

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**SUPREME LOYALTY TO GOD**

International Sunday School Lesson  
For April 27th, 1952.

Memory Selection: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image."—Exodus 20: 3-4.

Lesson Text: Exodus 20: 1-6;  
Luke 14: 25-27; 16: 13-15.

It is not just a "happen-so" that the Ten Commandments begin with laws concerning man's relationship with God, for, after all, one's conception of God is the most important conception one may have, because it influences every other relationship.

After reminding the children of Israel of his goodness to them in leading them out of their bondage in Egypt, the first commandment which God gives them forbids polytheism—the worship of many gods: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." The Israelites had just come from a land where a multitude of gods were worshipped and they were about to go into the land of Canaan, where the inhabitants had many gods. Therefore, it was necessary that they be impressed with the fact that they had but one God, Jehovah, who had been the means of delivering them from the hands of the Egyptians and who was to guide them into the Promised Land.

Inasmuch as God had done this for them, surely he was entitled to and deserved their love and worship. Had it not been for Him, and His grace and mercy and power, the Israelites would have had no freedom, would know no God, enjoy no hope for the future and would have had no nation of their own. Then, surely the command, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," was not an unreasonable demand.

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan has declared, "If God is what He claims to be, then He must be the supreme object of worship. If it is true that He is Jehovah, then the Commandment is a reasonable one, and it must be a very unreasonable thing to have any other God beside Him. In the very necessity of the case, if the words spoken by God be true, then God is sufficient and God is God. There cannot be two who fulfill that description of limitless life. That becomes an impertinence and a sham to a man who has had a vision of the true God. Every man needs a God. There is no man who has not, somewhere in his heart, in his life, in the essentials of his being, a shrine in which is a deity whom he worships." But, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon," said Christ.

It might be worthwhile in this connection, to point out that the reverent, sincere worship of God tends to lift a human being higher, while the opposite is true in the case of the idol-worshiper. Someone has explained this by the thought that the god of the heathen is lower than the worshiper himself. Consequently, it drags him farther and farther down. The Christian's God is infinitely higher than man and, as man worships Him, he is lifted up until he inevitably grows more like Him.

Even while these words were being written by Moses on Mount Sinai, the Hebrew people irked by his long absence from them and feeling the need of worship, erected a Golden Calf at the foot of the mountain. It is easy for us to condemn the short memory of these Israelites, who so quickly forgot the goodness of God to them and so easily turned back to idol-worshipping as practiced by the Egyptians among whom they had lived for so many years. However, before we condemn them too heartily, let us search our own hearts. Is there anything that we are worshipping other than the true God?

Jesus agreed heartily with the Book of Exodus in making the first command loyalty and obedience to God. He gave very definite teachings about real worship when he walked with the Samaritan woman at the well near Sychar. The important thing to be remembered, he declared, is the manner in which God is worshipped. God desires men and women to worship him in spirit and reality. For, "Good is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

G. K. Chesterton once said: "Man cannot break the laws of God, he can only break himself against them." God's laws are immutable, unbreakable. You can defy the law of gravitation and jump off a skyscraper, with what results? The law of gravitation will still stand unbroken—only you will be broken into bits.

What is the idol that you are worshipping instead of Jehovah—for you (Continued on Page Two)

**GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY**

**BE A BETTER CITIZEN!**

**SOMETHING'S Missing**



Tom has a ballbat and Joe has a mitt. They are two sturdy, normal, active boys, eager for a good time. But something is missing.

There is no ball. They can swing the bat in thin air all day long, and wave and pound the mitt. Yet all their motions are completely senseless if they have nothing to strike at or to catch.

You are a fortunate normal American, eager for a good time and happy life. But perhaps there is something missing in your life too.

Do you go through the motions of earning a living, clothing and feeding your family, finding entertainment, yet everything seems rather empty and senseless?

Perhaps then God is missing. Seek Him and your life will take on new meaning with vital purpose. "Seek and you shall find—"

**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....	Matthew	7 1-12
Monday....	Luke	5 1-11
Tuesday....	John	14 12-21
Wednesday..	Acts	3 1-10
Thursday....	Acts	4 1-12
Friday....	Acts	8 26-38
Saturday....	James	1 1-4

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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  
First Sunday  
11 A. M. and 8 P. M.
- BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Colon Jackson, Jr., Pastor  
Church services second and fourth 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**  
H. M. Jamieson, Pastor  
First Sunday:  
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Oak Grove Church, 7:00 P. M.  
Second Sunday  
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. 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, 10 A. M.  
Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.  
Fifth Sunday  
Woodland Church 11:00 A. M.  
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.
- ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH**  
R. M. Gradeless, Pastor  
Church School, 10:00 A. M.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.
- WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
James F. Burke, Pastor  
Church Services on second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.  
First and Third Sundays at 7:45 P. M.  
Sunday School 9:45 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.
- BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. Bennie Crawford, 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**  
No Pastor At Present  
Sunday School, 10 A. M.  
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
- WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School, 11 A. M., every Sunday except third Sunday.  
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.
- HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH**  
A. L. Chaplin, 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 EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Rev. Charles F. Wolf, Rector.  
9:45 A. M., Church School, every Sunday.  
9:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 1st Sunday.  
8:30 A. M., Holy Communion, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.  
11:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 3rd Sunday.  
11:00 A. M., Morning Prayer, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.  
10:00 A. M., Holy Communion, Fridays and Saints' Days.
- BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Walker Perry, Pastor  
2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.  
Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.  
Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. 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**