

BAPTER I: Adam Bruce, department justice operator vacationing in the chestern hills, ran into his former is, laspector Tope and Mrs. Tope. He sommended that the Topes spend the int at Dewain's Mill. Later that aligned the phoned Bruce to come out to the last once and to get Ned Quill, a state last located nearby.

CHAPTER II: Bee had rented a cotge called Faraway to the Topes, tellge them it had not been occupied since
was built. When they entered the cotge, Tope saw burnt matches, which
dicated to him that someone had been
owing around. He sent his wife out
hile he investigated. Later he asked
he transferred to another cottage.

CHAPTER III: Tope explained to uce and Quill what made him think at something was wrong. He then ted up the mattress and showed them dead man, dressed in greasy clothes, nds and feet bound and covered with the of blanket. Quill went after the inds and lees bound in the strict attorney and the medical officer. Here was no question but what it was

CHAPTER IV: When Mat Cumberland d Dr. Medford arrived, they held a negrence and it was decided to leave ope in charge of the investigation and move the body to Amasa Dewain's further investigation. As they were viving Mrs. Tope told her husband that a recognized the body as that of Mr. diorge, head of New England utilities.

CHAPTER V: Bruce went out to some d lime quarries to see if he could loste a stolen car that might have been sed by the murderers. He later reportd the car. The insurance company had report the car had been stolen, alough the police did. Mrs. Kell, houseper of the owner of the stolen car, had sen seen driving the car away. She so was acquainted with Ledforge. CHAPTER V: Bruce went out to some

CHAPTER VI: Tope found out that its. Kell was likely in the bottom of the lime quarries in the stolen car. Mr. ell had disappeared, and his employer oldom was found in a Connecticut hostial unconscious from head wounds. The head wounds heck on the tracks leading away from the contract of the they helprosed. he quarries indicated that they belonged Kell—who had been with Holdom and

ediorge.
CHAPTER VII: Priddy, who worked at the auto camp, had gone out to spread the rumor and investigate the murder or himself. Later in the day he came ursting into the room where they were ill gathered and announced that a man as in Faraway. Tope and Bruce rushed the cottage and found a man they leved to be Kell looking under the where the corpse had been found.

CHAPTER VIII: Kell admitted his dentity. He denied, however, that he new where his wife was—in fact laimed to be looking for her. He said hat Holdom had asked him to hit him wer the head and leave him by the badside. Kell saw the body of the mur-ered man and stated that it was not

edforge. The D.A. said he believed the nurderer was an outsider. CHAPTER IX: Whitlock and Beal, he had been at camp on night of nurder, and had been under suspicion, eturned and were recognized as private etectives. Joe Dane, assistant D. A., sturned with Holdom. The handy man riddy told him that on murder night a orman and man were in the cottage and he man was called Rupe, which might ave been Rufus Ledforge. CHAPTER X: Tope and Adam brought berly back to the auto camp after a fisit to Miss Ledforge, where they left

the two private detectives to see that othing happened to her. Then they went ut to the quarries to see about the raising of a car believed to have been used by the murderers and which might conain the body of Mrs. Kell.

CHAPTER XI: When the car was aised out of the quarries they saw that contained the body of a woman. Tope ett instructions to have her stomach ested for dope. He had found out that he murdered man's stomach contained ome form of dope. He also asked form of dope. He also York to check on stomach Ledforge's pilot who had been killed

CHAPTER XII: With the ann nent that Kell had committed suicide and that kell had committed suicide and that the pilot's body had been cremated, and dentist who could identify Ledforge had died, it looked like Tope's case had blown up. He left with Bruce, and while he told the FBI man nothing, he still had an deac on how to solve the he still had an idea on how to solve the ystery deaths.

CHAPTER XIII: When Tope appar-CHAPTER XIII: When Tope apparently turned the case over to Joe Dane, he made his own plans. He had Bruce go with him and purchase a rifle, life preservers to be worn as vests, and to secure an outboard motor. He then had Mrs. Tope and Bee go over to the Ledforge home and stay with Miss Ledforge. When Eberly and Ledforge got in their cance to go fishing, Ledforge upset the cance, knowing Eberly could not swim. Tope and Bruce were in time to save Eberly's life.

