

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

GOOD CITIZENS AND GOOD NEIGHBORS

International Sunday School Lesson for February 12, 1949

Golden Text: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." — Matthew 22:39.

(Lesson Text: Matt. 22:15-22, 34-40)

After hearing Jesus relate certain parables which were clearly in condemnation of themselves, the Pharisees decided to launch an attack. So, while Jesus was teaching in the temple at Jerusalem during his last week of life, they were instrumental in having several queries put to him in the hope of embarrassing him and destroying his usefulness and influence.

The Jews at this time were under the rule of the Romans, whose emperor was Tiberius. Among the taxes which the Jews paid was a census tribute. Sometime prior to this, payment of taxes to the Romans had been denounced as a sin by Judas of Galilee, who contended that the Jews lived under a theocracy, with God as their only king, and the payment of taxes to the government was wrong.

The Pharisees called to their help in propounding the first question the Herodians. The former were very orthodox in religious matters, very patriotic in political affairs, and usually conformed in conduct to the Jewish law. The latter were almost exactly the opposite, being affiliated with a government friendly and subservient to Rome, caring very little for religion, and living generally loose and licentious lives. In their common opposition to Jesus these two unnatural allies cooperated.

The preliminary premise was carefully prepared before the question was put. It began by expressing a conviction that Jesus was sincere, that he was teaching God's truth, and therefore absolutely fearless of the effects of the answer to any question. This premise heightened the interest of those who heard it propounded and called attention to the importance attributed to the reply. Then, Jesus was asked whether it was lawful to pay tax to Caesar.

The proponents of the question thought that they had placed Jesus in an intricate difficulty. If he opposed the payment he would incur the enmity of the Herodians and the Roman government; if he advised the payment, he would alienate the devotion and respect of a large portion of Jews who had been inflamed to regard it as sinful; and, if he avoided the question by not answering, he would deny the truth of their complimentary, introductory preface, and his standing would be imperiled. Jesus' reply was masterful and unanswerable.

Calling for a denarius, the Roman coin with which the poll tax was paid, he directed attention to the fact that on it appeared the image and inscription of Caesar, therefore, give Caesar the things that were his. In other words, inasmuch as the Jews received all the benefits of the imperial government and accepted them without question, they should not be averse to paying something for the services received. The Romans had given them improved roads, a body of laws which surpassed any of prior days, an era of peace and order as a result of their administration which enabled business to thrive and life to exist securely, and, in addition, protection from alien enemies through the strength and ability of the Roman soldiers. For such things, Jesus intimated, it was just that payment be rendered.

However, Jesus was not willing to leave the question here. While he recognized a duty of the citizen to the government which aids and protects him, Jesus also represented the eternal and indisputable divine principles of righteousness and justice. The citizen had his obligation to God as well as to Caesar, and Jesus continued that the Jew was to render unto God the things that were His. While these two obligations

seldom conflict, there can be no doubt but that the latter is supreme upon those rare occasions.

The Sadducees then took up the task. This religious group did not believe in the immortality of the human soul, yet they based their question to Jesus upon the assumption that his teaching that regard was correct. Obviously, an insincere motive prompted the question which they propounded. They asked Jesus the hypothetical question as to which of seven wives a man had on earth would be his in the day of resurrection. Jesus, knowing that their purpose was only to embarrass him, replied that they would know in good time how the dead live and thus realize that their question was not applicable to the future state.

Then the Pharisees came back with another question. Their school emphasized that the Pentateuch contained 365 prohibitions and 228 commandments, and often they had debated among themselves which of these rules was the most important. Then a scribe learned and well versed in the law, asked Jesus which was the great commandment. Jesus answered by quoting from Deuteronomy a passage requiring that man should love God wholeheartedly, a passage which was recited daily by every Jew. It summarized the first table of the law and Jesus added to it a quotation from Leviticus, summing up the second table, that man should love his neighbor as himself. Summarizing the whole law, Jesus said these two commandments embrace them all. The scribe approved, apparently, sincerely, the Lord's answer, and Jesus assured him that he was not far from the Kingdom of God.

