

RELIGION FOR THE MODERN WORLD



SCRIPTURE: I Peter, Jude, Luke 2:40-52. DEVOTIONAL READING: Matthew 5:1-15.

Building Character

Lesson for November 16, 1947

WE SHALL need to read carefully Second Peter if we are to profit most in the study of Sunday's lesson. Peter tells us:

"According as his divine power hath given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue."

We may partake of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. That, I realize, is very difficult for us to understand, and yet it is within the grasp of every boy and girl, every man and woman, in all the world.

In addition to Second Peter, we are asked to read Jude and Luke 2:40-52. The passage in Luke tells how Jesus grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him.

As Jesus Grew

WE HEAR a great deal today about juvenile delinquency. The question everywhere arises, What can we do to prevent juvenile delinquency?

We have the answer in Sunday's lesson. As Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man, so can every youth in America grow into strong and beautiful manhood and womanhood.

The parents of Jesus, we are told, obeyed God in doing for the Child all that they were commanded to do.

The Love of God

"KEEP yourselves in the love of God," Jude 21. There is the formula for building Christian character.

This business of building Christian character is based on a formula—keeping within the circle of God's love.

It is just as essential to have the proper nourishment in building Christian character as in growing a fine ear of corn. Progress is not accidental. It is the result of right thinking, right behavior, right purpose. Only in the love of God can the young life find the nurture for Christian character.

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Uncle Sam Says



"What's in it for me?" Any time you buy something or invest money you should ask this question and get a glib answer. Investing in U. S. Savings Bonds could well be the answer. There's what's in it for you. When you exchange your money for the U. S. government's security of your investment, you are in it for the long run.

Christian Mathematics

TURN again, if you will, to Second Peter, and read his mathematical formula by which Christian character is realized:

"Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Old-fashioned stuff, someone will cynically observe. Aye, old-fashioned—it may seem, but only from this old-fashioned formula can character be built—Christian character.

And what is it that our needy, frightened world is asking for above everything else today? For the certitude of hope that is found only in hearts that are staid upon God.

We may smile at Peter's mathematics, but his formula is the only hope for United Nations, the only hope for world peace, the only hope for civilization.

Jude's Benediction

YOU have read, I hope, the brief Book of Jude, only 25 verses. You have followed his pungent, cogent argument. You have followed his exhortation. And now you come to his benediction—a very fitting climax for Sunday's lesson:

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore. Amen."

As you sit in your living room, or on the train, or in the plane, or in the hotel, or at the hospital, or wherever you may be, reading these lines, remember this—the need of America today is more Christian character in the home, factory, store, bank, mill, field, school room, in the meeting house.

God grant that we may heed the admonition of the Scripture passages above cited, and think on our ways while it is yet day. The night cometh apace.

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Junior 4-H Club

On Oct. 24, 1947, the Kenansville

Junior 4-H Club met in the auditorium for their second meeting.

During the business session, new officers were elected as follows: Pres. Mary Beth Southerland; vice Pres. Herman Norris; Secy. Adron Goodman, and Reporter, Sarah Brown.

Egg production per layer in September was 19.7 eggs compared with 19.6 last year and an average of 9.7 eggs.