CHAPTER XIV

It was Tope who answered him. "Why yes, Mr. Ledforge," he as-"I guess it's due to you." He made careful introductions, beginning with Mat Cumberland, continuing clear around the circle, finishing with himself. He concluded calmly: "And Mr. Cumberland is District Attorney, so he'll want to arrest you for trying just now to kill Mr. Eberly."

Joe Dane cried incredulously: "Kill Eberly?" And Ledforge ejaculated: "Kill Carl? Man, I was keeping him afloat when you got

"How about it, Mr. Eberly?" Tope asked.

Eberly said steadily: "He overturned the canoe, swam away. Then ilence is a habit now." he looked back, expecting to see me drowning. He knew I couldn't swim. But when he saw me still afloat-Mr. Tope had made me wear a life-preserver-he started back to finish

Ledforge, a bitter hurt in his tone, cried: "Nonsense! I came to help he other to handle the social side,

"There was murder in his eyes," Eberly insisted, not speaking di-

doesn't know what he's saying!" "He had a blackjack on a thong

on his wrist," said Eberly. Ledforge wore a strap watch on his left wrist. He held it up. "Carl must have seen this," he insisted: and he said sympathetically: "Gentlemen, Mr. Eberly is hysterical. water."

dom's car, and with Holdom's chauffeur driving. And the next time anyat a roadside camp up here."

The others—save young Adam Bruce-were watching Tope. Adam watched Ledforge. He saw the man's pupils faintly dilate, saw his eyes become fixed in a concentrated attention. Tope paused, and in the instant of silence, Adam heard Mr. Eberly's teeth chattering together. And he had an impression of racing thoughts behind Ledforge's outward calm. Then the man asked curtly:

"What of it? What has that to do with me?"

"Why, Miss Ledforge hasn't seen him yet," Tope explained. "Butthe dead man looked mightily like

Ledforge cried, in quick horror: "Looked like me? Dead? Heavens, man, do you mean Christopher?"

"Why, yes, dead," Tope assented mildly. "I didn't know his name was Christopher, but he looked enough like you to be your twin." Ledforge nodded gravely. "Gentle-

men," he said then, "we can't stand here. Carl is freezing, and I'm cold myself. Suppose we go down to the nouse. I must hear the whole story," Tope asked: "You know who the dead man was, then?"

"Certainly," Ledforge assented. His eyes clouded with grief. "You said he looked like my twin brother. Well, gentlemen, he was."

At the house, Whitlock and Beal by Tope's direction stayed outside. Eberly disappeared with a serving man, to drink hot grog and find dry clothes. Ledforge asked for Miss Ledforge; and the servant report-

"She had a turn, sir, and is lying down. Two ladies are with her.' "Good," said Ledforge. "Don't disturb her."

Tope suggested: "You'll want to get dry, yourself."

Come in."

So they gathered in the big living room, richly paneled like a baronial hall; and Ledforge said: "Now then: My brother dead, and some one else too, you said?"

"Mrs. Kell," Tope told him. But Joe Dane could no longer en-

dure that Tope should dominate the us apart, to this day." "And Kell too, Tope," he cried.

"Dead as a herring! And Holdom dying, so we'll 'never get a word out of him."

Tope saw Ledforge's eyes quicken in a sort of triumph, and the old man turned to Joe almost roughly. "Joe" he said, "you've a real gift for talking out of turn. Mr. Ledforge, here, can lie all he wants to now, knowing Kell and Holdom can't contradict him." "Lie?" Ledforge echoed. "Do 1

understand I am under some sort of cross-examination?" 'Why, there are a lot of things

we'd like to know," Tope assented. "Yes. But you don't have to say a word.'

The other grinned. "Anything I say may be used against me, eh?" Why, yes-may be, and probably will be.'

Ledforge protested: "But I've nothing to conceal, no intention of lying. Tell me what has happened. Perhaps I can explain whatever it is that-perplexes you?" His tone

was mildly derisive.
"Well," Tope suggested. "I'd like to hear first about this twin brother of yours. I'd figured out that must be the answer. But you tell us about it, anyway."

