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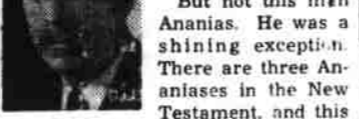
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BIBLE SPEAKS
 International Union
 Sunday School Lessons
 BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:1-22.
 DEVOTIONAL READING: Luke
 10:16-17.

At the Word of Command
 Lesson for August 29, 1948

DO PEOPLE always do what they know is right? You would think so; but they don't. It is strange how many excuses people can think up to get out of doing what they know in their hearts they ought to do.



But not this man Ananias. He was a shining exception. There are three Ananias in the New Testament, and this one makes up for the other two. One of the others was a rascally priest and one was a famous liar; but this Ananias, another of the "unheralded" characters from the Bible, is famed for going when God said, "Go." We know nothing much else about him, but this is enough.

No Wonder He Hesitated

IT WAS just after the conversion of Saul. At the time of our story, nobody had ever heard of Paul, only of Saul as he was then called; and nobody heard anything good. He was a bitter, ruthless man. He had no use for Christians. Extermination was his only answer to the Christian challenge. The name of Saul brought terror.

On this day of our story Saul had been only three days a Christian. He had had nothing to eat all that time, and he was said to be blind. You may be sure that Christians stayed away from him. His Jerusalem cronies had no doubt given him up as crazy; but no Christian would go near him either. At this point our Ananias had a vision: The Lord told him to go to Saul and lay his hands on him in help and blessing. Naturally Ananias held back. This was a dangerous man, said he. But again the Lord in the vision said, "Go," and Ananias went.

Suppose Ananias had said "No"? That might have changed the whole course of Christian history. How? He could have thought of many an excuse. "Aren't there other men who can baptize Saul as well as I can? . . . This whole vision may be only a mistake . . ." And so forth. But not when it became clear to him that this was God's will, Ananias went, though he still did not like it.

How is it with you? When you know what you ought to do, what is the first thing you think of? How to do it, or how to get out of doing it?

Taking Orders From God

HOW CAN we tell when it is really God who commands us? Most Christians today are suspicious of visions, and well we may be. Too many crazy things have been done by people who saw "visions" for us to trust such experiences very far.

One way in which God's orders come to us is in the Word of God, particularly in the words of Christ. For example, take one of the hardest things Jesus ever said: "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU." That sounds tough. It is tough. But it is a command. Yet don't most of us leave that command in the closed Bible and act as if the words had never been said?

That brings up another question. Is it likely that Ananias became fond of Saul all at once? Hardly. Ananias could not have liked the man; there was then nothing about him to like. We know from Paul's own words that people generally were not attracted by his looks. Yet Ananias, who could not have liked Saul, much less been fond of him, went and called him "Brother" and gave him his start in the Christian life.

Do You Know a Saul?

NOT FAR from where you are sitting at this moment there may be someone like Saul. He is a Christian, but a new and (so far) poor one, maybe. Someone nobody believes in, someone you scarcely know. It may be a child out of some low-grade home; it may be an ex-drunkard (not so long over it) or an ex-convict even; perhaps someone who has actually done you a wrong.

But this person may be just where Saul was, needing a friend. God may already have touched his heart, all he needs now is the human touch of a Christian friend. Maybe you can't love him, can't even like him; but if he is a human soul God loves him. If you can help him, then you are his Ananias. You know what you ought to do. Will you do it?

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Advised this the 27th day of August, 1948.

Ralph J. Jones, Sheriff of Duplin County.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

In The General County Court

North Carolina, Duplin County.

DOROTHY SAMPSON VS SYLVESTER SAMPSON

The above named defendant, Sylvester Sampson, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the General County Court of Duplin County, North Carolina, to secure an absolute divorce from the defendant upon the ground that the plaintiff and defendant have lived separate and apart for more than two successive years, next preceding the bringing of this action; and the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Duplin County, in the Courthouse at Kenansville, North Carolina, on the 13 day of September, 1948, and answer or demur to the complaint, which has been filed in said office, on or before the 1st day of October, 1948, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 13 day of August, 1948.
 R. V. Wells, Clerk
 Superior Court.
 E. Walker Stevens, Atty.
 9-10-4t. EWS

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned having qualified as the administrator of the estate of the late Marvin R. Bell, deceased of Faison township, P. O. Box 131, Faison, N. C., and having qualified before the Clerk of Superior Court of Duplin County on the 13th day of August, 1948. This is to notify all persons who have claims against said estate to present their claims to the undersigned administrator on or before the 13th day of August, 1949, or this notice will be plead in bar to their recovery. All persons who are indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

Chas. A. Decker, Administrator of the estate of Marvin R. Bell, Faison, N. C.
 9-17-6t CAD

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NOTICE OF SALE
 North Carolina, Duplin County.

In The Matter of J. P. Hollingsworth

Under and by Virtue of a WARRANT FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES issued by the Hon. Edwin Gill, for N. C. Dept. of Revenue, and pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 913 of the Revenue Act of 1939, as amended, the undersigned having levied on the property

herein described and seized the property herein described, the undersigned will on Saturday, the 28th day of August, 1948, at the hour of 12:00 Noon, offer for sale, for cash, at the Courthouse door in Kenansville, N. C., to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution, all the right, title and interest which the said J. P. Hollingsworth has in the following described personal property:

One Chevrolet 1930 Truck, Serial No. 1AD-60059, Motor No. 2077943, and 1948 license No. 835-

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