

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

International Sunday School Lesson for November 2, 1941

Golden Text: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."—I John 1:9.

Lesson Text: Gal. 6:7-8; I John 1:5-2; 6

Probably one of the most unpopular words in the minds of a vast majority of people in recent years has been the word "sin." As a matter of fact, the word has been eliminated from the vocabulary of numbers of people, while others attempt to explain away sin by calling it "an error of judgment, a misfortune, or even a disease of the mind." The sinner is excused as a victim of circumstances, inheritance or environment.

Just what is sin? Webster's Dictionary gives as one definition: "Wifful transgression of the Divine law; or neglect of the laws of morality and religion." Another has declared that sin is anything which stands between one and full and intimate fellowship with his creator, God.

Man, in an effort to protect the welfare of the masses, has enacted numerous laws. Those who break these laws are punished in a manner suitable to the offense. A good citizen tries never to break the civil laws.

Besides these "laws of the land," there are what we might term "natural laws," those governing the mind and the body. In order to have a healthy mind and body, one has to obey certain laws of clean living and clean thinking, giving to his faculties exercise, proper rest and the right kind of food. Disobedience to these "natural laws" brings its punishment in the form of sickness and disease, which often result in a crippled body and a clouded mind.

God also has laws which we call "moral laws," which, if broken, result in sick "souls," a more terrible disease than even a crippled body or a clouded mind, because the punishment for violation of God's "moral laws," lasts for eternity.

Disobedience to God is sin and, as Paul declared to the Romans, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). There should be no need for argument here. Just as continued disobedience to civil law brings life imprisonment and sometimes, the death penalty, and continued violation of the "natural laws" brings death to the physical body, so continued and unforgiven violation of God's laws brings death to the soul eternally.

All these truths are clearly set forth in our Scripture lesson in the words of the Apostle Paul, to the Galatian Christians: "Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." These words should cause many people to stop and think in these days of selfish living, when seems that so many are bent on nothing but pleasure, with no thought of God or the future.

Each one of us, no matter how we struggle to live the Christian life, is a sinner. Paul declared, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We admit the truth of this statement. Therefore, how can we escape the penalty of our sins? John, the beloved disciple of Jesus, gives us the key: "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." What a wonderful statement is this!

Christ died for our sins. He bore on Calvary the curse which should have fallen upon us. He tasted death for every man. He became our sin that we might become his righteousness. How can we avail ourselves of this wonderful salvation from the natural penalty of our sins? We must confess our sins, turn away from them, ask for forgiveness, turn to Christ in trusting faith, accepting the forgiveness of sin and the settlement which Christ has already made when he bore our sins in his body on the cross.

After accepting the salvation offered, what next? Just because one has accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour from sin and Master of his life, is no reason to believe that he will never be tempted to sin again. The Christian life is a continuous fight against sin. Jesus himself was tempted to sin. However, with Jesus as the Captain of our salvation, the Holy Spirit as our Helper, the Sword of the Spirit as our weapon, the power of the gospel as our assurance, we must continue to try to overthrow

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the force of sin and unrighteousness. We can succeed if we will say with Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

\$63,697 Distributed In County Through Social Security

Approximately \$63,697.56 has been distributed in Perquimans County through operation of eight of the ten divisions of the Social Security Act, from its beginning and through June 30, 1941, it is estimated, on a basis of official figures, compiled by M. R. Dunnagan, Informational Service Representative, and announced by A. L. Fletcher, Chairman of the N. C. Unemployment Compensation Commission.

Normally, Unemployment Compensation, or benefits to workers temporarily out of jobs, is the largest item in the program, except in agricultural counties. The more and larger the industries a county has, the more jobless benefits it gets. In the 3 1/2 years of benefit payments, through June 30, these benefits reached \$11,258.29 included in 2,032 checks issued to residents of Perquimans County.

Old Age Assistance, help for needy residents past 65 years of age, in the four years of distribution, through last June 30, amounted to \$31,040.00 in this county.