Cumberland and Adam were si lent, strictly listening; even Joe did not for a while interrupt again. And

edforge spoke, a little sadly. "It's hard to speak openly about "he confessed. "We've kept it in absolute secret for so long that

And he said earnestly: "But you mow, every important man needs a louble. Did that ever occur to you? magine how much easier it would e for the President, for instance, f he were twins. With one twin to ittend to the business of the office, attend banquets, make speeches,

lisplay himself." He continued: "But it was more rectly to the other man at all. hance than anything else that led Ledforge whirled toward Tope, fu- is into it. Some years ago the heavy

his head! Of course he's shocked, energy began to weary me. I had omething like a nervous collapse, and I went away quietly to my boy-sood home—a remote little town in Manitoba-for a varation.

"Christopher lived there. He was doctor-surgeon and doctor, too, as small town practitioners must be; and he took me in hand, cured me. He has always been afraid of the But he reproached me for overworkng; and he suggested that a man Tope, after a moment, spoke. is busy as I ought to have a per-Well, you see, Mr. Ledforge," he sonal physician to watch over his explained, almost apologetically, lealth. I persuaded him to come "there's more to it than just this. back with me in that capacity. He The whole thing started with a man suggested also that I ought to have that left New York last Friday a social secretary or an assistant, morning with Mr. Holdom, in Hol- to whom I might delegate some less important activities; and the fact, which we discovered before we left body saw that man, he was dead nome, that not even our intimate under a bed in one of the cabins friends could distinguish one of is from the other, led naturally to the arrangement which has continaed till now.'

> He looked from one to another. "It was very simple," he said "once we began. A little attention to such details as clothes, haircuts, and so



But you know, every important

on. . . . Christopher, ever since, be-But Ledforge negatived this. sides taking care of my health, has gagged him, swaddled his hands and feet and head in pieces of the dog he pointed out "I'll be all right." he pointed out. "I'll be all right. ing me free to attend to business without distraction."

Tope wagged his head. "I declare, that's a queer one," he admitted. "I don't suppose many people knew about this thing?"

"Not a living soul," Ledforge declared confidently, "except my sister Alice-and even she can't tell

"How about servants, and all that?"

"It was simply a matter of never appearing anywhere together," Ledforge assured them. "One of us always stayed out of sight when the other was to be-visible. Of course, we used some simple disguises at times, to give the one who for the moment did not exist a little freedom of movement." And he said

"But now it's my turn to ask questions. Who told you the dead man, Christopher, looked like me?"

"Mrs. Tope had seen you-or your brother-at a stockholders' meeting

"Probably she saw Christopher," Ledforge suggested. "But tell me what happened? Where is Christopher? How was he killed?"

Tope said gravely: "Why-all right, Mr. Ledforge. I'll tell you: I found your brother under a bed in a cabin called Faraway at a readside camp called Dewain's Mill, up above here. He was dead when I found him.

"He had on an old sweater and a pair of overalls. His hands and feet were tied with wire. He was gagged and blindfolded with tape. His hands and feet and head were muffled in pieces of blanket.

"He'd been alive when he was put there. He died of a ruptured

appendix.
"He'd been brought there in coupe belonging to Holdom, by a man and a woman. I found their tracks. Afterward the man killed the woman-it was Mrs. Kell-and left her in the car and ran the car into an old quarry up in the hills. We found the man's tracks there.'

Ledforge made an explosive gesture. "Hideous!" he cried. "Incred-

"Pretty bad," Tope assented; he added implacably: "And my notion is that you did it, Ledforge." Ledforge shook his head abstract edly. He seemed not to resent this accusation. "Wait a minute, please,"

e said. "Of course, I know nothng of what happened up here; but can make a guess. Let me think minute."

Tope nodded, and waited, and almly filled and lighted his straight plack pipe; at last Ledforge lifted is head. "It's part guess and part ertainty," he confessed. "But I hink I see the answer."

The fire had burned low. "I'll take off this wet coat," he remarked, and stood before them in flannel shirt, rest, khaki trousers and light woods shoes with rubber soles; a spare, gray, small old man.

