

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE WORTH OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER (Temperance)

International Sunday School Lesson For March 14

Golden Text: "I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."—Philippians 3:14.

Lesson Text: Ephesians 5:6-21.

Ephesians was written by Paul while he was a prisoner in Rome, addressed to the Christians of the church in Asia Minor.

Paul directs attention to the Gentiles walking "in the vanity of their mind," advising his converts to a higher life. "It is not surprising that Christians in the first century, just emerging from paganism and surrounded by degrading customs, should need such warnings and admonitions," says Charles R. Erdman, but, he states, "it is humiliating to admit that believers of the present day, with all their advantages of inheritance and culture, need similar exhortations."


Paul wants the new converts to be "new" men in "righteousness and holiness of truth." What effect was their religion if they were no different than in their days of paganism? What advantage is our faith to the modern professing Christian who lives and acts with no difference in his life from that of an unbeliever? Hypocritical religion will not avail one in the last judgment. "Righteousness in man," says Dr. Andrew Murray, "includes all God's will for our duty to him or our fellow men; holiness, our relation to himself."

In his practical suggestions Paul directed attention to many little things of conduct, nor was he wrong in doing so. "It is usually little things that cause us to stumble," comments J. H. Jowett. "I do not fall over a beer-barrel, but I slip on a piece of orange peel. I have never stumbled over a bale of cotton, but if one flag in the pavement projects a third of an inch, I may be brought to grief. I can avoid the higher things; I am careless about the trifles." How true is the thought. Many lives are wrecked and ruined, physically and morally, by negligence towards little things—which eventually grow!

One of the so-called "little things" against which all should be warned is taking the first drink. So often the first taste awakens a desire for more and then more, until the victim finally realizes that he, or she, is in the clutches of an awful habit, which, if not broken, will ruin him, physically, morally and economically.

In this country, it is estimated that there are 40,000,000 adults who use alcohol and that a large percentage of the 40,000,000 are either alcoholics or are destined to become alcoholics. Money is being spent for alcohol which might better go into constructive effort. Time is lost by workers and families are denied the necessary things of life. Drink causes much home friction and is a leading factor in broken homes. The

GOD GIVES US AN ABUNDANT HARVEST



"First the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear."

A VERSE FOR TODAY...

What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. . . . In God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

—Ps. 56:3, 4

addiction of a person to alcohol finally breaks down his or her character and can lead to total personal collapse.

There is nothing more helpful in reinforcing the foundations of one's kept in mind, we will be careful of Christian character than to live with a consciousness of the presence of

God. Someone has suggested that he who would live rightly should "practice the presence of God." That is, one should realize always that "Thou, Lord, seest me." If this is always kept in mind, we will be careful of all of our deeds, realizing that none

(Concluded on Page Two)

Be a Better Citizen! Go to Some Church Next Sunday

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
D. L. Fouts, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.
Choir rehearsal Saturday, 8:00 P. M.

Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Duling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:00 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:00 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
W. H. Marler, Pastor
Church services first and third Sundays at 3:00 P. M.
Christian Union, 7:30 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Burgess and Bethlehem Churches hold Christian Union together on second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES
E. B. Edwards, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 3:00 P. M.
Second Sunday:
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 3:00 P. M.
Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.
Third Sunday:
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:00 P. M.
Fourth Sunday:
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 3:00 P. M.
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fifth Sunday:
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
E. T. Jilson, Rector
Holy Communion, 9:00 A. M.
Every Sunday except first Sunday at 9:00 A. M.
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 o'clock.
Holy Communion first Sunday at 11 A. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Harry F. Bean, Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except first Sunday.
Sunday School first Sunday, 2 P. M.
Church services every first Sunday at 3 P. M.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS MEETING
Bertha V. Smith White, Minister
Bible School, 10 A. M.
Meeting for worship, 11 A. M.

Go To Church -- Your Church -- Any Church -- But Go

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