

Lesson In Christian Living

LESSONS IN CHRISTIAN LIVING
By MRS. OPAL WHITE
SERENDIPITY

"Serendipity" means that we find a certain thing quite expectedly while we are in the process of looking for something else. The results of "serendipity" are quite often greater than the thing we were actually looking for. Some startling discoveries are made while pursuing other things.

In the Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1970 edition, under the topic "running", is recorded this astonishing fact that I found while doing research on an article: "The sport of running has been popular from the earliest times, and a simple footrace run straight away from starting point to goal or once over the course of the stadium (a little over 200 yards) formed an event in the Greek Olympic pentathlon (q.v.). There was also a short race for warriors wearing full armor and carrying sword and shield. Except in the warrior's race, the Greek runners were naked, save occasionally for a pair of light shoes. And we thought "streaking" was something new!

The Christian life is full of God's great surprises (which are really providential and no surprise to Him). We must, however, be on the move for God to find them! Note others who made surprising discoveries while pursuing other things: St. John 4 tells of the women at the well who not only found water, she found the Saviour and Source of living waters.

The two disciples walking to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) not only found the solution to their problem of grief, they discovered the resurrected Christ.

Zacchaeus, because he was too short to see Jesus over the crowd, climbed into a sycamore tree beside the road to watch from there. He only hoped to see Jesus. His insistence on seeing Jesus brought salvation to him and his household (Luke 19:1-10).

It is true that we occasionally experience "serendipity" while searching for other things. It is profoundly true that Christ came to "seek and to save that which is lost." Luke 15 records three illustrations given by Jesus emphasizing this truth.

First, he spoke of "one lost sheep" and then of "the lost coin". He pointed out the "great joy" over the recovery of "that which was lost." Close behind these he told this story: "A man had two sons. When the younger told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now, instead of waiting until you die!' his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

"A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and took a trip to a distant land, and there wasted all his money on parties and prostitutes. About the time his money was gone a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. He persuaded a local farmer to hire him to feed his pigs. The boy became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the swine looked good to him. And no one gave him anything.

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired men have food enough and to spare, and here I am, dying of hunger! I will go home to my father, and here I am, dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired man."

"So he returned home to his father and while he was still a long distance away, he father saw him coming, and was filled with loving pity and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and you, and am not worthy of being called your son—'

"But his father said to the slaves, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. And a jeweled ring for his finger; and shoes! And kill the calf we have in the fattening pen. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has returned to life. He was lost and is found.'

"Serendipity." The Prodigal son sought only a servant's position in his father's household. Instead, he found complete restoration to the position of sonship.

Obituaries

CHARLES M. HARRELL
Funeral services for Charles Manning Harrell, Jr., 53, of 109 Railroad Avenue, who died Monday, April 29, were held Wednesday, May 1 at the graveside in Cedarwood Cemetery by the Rev. Milton T. Mann, pastor of the First United Methodist Church and the Rev. James A. Auman of Jacksonville, a former pastor.

"The Old Rugged Cross" was sung by Mr. Mann. The flower pall was made of red roses and fern. Pallbearers were Otto Neustadt, Charles Skinner, Jr., W. Claude Brinn, Cecil Edward Winslow, Caswell Edmondson and Marion Swindell.

List Your Property With
William F. Ainsley
Realtor
Hertford, N.C.
Dist 426-7659

SWEDISH VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Einar Lodin of Goteborg, Sweden, spent several days this week with Mr. and Mrs. David Brewin. Mrs. Brewin lived with the Lodins in Sweden as their American "daughter" in 1968.

FROM RALEIGH

Lindsey Reed of Raleigh spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D.F. Reed.



By MARION SWINDELL

We often hear the remark: "Oh, it is just human nature."

We can't help but wonder just what "human nature" is... since there are millions of humans and each one acts differently.

There is one thing in common with all people, however. That is the need to be loved. No person on the face of the earth is without the need of love. We heard of a family

group sitting around one evening discussing the town character. Everyone had something bad to say about the poor fellow until it came around to the Mother. "Well, his Mother loved him very much," was all she had to say. Maybe the time had come when no one loved him. This could have been a big contributing factor to his life.

You know, this could be the secret to success or failure. We all need to do our share of sharing a little understanding with the less fortunate.

OUR THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: "Gratitude is born in hearts that take time to count mercies."