"It was Holdom," he began then. 'I can see what was in his mind, what he tried to do.

And he explained: "A week ago, would have been as mystified as ou, because I had always trusted Holdom. But I know now that he was a thief and a rascal. I learned ast Monday that he had been using ny collateral to trade in an account inder my name, to sell my own stocks short. I have already reported the matter to the Exchange au-

He continued, seeming to think aloud: "I can guess what Holdom and in mind. A man named Vade, who lives at Dewain's Mill, had writen me some kidnap threats; and I asked the Federal authorities to check up on him. Holdom knew about this, must have expected that suspicion would fall on Vade." He paused, but no one spoke. So

he went on: "Holdom did not know, you understand, that there were two of us; Christopher and I.

"Now gentlemen, Christopher was sick. Being a doctor, he of course knew that he had a bad appendix; but he was devoted to me. For him to go to a New York hospital would have been to risk the discovery of our duality. He was willing to take some risk to avoid that, so he decided to come up to Holdom's home here for the operation. Mrs. Kell had been a trained nurse. Dr. Nason would come from Boston to do the operation, in the rooms above Holdom's garage.

"Christopher himself, pretending to be me, made all these arrangements with Holdom; so Holdom would naturally suppose that I was about to be incapacitated for a week or ten days. Perhaps he thought I was likely to die. Perhaps he already intended my death. At any rate, before leaving New York-and trading in my name—he sold my

He hesitated, then continued: "So they left New York on Friday morning, Christopher and Holdom, and Kell driving. I protested, but Christopher assured me the drive would do him no harm. Before starting, he took a sedative in order to sleep, to escape the pain."

Tope prompted him. "And you say you can figure what happened?" "I can guess," Ledforge agreed. When Christopher fell asleep in the car-Kell was Holdom's man, of course-they laid Christopher on the floor, and Holdom too got down out of sight, so no one saw them as Kell drove past the house to the garage.

"Holdom was completely unscrupulous. He dressed Christopher in that old gray sweater and overalls, noise, and stuffed him into the rumble of the coupe.

"He sent Kell away with orders to meet him later at some agreed spot; then Holdom put on a pair of Kell's shoes. Their prints would be easily recognized because of the heel-plates. He knew that when Christopher's body was identified as me, Vade-because of his threatening letters to me, and because he lived there at the Mill-would be at first suspected; but if Vade were exonerated and Kell's footprints found, then Kell would be the next suspect.

"So then Holdom and Mrs. Kellshe was his mistress-drove to Dewain's Mill, in the coupe, with Christopher hidden in the rumble." He looked at them all, challengingly. "Doesn't that fit the facts?" he

demanded. "Well, so far," Tope agreed. "But -go on!"

"They took a cabin for the night, and Holdom hid Christopher where you found him. But Mrs. Kell must have protested at the inhumanity of leaving him there alive, till Holdom, in rage or desperation, strangled

He hesitated, and the color for an instant left his cheeks as though that word had shocked and frightened him. "It's sickening!" he exclaimed then, hurriedly. "But-after that, Holdom would go on to dispose of the car, and of Mrs. Kell's body, and meet Kell, and make Kell give him a rap on the head and leave him to be found beside the road. As an alibi!" And he said in a low furious tone: "It is incredible; and yet something like that must be the

He finished and Joe Dane started to speak, but Adam touched his arm and hushed him.

Tope rapped his pipe on his heel, chucked the ashes on the hearth. 'We showed Kell the dead man," he remarked. "He said it wasn't you!'

"Kell would lie, of course. To save himself." "Yes, I figured that," Tope assented; but he said then in a sort of

irritation: "Shucks, Mr. Ledforge, all that's too complicated for me. Holdom was in it, sure; but my idea has been right along, that whatmise with evil, both in our personal ever Holdom did, he did because you and in our national lives. As we do told him to." -and if we do-we may expect only

"I?" Ledforge cried angrily. "Why should I tell Holdom-" (Continued next week)

Improved | SUNDAY International SCHOOL

*LESSON *

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D. The Moody Bible Institute of Chicag

Lesson for March 10

Lesson subjects and Scripture texts se-lected and copyrighted by International Council of Religious Education; used by

A PEOPLE IN CONFUSION

LESSON TEXT: Judges 2:7, 11, 16-23.
MEMORY SELECTION: The Lord is
my helper, and I will not fear.—Hebrews 13:6.