Aid to Dependent Children, help for those deprived of their normal breadwinners, amounted to \$15,524.00 in the same period in this county.

Aid to the Blind, in the same 48 months, amounted to \$4,357.00 in the county.

In these three divisions of the So-

cial Security Act, the Federal Government provides one-half of the funds and the State and counties one-fourth each, with a State equalizing fund to help the smaller counties. Prior to January 1, 1940, these three governmental units furnished one-third each for Aid to Dependent Children.

No county figures are available for Old Age and Survivors Insurance. Monthly payments in this division started after January 1, 1940, due to a 1939 amendment, after lump-sum payments for three years. This will, in due time, become one of the most important of the five major divisions of the Social Security Act.

With practically accurate figures, it is evident, Chairman Fletcher points out, that \$62,179.29 was distributed in this county to last July 1, in four of the five major divisions of the Act, exclusive of Old Age and Survivors Insurance.

The other five divisions, classed as "services," are handled by State Departments. Three of them, Maternal and Child Health Services, Services for Crippled Children and Public Health Services, are administered by the State Board of Health; one, Vocational Rehabilitation, by the State Department of Public Welfare.

Perquimans County, with no health department, received nothing for Maternal and Child Health Services; nothing for Services to Crippled Children and nothing in Public Health Work, from the beginning of the program, or since organized health work was started in the county.

In Vocational Rehabilitation approximately \$1,518.27 has been distributed in the county. In case of Child Welfare Services, county funds are not available. Fourteen counties, Anson, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Chatham, Cherokee, Cumberland, Durham, Mecklenburg, Nash, Orange, Pitt, Rockingham, and Sampson, cooperated by supplying \$13,026.78 and participated in distribution of \$27,605.63 in the year 1940-41, and 38 other counties had consultant service.

The county figures for the four "service" divisions above are approximate, and not absolute. They

are arrived at by prorating the funds, made up of Federal allotments, most of which is matched by the State and counties, on the basis of State and county populations, 1940 Census, and the length of time the counties have had health departments and thus participated in the three "services" relating to health, Chairman Fletcher explains.

WHITESTON NEWS

Misses Esther Mae White and Florence Winslow, students at E. C. T. C., Greenville, spent the week-end at their respective homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph White and son, Thurman, visited relatives in Norfolk, Va., Sunday.

Miss Miriam Lane, of Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Stallings and family, of Camden, visited Mr. and

Mrs. L. L. Lane Sunday afternoon. Archie Riddick, Harold Lassiter, Winfred Winslow and Gideon Saunders, all of Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end at their respective homes.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. White and family, of Sunbury, Mr. and Mrs. Paul White, of Elizabeth City, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Winslow, Eloise and Faye Winslow, of near Belvidere, were guests in the home of Mrs. Mary J. White Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Winslow and son, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Winslow and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Winslow, all of Petersburg, Va., visited here during the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Williams and children, of Weeksville, spent Sunday with Mrs. Mary Williams.

Floyd Winslow, of Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mercer Winslow.

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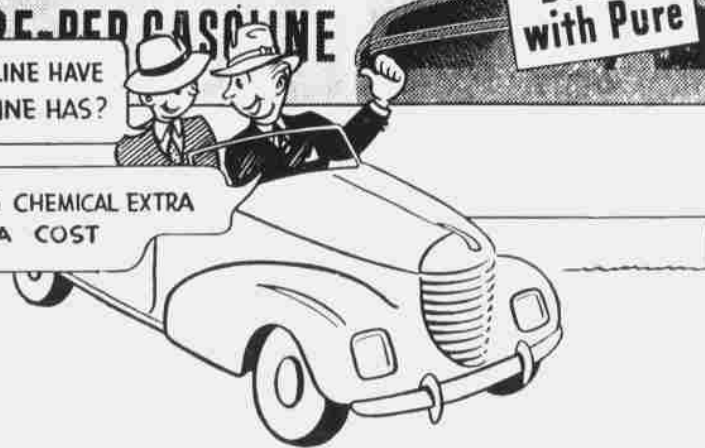
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