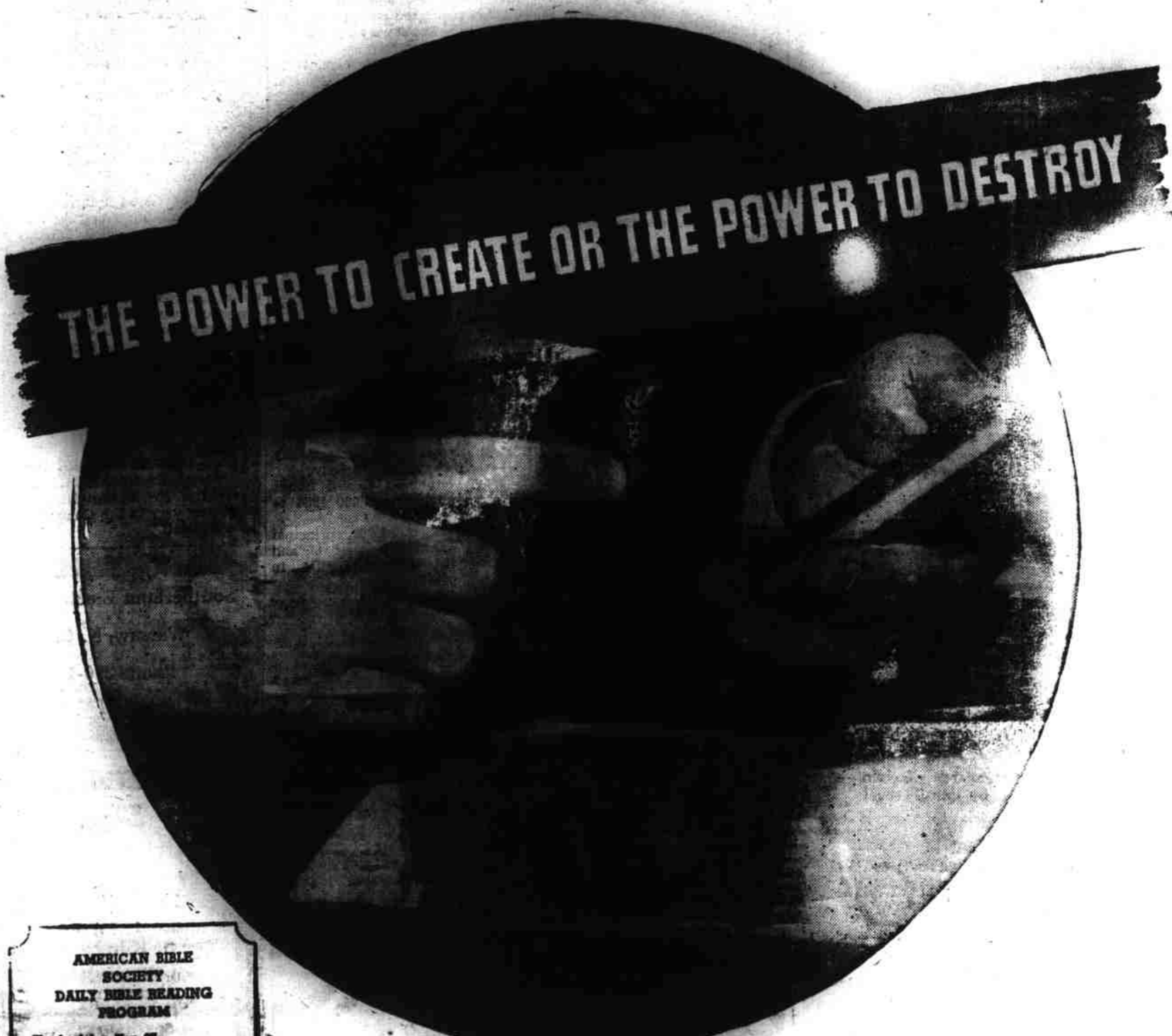
State College Hints To Homemakers

A guide for the shopper who is buying a blanket: Be sure it is 100% wool. Purchase a brand name of long-standing reputation; Look for close, fine weave. It should be double napped; the deeper the nap,

the warmer the blanket. It should be sturdy to withstand constant handling. Look for the laundry seal of approval.

Proper laundering does more than restore cleanliness - it helps preserve color, and lengthens life of the blanket.

Brush your blankets - Keep the nap fluffy. Brushing between laundering removes dust and fluff up the nap. Brush gently always toward the binding, never across the blanket.



THE POWER TO CREATE OR THE POWER TO DESTROY

In the little tube of uranium shown in this picture there is vast latent power—power to create or power to destroy. The power of the atom, if harnessed to peacetime uses, can turn every wheel in the world and open up new avenues of scientific and industrial progress. Made into atom bombs, it can destroy thousands of lives and wreck our civilization. Such vast power in the hands of reckless men is a menace to all humanity.

The teachings of the Bible are our best defense against this threat to civilization. Our great task is to spread these teachings far and wide so that man's destructive tendencies may be turned into the channels of peace.

Fortunately there is a trained agency—the American Bible Society—with 131 years of experience, ready to perform this task of getting the Bible to the people in the furthestmost parts of the world. This agency deserves our support and cooperation.

Since its organization in 1816, this Society has published and distributed more than 365,000,000 copies of the Scriptures in 74 different languages. It works in more than 40 countries in its effort to carry the Bible message to every quarter of the globe.

Advertisement for 'The Church for All' featuring an illustration of a church and text: 'THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH. The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend and support the church of his choice. They are: (1) For his own sake, (2) For his children's sake, (3) For the sake of his community and nation, (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.'

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