Confusion is a word well suited to describe the world today. With the end of the war we had hoped for peace and goodwill, and what have we? We may learn from the experience of Israel the reasons for such confusion. They, too, had come into their land and should have had only peace and prosperity. Instead there were turmoil and disorder.

The success or failure of both nations and individuals is ultimately determined by their attitude toward the law of God. He is always right and true. The constant factor in a world order that swings wildly from one extreme to another is his law, which is perfect and eternal.

God is no respecter of persons. Even Israel, his own chosen nation, found that observing God's law meant blessing, and failure to do so brought judgment and sorrow. No man is great and powerful enough to ignore this rule, and none is exempt from its operation.

I. The Cause-Forgetting God (vv.

The Lord had promised the land to them as they went in and possessed it by faith in him. He fully kept that promise in the measure that they believed him. They never did take the whole land, but that was because of their failure, not God's.

As the people of Israel took posession of the land, they went forward in the way of blessing as long as Joshua, and the elders who remembered God, kept them steady and true. We have here an excellent illustration of the power of a godly example. It is far stronger than we think.

The fact that a nation has been highly privileged and has been exalted to a place of power and honor will not save it in the day when God is forgotten. Israel no longer had God-fearing men to bring it back to the Lord, and so began its awful drifting. We Americans are rightly proud

of our great land, its mighty resources, its fine past and promising future. But what is the future to be? Oh, we say, the most glorious days are ahead! They may be, but only if we, like our forefathers who established this nation, recognize God. If we do not, America will go the way of the forgotten empires of centuries past, and that in spite of all its past achievements and its present promise.

It is a significant thing that our business and national leaders often come from Christian homes, but it is sad that they themselves are so frequently not Christians. Their lives are shaped by the teaching and influence of godly parents, but what will their children do if they are not brought up in the fear and admonition of the Lord?

II. The Condition-National and Spiritual Confusion (vv. 16-19).

The history of the period of the judges in Israel is incomplete, but what we have shows the awful condition of the nation. Not only were they in separate tribes, but the people as a whole were divided into three groups-north and south of Jerusalem, and east of the Jordan.

The moral and spiritual decay were evident in their turning to the immoral practices of Baal-worship.

One would have thought that God would give up a people so set on sinning, but he did not. He provided deliverance for Israel. That gives us courage, for we know that he has not given us up, but has provided in Christ a sure deliverance, if America will turn to him.

It is interesting to note that God works through men. Some of these judges were great men; others were just ordinary men. But each in his appointed place, at the appointed time, was God's man.

Confusion, sin and disobedience cannot be tolerated indefinitely. So Israel stubbornly went on to

III. The Conclusion -Judgment from God (vv. 20-23). God not only will not hold a back-

sliding nation guiltless, but will bring judgment even if he has to turn over his people to a despoiling nation. He has instruments of individual and national chastisement, and he is ready to use them. Notice that wherever they went

the Lord's hand was against them. There is no place to flee from the presence of God. Anyone who thinks he can do it should read Psalm 139: 7-12. It can't be done. That is a comfort to the believer, but it is very disquieting to the unbeliever. They compromised with evil, and

lost not only their testimony their very spiritual life. They forsook God and took into their friendship the enemies of God, only to find that they were their own enemies. We are in danger now of compro-

disaster and judgment.

AMERICAN LEGION The American Legion, Waycast- Send us yours.

Calendar of Coming

Events

THE LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club meets the 2nd

and 4th Thursday of each month.

er McAfee Post No. 129, meets the 4th Monday of each month. Wm Hickey, Commander.

The American Legion Auxilary

LEGION AUXILIARF

Waycaster McAfee Post No. 129. meets the 3rd Monday of each month. Mrs. Edna Keith, Presi JR. O. U. A. M. 146

of each month The 4th Tuesday is open to the public. R. W

The Jr. O. U. A. M. No. 145

Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Seawright, Counselor. A. F. & A. M. The Black Mountain Lodge, No. 663, A. F. & A. M., meets 1st Fri-

day night in each month. R. E.