"Civilization Will Perish Unless Men Cooperate," Compton

"Either people will learn to live together or civilization will perish from the face of the earth," declares Dr. Arthur Holly Compton, eminent physicist and Nobel Prize winner, in the current Rotarian Magazine. "This is not sentiment, but fact—the basic fact, with the world's culture, science, education, prosperity, and social welfare at stake."

"The story of the millennium is being written now," thinks Dr. Compton. In his article, "Science Is Not Enough!" he does not minimize the present conflict and its potentialities for widespread devastation, but suggests that it like others will pass. He praises today's almost universal education which has taught men the folly of ignorance and the pestilence it breeds. "It is vital that we go forward resistlessly with teaching, learning, experimenting, investigating, inventing, preparing the way for the onward march of mankind. But with it must go progress in the art of living together."

"Science alone is not enough. Goodwill to all men, old in statement, but ever new in significance, is the vital spark needed today. If such goodwill is absent as men become more and more dependent upon each other, we can only expect increase of vicious strife. Hostilities pile up between nations, business and government, labor and capital. As men divide into antagonistic groups, science and technology may become terribly destructive," he reasons.

Yet Dr. Compton is not pessimistic. Few men, he thinks, want the war now darkening the world. "I believe that progress has been made, that the world is, through science and moral agencies working together, acquiring a higher standard of morality in spite of industrial strife, wars, and other throwbacks. I believe that if we continue on the basis of research and goodwill, courageously seeking and applying both scientific and moral truths, the bonds of empire will be extended far beyond anything we can now foresee," the famed scientist declares.

Opportunity For Youth Of State

An All-American Youth Orchestra to Be Selected

Leopold Stokowski, world-famous conductor and director, has opened the door to opportunity for many young musicians in this State. To those who have musical talent, and ambition he has offered a summer trip through Central and South America on a good-will concert tour. A special ship will be chartered for the journey which will get under way around the first of July and return to the United States the latter part of August. The first concert will be given in Washington, D. C., at the beautiful Watergate near the Lincoln Memorial on the Potomac River. The orchestra leader has announced that he will pay regular musicians' rates to members of the orchestra beginning with rehearsals and continuing through the trip and also that he plans to continue the orches-



When Great Ideas Greek: Sports may come and go, but the ancient and honorable art of wrestling hasn't lost any of its luster. A good wrestling contest today will still awaken widespread interest among sports lovers. Spectators at wrestling matches have plenty of latitude as regards their apparel. In this respect, wrestling differs from the modern championship bout: while formality is becoming a factor at prize fights these days, wrestling contests still are overwhelmingly stag, which gives adequate freedom as regards clothes.

For That Winter Vacation: Are you planning a trip to sunny climes during these winter days? If so, be sure your clothes are right. The 1949 sportswear ensembles, now being worn at fashionable resorts, are definitely different in their styling, especially as regards colors. Slacks and shirts of the same fabrics but in varying designs, are the rule. Current lines, made of Crown Tested Spun Rayon, favor this new development; color of the fabric of both slacks and shirts is the same, but the fabrics have a different design. This lends a smart new appearance to the sportswear outfit.

Welcome Necktie News: Here's a cheerful paragraph, to brighten your day. A necktie manufacturer has introduced a new type of cravat, specially constructed so that it will slide smoothly under



the collar when the knot is being tightened, and won't catch on the rear collar button. This miracle is accomplished by the simple method of having the seam on the edge instead of on the underside, where it usually snags on the collar button.

War to Bring Back Trench Coats? The newest styles in men's raincoats bear a striking resemblance to the military trench coat of 1914-1919. Those who should know say that there is a good possibility of a nation-wide revival of the World War-time trench coat, all of which would be very much to the good. The trench coat has many advantages, three in particular, it's plain, it's practical and it's good-looking.

tra after its planned good will tour. The orchestra will be replenished yearly with new youthful talent, providing a degree of recognition for the orchestra that may make it almost a "musical Olympics." Mr. Stokowski emphasizes the opinion that with the highest professional standards being set, the youthful musicians' group will be the equal of any symphony orchestra in the country.

