western Newspaper Union

LESSON FOR MARCH 2

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JESUS SUMS UP HIS CLAIMS

LESSON TEXT—John 12:12-16, 20-32
MEMORY SELECTION—And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.—John 12:32

The last week of our Lord's ministry on earth comes before us today as we consider two events—one of which occurred on Sunday and the other on Tuesday. One sees here the attitude of men toward Christ, of God toward men, of the Father toward the Son, and the majestic drawing power of the Saviour.

I. Believing Men Honor Christ (vv. 12-16).
 God says, "Him that offereth praise glorifieth me" (Ps. 50:23), and the believer recognizes that "praise is comely for the upright" (Ps. 33:1). Jesus is entirely worthy of the praise of every heart and voice.

Presenting himself as their Messiah, Jesus received the enthusiastic acclaim of his disciples and friends, who were probably joined by others drawn by the excitement.

The Pharisees did not join in (see Luke 19:39, 40), nor did the city, not even knowing who he was (Matt. 21:10, 11). So it is today; some love and praise him, some hate him, others just ignore him. Of which class are you?

He gave Jerusalem and the nation a final opportunity to receive him. It was not yet too late, but it was their last chance. Such a time comes in the life of every one of us. They rejected him. Do we?

But even though some did reject, let us not forget that there were those who shouted, "Hosanna"; who cast their garments down before him and waved palms of victory and joy. Thank God for their holy enthusiasm. Pray God that we may have a little more of it.

II. God Honors Men Who Serve Christ (vv. 20-26).
 It is good to note that whatever prompted the coming of the Greeks, they wanted to see Jesus.

A man has progressed far on the road to blessing when he makes known his desire to see Jesus. Coming to him means coming to the One who has the words of eternal life.

Note that the disciples were wise enough to bring the men to Jesus. The true function of every Christian worker is to bring men to him.

The reply of our Lord to the Greeks, and to the disciples who brought them to him, seems a bit singular at first glance. Did he not wish to receive them? They had probably come to see the great religious leader, the King of the Jews—why did he talk about death?

The words of our Lord are clear. Men do not need an example, a leader, a teacher; they need a Saviour. It is as a sacrifice for sin that Christ will draw all men unto himself.

III. The Father Glorifies the Son (vv. 27-30).
 The awful blackness of the burden of the world's sins which he was to bear pressed down upon our Lord in an agony of soul beyond our ability to understand. But even his troubled soul did not turn from the hour of death for us.

The question of verse 27 is essentially this: "Should I ask the Father to deliver me from this hour? No, I came to be man's Saviour." He did not look away, nor wish to turn back. He knew why he had come, and he was faithful even to death (Phil. 2:8; Heb. 2:9).

He had only one desire—that the name of God the Father should be glorified (v. 28). Do we who bear his holy name follow in his footsteps? Do we have an eye single to his glory—or do we seek our own?

Then came the voice from heaven; the Father had glorified his own name in the Son, and would do it again—yes, again and again.

Jesus knew the Father would do it, he did not need any assurance (v. 30), but for the sake of the people the witness was given. Notice the reaction of the listeners—some recognized that a heavenly message had been given; others had only heard some thunder.

May God give us grace to hear his voice when he speaks, and not consider it merely the rolling of some deep voice of thunder!

IV. The Son Draws All Men to Himself (vv. 31, 32).
 Because Christ was lifted up on the cross and died, there is victory over sin and death, declared by his resurrection and ascension to the Father.

Satan is still at liberty in the world, but he is defeated (John 16:11). Death still comes, but the sting is gone for the Christian (1 Cor. 15:55-57). The world is still fighting our Lord, but he is drawing men to himself here and there throughout the world.

One day he will come as King of kings and Lord of lords, to declare in its finality the victory which has already been won.

We should be reminded anew that it is Christ the Saviour who will draw men if we will only exalt him in our preaching and teaching. Let us do it!

Inadequate Scales In Drugstores

Results of 7 months' investigation of scales and weights by the 817 drugstores compounding prescriptions in this State disclosed that 10 of the stores had no prescription scales whatever; nine had scales regarded as inadequate, 170 are using "Class B" scales and only 607 are using "Class A" scales, as required by law.

Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott declared that 1,950 of the 15,416 weights tested were found to be short -- or approximately 13 percent of the total.

He said that 817 drugstores had 917 prescription scales, 11 of these being condemned as not giving fair weight.

All the "weights" -- and these included pieces of wire, pennies, nickels, and other small objects -- which did not meet with standards were confiscated.

Scott charged that in many instances prescriptions have been compounded "more or less by guess," since neither scales nor

State College Answers Farm Questions

Q. Will pigs and sows thrive on the same ration?
 A. No. What is good for pigs is not necessarily good for sows.

Q. What progress was made in growing Turkish tobacco in this state in 1946?
 A. About 50,000 pounds of this type leaf was grown in the mountain areas last year. The average averaged about \$1,000 per acre on the crop, or about twice as much as for burley and fine-cured types.

Q. What is the average soybean yield-per-acre for North Carolina?
 A. Present average yields range from 9 to 13 bushels per acre.

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AT HOME ON THE FARM
 With The City Cousin

"His entire life was spent in the rural community where he was born. This was said of Bill Tyree, dirt farmer, in his plain and simple obituary that came out in the county seat weekly newspaper shortly after he died.

had read this line in more than one account of the passing of a friend. It is part of the stock in trade of men everywhere who write for "the hometown paper."

Close to the soil themselves, in small towns that depend on the outlying farm sections for their very existence, country editors have a keen awareness of the real meaning behind the unadorned summary of Bill Tyree's crowded lifetime.

City cousins who take the trouble to read the obituary of a farmer they have not known in life, conclude that men like Bill were old "stick-in-the-muds" whose existence must have been terribly dull. But I knew Bill. Because he was strong enough to stick it out, some folks get the idea that he was too weak to move on to the "greener pastures" that are kinda like the end of the rainbow.

Bill saw good times and bad times find their way to his farmstead, but he knew how to handle them. I've seen him prosper, and I've seen him paying up his newspaper subscription with bags of potatoes and Leghorn hens. Sometimes he had to pay the doctor and the parson with this same legal tender, but Bill Tyree could be counted upon to "pay in full."

How many "Bill Tyrees" do we have in North Carolina? Well, look at your small rural communities. Search out the school, the church,

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