Swindell
Funeral Home
HERTFORD, N. C.
PHONE: 426-7311

DON'T FORGET THE ONE WHO REMEMBERS —

"MOTHER"

Come in and browse around.
May we suggest ----

Luggage - Percolator - Toaster - Steam Iron - Boston Rocker - Glider - Picture - Skillet - Clock - Porch Rocker - Swing - Mixer - Electric Knife - Recliner - Platform Rocker - Hamper - Floor Lamp - Hammock - Vacuum Cleaner - Fan - Pillow - Bath Scales - Whatnot - Dinettes - Radio

OUR 60th ANNIVERSARY MAY SALE IS STILL ON. COMPARE OUR PRICES . . .

W.M. MORGAN FURNITURE CO.
1914 - 1974

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

The law requires every dog owner in North Carolina to have his or her dog vaccinated against rabies.

As county Dog Warden and Rabies Inspector, I will vaccinate dogs on the following schedule:

Rountree's Store - Saturday, May 11 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

New Hope - Monday, May 13 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Belvidere - Wednesday, May 15 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Wink Winslow's Store - Friday, May 17 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Health Department - Saturday, May 18 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Bethel fire Department - Wednesday, May 22 - 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Alphonso Chappell's Store - Thursday, May 23 - 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Peck's Grocery - Winfall - Friday, May 24 - 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

During the clinic, the vaccination price is \$1.50.

Please bring your dog to me at the indicated location and save yourself possible court action.

The Dog Warden - Rabies Inspector has authority to cite into court anyone not complying with this law.

W. RAY WHITE

DOG WARDEN-RABIES INSPECTOR, PERQUIMANS COUNTY

Sunday's Church Lesson

THE GOSPEL CONFRONTS CULTURE (Acts 19:18-20; 23-29)

Richard Gibbs wrote a tract entitled "The Bruised Reed." A tin peddler gave it to a boy named Richard Baxter, and it led him to Christ. He wrote "A Call to the Unconverted." Thousands were saved through it, among them being Philip Doddridge, who wrote "The Rise and progress of Religion in the Soul." It fell into the hands of William Wilberforce, the emancipator of the slaves in the British Colonies, and led him to Christ. Wilberforce wrote "A Practical View of Christianity," which fired the heart of Leigh Richmond, who then wrote "The Diaryman's Daughter." Soon four million copies, in fifty different languages were circulated. And who knows the full story? It can never be fully known what influences came from the tract written by Richard Gibbs.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ continues to confront people all over the world. Wherever the gospel goes it leaves its impact. In the case of Paul's ministry in the city of Ephesus there was evidence of repentance.

REPENTANCE.
Acts 19:18-20

Paul had been used of God to cast out demons in

Ephesus. When seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish high priest, attempted to use "The name of the Lord Jesus whom Paul preaches," it back-fired on them. The evil spirit leaped on them and overcame them. They escaped and fled out of the house naked and wounded.

Following this incident many of the people believed and brought evidence of their turning away from these things. They acknowledged what they had been doing. Those who had been practicing magical arts brought their books and burned them publicly. The word "confessing" shows that they made a clean break with their wrong doing.

This was a tremendous blow to those who followed these evil practices. Multitudes are being taken in today by magic, astrology, fortune-telling, horoscopes and the like. There is need today to turn back to the word of God and let Him free the mind from these traps. Magic seeks to manipulate God. Miracles are acts of God, not man.

When men refuse to repent they turn to self centered reasoning.

REASONING.
Acts 19:23-27

The Gospel is not merely a system of rules and regulations. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a way of life. This way of life is often in direct opposition to the

culture that makes no room for Jesus. Jesus teaches that one must give up if he is ever to the true riches. One must give up his own life if he is ever to know what it means to live. One must be a servant to others if he is ever to be a master.

The Gospel Paul preached struck at the heart of a manufacturing business in Ephesus. Demetrius, a silversmith, made silver shrines used by those who worshipped Diana a goddess. This was a very profitable enterprise. Paul's message turned many to Christ, the living Saviour, and away from the worship of Diana. Demetrius called the "workmen of like occupation" together and laid the problem before them. He reminded them that their income was being affected by a preacher named Paul. This Paul had persuaded and turned away much people.

Not only was their income at stake but the reputation of their goddess was also on the line.

No two things are so likely to stir the emotions of people as the two Demetrius mentioned. The politician who can convince the people that he will bring about material prosperity has a running chance to win. And it is common knowledge that

many wars have been fought in the name of religion.

Verses 28 and 29 give us the results.

