

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

PAUL, WORLD EVANGELIST

International Sunday School Lesson for September 24, 1950

Memory Selection: "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified."—1 Corinthians 2: 2.

The scriptural background for our lesson for this week is taken from Paul's defense of himself made before King Agrippa, at Caesarea, (not the Caesarea Philippi, so familiar to students of the Gospels) but Caesarea located on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, just north of Joppa.

It might be well to point out that Paul, at this time, was not on trial. He had been brought into the presence of King Agrippa in order to satisfy the curiosity of the man who had heard so much of Paul, who was charged with causing so much trouble in the country among the Jews.

The Jews had requested that Paul be sent to Jerusalem for trial, but Paul well knew how dangerous such a procedure would be for him. Taking advantage of the fact of his Roman citizenship, he appealed to Festus that he might be sent to Rome for trial. Festus, glad of the opportunity to be rid of such a strange prisoner, agrees. When Agrippa arrives for a visit with Festus, he is curious to see a prisoner as smart as this one was in outwitting the Jews and so, he asks for Paul to be brought before him.

The defense of Paul before Agrippa is a wonderful discourse. He begins at the very beginning and traces his life to its present day. Very logically and graphically does he go into each phase never excusing himself, never alibiing for what he had done. Having been brought up a Pharisee—one of the strictest sects of the Orthodox Jews—he was an almost fanatical defender of the "faith" of his fathers. It was natural for him, when he found a few followers of this "Christ" boring from within and threatening to destroy this strict Jewish legalism and Phariseism, which meant so much to him, to turn on them and do everything in his power to destroy them.

Not content with wreaking his vengeance of those believers in Jerusalem, he obtained permission from the high priest to go elsewhere to try to stamp out this new faith. It was while he was en route to Damascus, with a number of companions, that he had his amazing vision, which changed his life completely. He was turned around from being a destroyer of the new faith into one of its most courageous defenders and propagators. It is one of the strongest proofs of the truth of the gospel that one so utterly antagonistic to Christ should become the tireless evangelist of this same Christ.

Paul has been most responsible for the direct evangelism of the Gentiles. Most of us owe our own Christianity to Paul. The long chain of past evangelism back through the centuries leads to Paul. It was through the efforts of Paul, as outlined in our lesson for last week, that the gospel was lifted from its strict racial boundaries so that it could go to the far end of the earth. Without this, Christianity might have remained a small Jewish sect.

While not all of us are called with the dramatic experiences of Paul on the road to Damascus, we all have an obligation to take or send the gospel to every nation. This gospel of Jesus Christ is the one hope of our world today. If we share the faith of Paul, we must surely share his zeal for the souls of all mankind. Whatever we do in the name of the gospel of Jesus Christ, is more important to the peace of the world than the work of the statesmen, diplomats or military leaders.

Dr. Albert Edward Day stresses this point when he declares: "We are going to have a Christian world or we are going to burn up our wealth in gunpowder, build ships whose destiny is the bottom of the sea, rear boys to be blown to pieces after days and nights of torture, deprive our girls of husbands and homes and the right to be loved. We have no other choice. It is neighborliness or nothing."

The Christianization of the world is our task and humanity's hope. It must begin with us. But it must not end there. As fast as the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ becomes our grateful experience, as true neighbors we must share him with men and women and children everywhere."

BE A BETTER CITIZEN!

GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY



SAFETY

Industry spares no pains or expense when it comes to protecting the bodies of factory workers. Spark-proof helmets, sturdy shoes, non-slip floors, easy exits—the list of precautionary devices is long. They call it "Safety Engineering."

Is it too much to say that the Church too is engaged in a type of safety engineering? Through the religious faith on which it is founded the Church knows that the souls of people need protection even more than do their eyes and limbs.

The Church believes that human hearts yearn for a comforting arm just as human frames require safe-guarding. It believes that physical safety is not enough; that to bring peace of mind is a more important mission than to insure absence of bodily risk.

As long as lives are saved from the blight of godlessness, the institution contributing to such saving is entitled to all the encouragement and support you can give it.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Deuteronomy	30 11-14
Monday	Psalms	119 1-8
Tuesday	Matthew	5 17-20
Wednesday	John	5 37-47
Thursday	II Timothy	2 8-15
Friday	II Peter	1 5-11
Saturday	Psalms	37 1-9

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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 CHURCH OF CHRIST
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
Church services at 8:00 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.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES

E. B. Edwards, Pastor

First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:30 P. M.

Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:30 P. M.

Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.

Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. 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.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH

E. R. Meekins, Pastor
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Carl Bjork, Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. 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.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
Carl J. Yow, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
G. M. Singletary, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
Church services, 8:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
Ben O. Merritt, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, 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, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
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.

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Walker Perry, Pastor
Bible School 10:00 A. M., except second Sunday, at 10:30 A. M.
Morning worship on first Sunday at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first Sunday at 8 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
A. H. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 9 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 8 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