To North Carolina youths this is an opportunity that should not be turned aside. There will be 109 musicians finally selected by Mr. Stokowski and out of that number North Carolina can be well represented. Mr. Stokowski is asking for musicians between the ages of 16 and 25 who have talent and musical ability and who are willing to work to make the most of this opportunity. In cases of exceptional talent the age limits will not be strictly adhered to. No player will be accepted unless he can meet the minimum qualifications set forth by the committee and the final orchestra when it goes into rehearsal will consist of the "cream" of the musical talent of the United States. And, under the direction of the renowned Mr. Stokowski, the orchestra will develop into one of the most unique and outstanding organizations in the world.

Applications must be received no later than February 15 by Mr. John A. Lang, State Youth Administrator, Raleigh, and the State-wide auditions will be held on Saturday, March 2nd, in Raleigh.

All musically inclined youths are urged to apply and if some do not make the auditions for the All-American Orchestra their applications will be kept and will serve as a nucleus for a North Carolina Youth Orchestra.

Dairy 4-H Members Offered Medals, Trips, College Scholarships

The campaign for better dairy methods and conditions, promoted the past three years through the National 4-H Dairy Production Demonstration Contest, will be continued during the current year with increased awards. As heretofore, it will be supervised by county and state extension agents, and is open to all boys and girls enrolled in dairy projects.

Additional information and assistance may be obtained from county agents in planning demonstrations which must concern breeding, growing, fitting, feeding and judging of dairy cattle or production of milk and cream on the farm. County elimination contests will determine the teams to compete at State finals. The awards are offered to stimulate members to become better informed on dairy methods, to encourage them to pass along their knowledge, and to give them experience in public speaking, team work, and

4-H Crops Champs Are Announced

Meet the 4-H Club crops champions of North Carolina for 1939, invites L. R. Harrill, State 4-H Club leader. They are Borden Holloman, 17, of Wayne County, the corn champion; Remus Edwards, 15, of Rutherford County, the cotton king; Elmer Tucker, 16, of Pitt County, the best tobacco grower; and Charlie Nick Chestnut, 14, of Sampson County, the horticultural project leader.

Each of the boys will receive a one-year scholarship to N. C. State College from funds donated by the American Nitrate Educational Bureau through H. L. Meacham, its North Carolina representative.

Holloman, a member of the Rosewood 4-H Club, produced 126.22 bushels of corn on his measured club acre, and made a profit of \$51.30 on the project. His club leaders were C. S. Mintz, Wayne County farm agent, and R. B. Harper, assistant agent.

The Edwards boy is a member of the Mt. Vernon Club, and his one-acre cotton yield was 960 pounds of lint and 2,280 pounds of seed cotton. His net profit was \$84.66. F. E. Patton and J. J. Hamlin, farm agent and assistant, respectively, are Remus' club leaders.

The Pitt County boy, Elmer Tucker, made 1,702 pounds of tobacco on his club acre for a profit of \$243.21. His club at Grimesland is led by R. R. Bennett, farm agent, and C. D. Griggs, assistant agent.

Charlie Nick Chestnut, the 14-year-old member of the Turkey 4-H Club in Sampson County, grew one-half acre of peppers as his horticultural project, and he harvested 187 baskets which sold for an average of \$1.10 per basket. Figuring all costs, including hauling and marketing, his profit amounted to \$160.88. E. J. Morgan, county agent, and J. P. Stovall, assistant agent, led Chestnut's club work.

M. to 8:30 P. M.

Motion pictures, exhibits, displays, and information concern all phases of the Irish potato industry will be featured in the five-car train. In addition, loading-stacking systems, refrigeration procedures, grading machinery, containers, sales promotion material and potato varieties will be shown in the form of displays.



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Temple Signal Callers Take Up Voice Culture

PHILADELPHIA (NNS)—Julian Ertz, fullback candidate for the Temple University varsity, has his hands full these days as the result of Coach Fred Swan's idea that quarterbacks should be quarterbacks in voice as well as in name. Ertz, who is a student in the music department of the University and was on the concert stage as a youngster, holds classes for the signal callers in voice culture. As the result of the efforts of Ertz, who has an excellent baritone voice himself, the vocal efforts of Temple's signal callers no longer irritate Coach Swan by hitting a husky note and then a shrill one as they back the Owl eleven into action.

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