RESULTS.
Acts 19:28-29

Demetrius' appeal succeeded. They were filled with wrath. They cried out. The whole city was filled with confusion. They rushed into the theatre. Here is mob action. This is the opposite of what the believers did as shown in verses 18 through 20. Men are bound to make some kind of response when the truth of the Gospel confronts them.

It is not difficult to see what response one ought to make, but it is not easy to make that response. If only we were ready to say with Paul, "Neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24).

BIBLE QUESTION OF THE WEEK:
"What is the meaning of the term 'Raca' in Matthew 5:22?"

ANSWER:
It is an expression of contempt meaning empty-headed or stupid. Christ does not allow us to look or speak in contempt of another.



IN THE SHOW—Johnnie Smith, Hertford, is shown with his horse Leo Lady. Smith, member of Perquimans Horse and Pony Club shows in Halter and Pleasure Classes. There were 200 entries in the club's show held Saturday night in Hertford.

Show Results

RESULTS OF SHOW:

- Halter, 3yr over:
1. Clyde Vinson, Charlie, Seaboard
 2. Michelle Boyce, Sun's Candy Bar, Belvidere
 3. Sha Collins, Mr. Doc, Norfolk

- Halter 2yr under:
1. Leonard Hughes, Miss Come Bars, Northwest
 2. Ernest L. Hughes, Miss Matt Cody, Chesapeake
 3. Sandy Sanders, Peds Guy Link, Suffolk
- Halter, Pony:
1. Julian Bryant, Gold Dust, Windsor
 2. Carl Bryant, App's Pappy, Windsor
 3. Eddie Fowler, Candy, Hertford

- Open Go As You Please, Western:
1. Sha Collins, Mr. Doc, Norfolk
 2. Michelle Boyce, Sun's Candy Bar, Belvidere
 3. Sharon Hetherington, Jim, Elizabeth City
- Children Go As You Please:
1. Gale Sawyer, Klondike King, Elizabeth City
 2. Eric Boyce, Little Lightning, Belvidere
 3. Joette Rogers, Peppy's Nugget, Bear Grass
- Pleasure Driving Pony:
1. Craiton Russell, Bad Night, Elizabeth City
 2. Jhenie Stallings, White Jet, Belvidere

(See SHOW, Page 8)

<p>Darden Department Store 109 - 111 N. Church St. HERTFORD PH. 426-5464</p>	<p>STELLA'S WE BUY AND SELL — ANTIQUES — CALL 264-2923</p>
<p>WINSLOW-BLANCHARD MOTOR COMPANY Your Ford Dealer</p>	<p>W.M. MORGAN FURNITURE COMPANY HOME FURNISHINGS PHILCO APPLIANCES</p>
<p>MOODY HARRELL & SONS GRAIN INCORPORATED Nutrena Feeds Rt. 4 Hertford 264-2318 2861</p>	<p>THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY HERTFORD, N.C. PHONE 426-5729 426-5728 "We Appreciate Your Patronage!"</p>
<p>KEITH'S GROCERY Phone 426-7767 Hertford, N.C.</p>	<p>DIXIE AUTO SUPPLY Distributor & Goodyear Tires Automotive Parts Phone 426-7118 Hertford, N.C.</p>
<p>Attend the Church of your Choice this Sunday.</p>	<p>PHILLIPS' FURNITURE CO. FACTORY OUTLET NEW & REJECT FURNITURE U.S. 17 BYPASS HERTFORD, N.C.</p>
<p>REED OIL COMPANY ESSO Products Hertford, N.C.</p>	<p>PEOPLES BANK & TRUST COMPANY MEMBER OF FDIC HERTFORD, N.C.</p>
<p>DOZIER'S FLORIST HARRIS SHOPPING CENTER PHONE 426-5721 Nights - Holidays Member F.T. D. 426-7592</p>	<p>BYRUM FURNITURE CO. Phone 426-5262 Hertford, N.C.</p>
<p>ONE STOP SERVICE STATION BILL COX - OWNER Tires & Accessories Hertford, N.C. Ph. 426-7986</p>	<p>ALBEMARLE CHEMICAL CO. Phone 426-5587 Hertford, N.C.</p>
<p>HOLLOWELL OIL CO. SUPPLIERS OF OIL PRODUCTS GOODYEAR TIRES PHONE 426-5544</p>	<p>ROBERTSON'S CLEANERS & LAUNDRY, INC. Quality Work Courteous Service Phone 426-5235 Hertford, N.C.</p>