

RELIGION FOR THE MODERN WORLD



SCRIPTURE: I John 4-5; II John: Acts 4:1-13. DEVOTIONAL READING: Romans 8:1-11.

Proof of a Christian

Lesson for November 30, 1947

OPEN your Bible to I John 4-5; Second John; and Acts 4:1-13, and you will have the Scripture background for Sunday's lesson.

Two men are brought before us as examples of Christian discipleship

Peter and John had been preaching Christ to the people in Jerusalem, and they were arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin.

Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you.

The Lord is My Helper

IN HEBREWS 13:6, we find this revealing statement: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear."

The more we study the words of John in Sunday's lesson—words that remind us again and again that God is love, that we love him because he first loved us, that when we love him we are made strong in serving him, the clearer we come to understand the incident in Acts 4:1-13, when Peter and John stood boldly before the Sanhedrin, impressing the court with the fact that they had been with Jesus.

They were not afraid because they were conscious of the presence and power of God. The Psalmist put it sublimely when he said, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."

When We Walk With God

THE incontestable proof of a Christian is the manner of life he reveals when he walks with God. "And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, that, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it." II John 6.

A group of men sat in the University Club in Boston, discussing religion. Someone asked Professor William James to define Christianity. "I will not attempt a definition of Christianity, but I can give you an illustration."

Who is a Christian? WE COME now to the question which always emerges when we think along this line. Who is a Christian? Look now at I John 4:15-21. I quote some of these revealing words:

Whoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us, God is love; and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Anyone may become a Christian, provided he or she is willing to confess their utter lost estate and, repenting of sin, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Redeemer. Christ is the Author and the Finisher of our salvation. There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.

Sixty-one carloads of North Carolina-grown snap beans are providing enrichment for school lunches and the menus for State Institutions in a dozen states.

NEXT WEEK: ANOTHER BIBLE LESSON

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that the Commodity Credit Corporation will buy rice on a competitive bid basis to meet export requirements.

World corn production in 1947-48 is forecast at about 4.8 billion bushels.

Prices for fall and winter apples this year are expected to average about the same as last year.

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Uncle Sam Says



Who Americans are looking beyond this year's Thanksgiving table and building future happy Thanksgiving Days for themselves and their families through regular purchase of Savings Bonds.



Thankful America

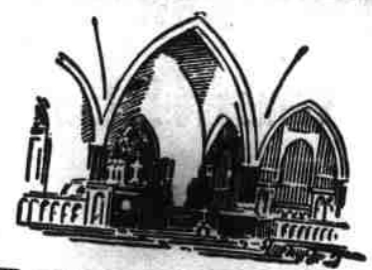
Thanksgiving Day is our country's public recognition of the power and providence of God. It is peculiarly an American institution, which has no counterpart in other lands.

On this day the people of our country, led by the government itself, express their humble and heartfelt thanks to God for His protecting care and the abundance of His provisions for our comfort and welfare.

The day itself is a wholesome influence in American life. It means a great deal when the people of a great nation lay aside their material concerns and gather in family groups to express gratitude for divine providence.

The Thanksgiving dinner may be a feast of delicacies or an unpretentious meal of simple fare. But those who partake of it should do so with thankful hearts and understanding minds.

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord," sang the Psalmist. And in thousands of churches and millions of American homes this Thanksgiving Day, grateful people will bow in humble recognition of God's matchless goodness.



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.

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