Finch, W. M. BLACK MOUNTAIN SINGING

CONVENTION The Black Mountain Singing Convention meets every second Sunday, each month

FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL

Montreat Road, near the gate.

Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Church services 11:00 a.m. Rev. W. H. Armistead, Minister. SWANNANOA VALLEY

GRANGE No. 978 The Swannanoa Valley Grange No. 978, meets every 2nd Monday of each month at Jr. O. U. A. M Hall.

COMMUNITY CHORUS

The Community Chorus meets each Wednesday evennig at 8:00 o'clock at the Baptist Church The chorus is now practicing for their Easter Cantata. Lt. Robert Guy, director, urges all who can sing to join the chorus.

SWANNANOA METHODIST CHARGE

Rev. V. R. Masters, Pastor. Swannanoa-1st and 3rd Sun day, 7 p.m.; 2nd, 4th and 5th Sun day at 11 a.m.

Bethel-2nd Sunday at 10 a.m. Ith Sunday at 7 p.m. Azalea-1st and 3rd 11 a.m. Bethesda-1st and 3rd 10 a.m.

Tabernacle-2nd Sunday 7 p.m ith Sunday at 10 a.m. BLACK MOUNTAIN PRESBY-TERIAN CHURCH

W. H. Styles, Minister WEEKLY CALENDAR 9:45 a.m. Church School. 11:00 a.m. morning worship. 3:00 p.m. Lakey Gap Cahpel.

Wednesday-7:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study.

6:15 p.m. Young People's League

BLACK MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH Montreat Road.

H. M. Baucom, Pastor. Sunday School-10:00 a.m. Morning Worship-11:00 a.m. B. T. U.—6:30 p.m. Evening Worship-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.—Prayer

meeting. Choir practice immediately after prayer meeting. You are invited to all the above

Our Short Sermon

The glowing, happy faces of little children remind us of the joy that even the smallest, simplest pleasure brought us when we were their age. But as we mature we often lose this joyousness of spirit and feel that we have too many cares and responsibilities to express happiness except on special occasions. This is a mistaken belief, for if the years bring added responsibilities, they also bring added wisdom and appreciation of the beauty and happiness that is all around us.

The true source of joy is within us and does not depend on outer conditions or other persons. By turning within each day for a renewed spirit of happiness we can turn dissatisfaction into contentment, drabness into beauty. As we let the joy of the Lord well up within us and find expression in our words and actions, we attract happy experiences.

Let us begin each day by free ng our mind of thoughts of heaviness and disappointment. Let u keep our heart cheerful, gay, and happy in the expectation of good. Ye rejoice greatly with joy un-

speakable.—I Pet. 1:8.

Red Cross work is never done.

Professional And Business Cards

A Professional or Business Care cost you only \$2.00 per month

DOCTORS

Dr. E. J. Anthony PHONES:

Office 4321 Black Mountain, N. C.

LAWYERS

Wm. C. Honeycutt Phone 3191

Black Mountain, N. C.

ELECTRICIANS

GEORGE W. STONE

Phone 2033

Black Mountain, N. C.

R. W. COOK

PHONE 3082 Black Mountain, N. C.

PLUMBERS

J. W. Russell

Phone 3934 Black Mountain, N. C.

RESTAURANTS

Ann's Luncheonette ACROSS FROM DEPOT Black Mountain, N. C.

TELEPHONE 3801 VICTORY CABS

Black Mountain, N. C.

5 and 7 Passenger Cars

Painting and Decorating J. R. HODSON

Black Mountain, N. C. Phone 3231

FLORISTS Flowers For Every Occasion Whitehead's Flowers Flatiron Bldg. Asheville, N. C.

PHONES:

Night, 8157-R

Day, 7135

Clothing and Shoes E. W. STEPHENS **Phone 3571**

Box No. 666



The Rexall Drug Store **BLACK MOUNTAIN** DRUG COMPANY

D0000000000