

RELIGION FOR THE MODERN WORLD



SCRIPTURE: Revelation 1-7; Acts 16:16-40; I Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-7. DEVOTIONAL READING: Revelation 3:7-12.

Courageous Loyalty Lesson for December 14, 1947

OPEN your Bible to Revelation, and read the first seven chapters. Then you will be ready for Acts 16:16-40, and I Peter 4:12-19, and 5:6, 7. These Scriptures form the basis of a study for Sunday on Loyalty Under Persecution.

How a Song Helped HUMBLE yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you.

Now, turn to Acts 16:30, and see how Paul and Silas, locked in the inner dungeon at midnight, could pray and sing.

A memory verse suggested for Sunday is found in Proverbs 17:22, and it goes like this: "A cheerful heart is a good medicine."

Happy Behind Prison Bars PAUL and Silas are pictured as happy in that dark dungeon. There is a statement to challenge every cynic, every doubting Thomas.

NEXT WEEK: ANOTHER BIBLE LESSON

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of J. B. Andrews, deceased, late of Duplin County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said dec.

GRADY MERCER ATTORNEY AT LAW 12-12-81. GM

Brother Faison Woman Dies

Cornelius Eugene (Buck) Raynor, 74, retired livestock dealer in Kin-



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Race Improvement Group Would Eliminate Morons; Wouldn't It Be Nice?

An educational program designed to assist in curbing the steady increase in morons in the State's population and the attendant vice, crime and institutional expense such increases involves has just been launched by the Human Betterment League of North Carolina, Inc.

Courageous Loyalty

LOOK now at Revelation 2:8-11, and 3:14-22, for the example of the church at Smyrna, burdened by tribulation and poverty, but "rich" in the promise that a crown of life awaited them.

It was far more difficult to be a Christian in the first century than it is in the twentieth century. By which I mean that the early Christians were few in number and without any backing of public opinion.

Even so, there are tests for us—tests that will be too much for human courage and loyalty, if we are true to the teachings of Jesus as they relate to everyday life.

The Blood of the Lamb

THE lesson concludes with that dramatic passage in Revelation 7:9-17, in which we behold the great white-robed throng about the throne of God, singing, "Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be unto our God forever and ever. Amen."

Who were they? "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Loyalty under persecution is dependent absolutely upon the life-giving power of the blood of the Lamb.

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Duplin Farmers Urged Plant Cotton To Offset Tobacco Acreage Loss

Raleigh, Dec. 3. — Cotton is "the most logical cash crop to help Duplin farmers make up at least some of the approximate \$3,608,850 income loss they will suffer from the 28 per cent blanket reduction in 1948 flue-cured tobacco acreage allotments," George T. Ashford of Red Springs, N. C., and president of the Carolinas Ginners Association, declared today.

New Officials Take Agricultural Posts

Two new officials have reported for work with the State Department of Agriculture

They are Cecil D. Thomas, who became executive assistant superintendent of the Test Farm Division, and J. M. Carr, who became assistant director in charge of the Tobacco Branch Experiment Station at Oxford.

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Merry Christmas

The greatest joy of the Christmas season is that of the little tots who awaken early Christmas morning and gaze in pleased wonder at the marvelous Christmas tree and the beautiful toys Santa Claus has brought.

The happy expressions on these little faces is worth all the troubles the grown-ups have taken to make the occasion a perfect one. Scenes like the one pictured here are among the happiest memories of childhood.

A little later on these children will begin to learn the deeper significance of Christmas. They will learn that the gifts of their parents, in the mythical role of Santa Claus, are but symbols of God's great gift to humanity.

The good will, love and unselfishness of the Christians are but a foreshadowing of the peace and good will that is to prevail among men through the teachings of Jesus, whose birth the Christmas season commemorates.

Parents should endeavor to lead their children into an understanding of this deeper meaning of Christmas—a task in which the Church stands ready to cooperate.

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.

This series of ads is being published each week in the Duplin Times under the auspices of the Duplin County Ministers and is being sponsored by the following patriotic individuals and business establishments

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