

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Temple In The Nation's Life
International Sunday School Lesson
For May 23, 1948

Golden Text: "O come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."—Psalms 95:6.

Lesson Text: Ezra 3:10-13; Psalm 84:1-2; Ezekiel 11:16; 37:26-28.

Three temples figure in Jewish history as we take it from our own Bible. The first was that constructed by Solomon, richly ornamented and gorgeous in its decoration. At first this house of worship did not discontinue the practice of worshipping in "high places", but under the leadership of the subsequent kings, Hezekiah and Josiah, the temple became the centralized place of worship.

The second, or Zerubabel's temple was that built immediately after the exile, about which we study today. In dimensions it seems to have been larger and higher than Solomon's but lacking much of the richness and display.

Haggai asked, "Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Is it not in your eyes as nothing?" This question emphasizes the contrast. The Ark of the Covenant, the mercy seat, the golden cherubim and many similar features, of Solomon's temple were missing.

The third temple was built by Herod the Great several decades before the Christian era. It was the temple during the time of Jesus. Unlike the two preceding temples, both of which endured for centuries, this last Jewish temple failed to remain a hundred years after it was built. Titus captured Jerusalem in 70 A. D. and his soldiers destroyed Herod's temple.

Interesting to know is the fact that two other houses have since been on the same location. Hadrian in 136 erected a temple to Jupiter Capitolinus. At the present time the Mohammedan Mosque of Omar is on the ancient temple site.

When the Jews returned from the exile their first necessity was to build some kind of houses to live in and to begin the culture of the ground for food but it wasn't long before a beginning was made towards rebuilding the temple, which throughout their history had loomed so large in their religious life. Seven months after their return, the Jews erected an altar for burnt offerings and fourteen months after the return laid the foundation for the new, or second, temple. Funds were collected generally and workmen engaged. The timber came from the cedar forests of Lebanon as for the first edifice.

When the foundation was begun some cried and some shouted for joy. The younger generation was moved with optimistic expectation while the older generation contrasted the present meager beginnings with all that once had been.

As Tennyson says "Sorrow's crown of sorrow is remembering happier things". The Jews' relationship to

the temple was intimate, holy and intense. It was more than the Parthenon to the Greeks or the Coliseum to the Romans, and in it were combined all of the emotions and loyalties that modern American Christians feel toward the flag, as the emblem of our nationality, and the

(Continued on Page Four)

A BIBLE QUIZ

In what three places is astrology condemned in the Bible? Isaiah 47: 13-14.

How do we know that Solomon was familiar with refrigeration? Proverbs 25: 1, 13.

Where is irrigation prophesied? Isaiah 43: 19-20. What evidence is there that the earth once reversed its motion? Second Kings 20:11.

Where are India and Spain mentioned? Esther 1:1 . . . Romans 15:24.

What woman ninety years old gave birth to a child? Genesis 17:17; 21: 1-2.

How did the serpent of Eden travel before it was condemned to crawl on its belly? Genesis 3: 13-14. When was a rodent mistaken for a ruminant? Leviticus: 11:6.

Where are some insects termed quadrupeds? Leviticus: 11: 21-23.



Be a Better
Citizen!
Go to Some
Church
Next Sunday

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM

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

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH

D. L. Fouts, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 7:15 P. M.
Evening Worship, 8 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 8 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, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 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

Rev. J. R. Byerly, Pastor
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 third Sunday.
Sunday School third Sunday, 2 P. M.
Church services every third 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.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

A. H. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

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

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