

# Sunday school lesson

(Genesis 1:1; 26-31)  
 "God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good."  
 (Genesis 1:3)

With this lesson we begin our autumn quarter of studies under the general theme, "Beginning of the Covenant People." To study the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, is to study Holy History. It is the recorded account of God working in the world, beginning with creation and moving forward.

Thus, as we study the Bible we come to see God as the God of History. We see God's characteristics as He dealt with both persons and nations. In the beginning, God's relationship with humankind was on a person to person basis—as in the cases of Adam and Eve, and Noah, being good examples.

This type of relationship continued for roughly 2,000 years, until Israel emerged as a nation and God turned to a more formal basis for His relationship with man; a covenant and written laws. Yet, even God's relationship with Adam and Eve contained an implied covenant. A covenant is similar to a contract, or an agreement between two parties.

In the instances of God's covenants, He was the greater and the other parties, the lesser. Most of the covenants God made with man were conditional. They would continue in effect so long as man kept the conditions that God

set forth in them. With Abraham, however, the covenant was unconditional and it continues in effect until now. Holy History teaches us that mankind failed to keep the covenant relationship with God, yet, God's Word is sure and constant and He never fails. Man can always depend upon God to keep His word and His promises. That is a good point with which to begin this unit of study.

**THE BEGINNING OF THE UNIVERSE**  
 (Genesis 1:1)  
 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

The first verse of the first book of the Bible tells us how it all began. God created it all, including man and woman. Without a doubt, the Bible is the inerrant Word of God. Its teaching is the only sure and certain thing in this world. No monkey theories—no big bang theories. God created the cosmos, the universe, the earth, and everything in it and on it. If mankind cannot believe that then mankind's future is bleak indeed.

**THE BEGINNING OF HUMANITY**  
 (Genesis 1:26-28)  
 "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." (Gen. 1:26A).

This verse tells us that God said, "let us". The trinity was creating. God, the Father; God, the Son; God, the Holy Spirit—all were involved in creation. After creating the

heaven and the earth and all vegetation, the animals and all the natural resources, God's crowning achievement was the creation of man in His own image. God gave man a soul, an inward spirit. He gave him an intricate machine called a body—a brain with which to think and the will of choice.

Man would be able to think and choose for himself. God placed all that He had created in the earth under Adam and Eve's watchers. They had dominion over it all. The animals, fish, vegetation, mineral and ore were created to sustain the life of mankind.

The natural resources problems which we hear so much about today—unclean air, unclean water, pollution, etc., are man made problems. It is what happens when man's greed chooses to turn the world's natural resources into wealth.

**THE CONCLUSION OF CREATION**  
 (Genesis 2:1-3)

"God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it!" The seventh day was sanctified, that is, set apart as something special, or different, from the other six days. Scholars may debate God's intent concerning the Sabbath day and it's holiness. This writer believes that with the coming of Christ and the new covenant, the first day of the week is to be set aside for worship and honoring God. Acts 20:7 makes note of this.

(Lesson based on the International Sunday School Lessons.)

# New drug proves effective in treating heart attack victims

A drug used to treat chest pain has been found effective in reducing second heart attacks by 50 percent in a group of heart patients who are prone to recurring attacks, researchers at Baylor College of Medicine and eight other North American medical institutions report.

The institutions tested the drug, diltiazem, on patients who are considered highly prone to recurring heart attacks.

The study results were reported in the August 14 issue of the "New England Journal of Medicine." Patients in the study had what are known as "non-Q-wave" heart attacks—because of the shape of the wave on

their electrocardiograms—which account for about one-third of all heart attacks.

There are about 1.4 million new heart attacks per year in the United States, of which approximately 400,000 are non-Q-wave heart attacks. This is the first therapy ever to be shown to prevent heart attacks in this group of patients.

Dr. Robert Roberts, chief of cardiology for Baylor College of Medicine and The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas directed the study.

"Thirty percent of all heart attacks are non-Q-wave, which primarily involve the inner layer of the heart," Roberts said. "Although this usually

means less extensive injury, these patients run a 15 to 20 percent risk of a second heart attack occurring within a year."

A total of 576 patients were studied over a four-year period. Half received diltiazem and the other half an inactive drug (a placebo). Treatment was given 24 to 72 hours after the onset of a heart attack and was continued up to 14 days.

A second heart attack occurred in 9.3 percent of the placebo patients and 5.2 percent of the diltiazem patients—a reduction of 51.2 percent.

In addition, the frequency of severe angina or chest pain, in patients taking diltiazem, was also reduced by 50 percent.

# Perennials bloom in winter

Cut pampas grass now as soon as the plumes reach maturity. They do not require any treatment for preserving. Later on this winter cut the plants back almost ground level.

Lenten roses are evergreen perennials that bloom in midwinter with flowers of purple or white. Have patience, as they are slow to establish themselves. J. C. Raulston, NCSU, suggests planting in shade, and provide extra quantities of dolomitic limestone or bone meal for their high calcium needs.

Severe drought and heat take their toll on vegetable gardens. As these situations continue to prevail, eliminate growing vegetables that fail under stress. State horticulturists have found that the hardiest veggies include beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, collards, kale, leaf lettuce, mustard, radishes, spinach, turnips, squash, and Southern peas.

Time to feed some of your fruit plants, but don't overdo it, says Flower and Garden Magazine. In September, feed strawberries one to two pounds ammonium nitrate per 100 feet of row. Apply when the leaves are dry.

Blackberries and raspberries should receive five pounds of 10-10-10 per square feet between rows.

Prune blackberries by cutting canes that bore this year. Raspberries and blackberries are referred to as brambles (Rubus). Classed as woody biennials, the roots are peren-



nial, and each year canes grow and attain their full size. The next year they bloom, fruit, and die. You can tell which canes are first year or second by the color. Any brown or dead looking shoots should be cut down to the base of the plant, leaving room for next year's fruiting stalks. Canes should be thrown away and never used as mulch or compost because they rot too slowly, and may harbor harmful organisms and insects.

Thin out spindly little shoots to allow air circulation. Cut healthy canes back to six or eight inches, which will result in larger berries next year.

Raspberry plants, both red and white, require supports in order to produce well. This is a good time to provide posts with a strand of wire on which to train them.

If you raise a lot of brambles, you will appreciate "Pruning Simplified", by Lewis Hill, a brand new Garden Way Publishing book. Mr. Hill covers all kinds of pruning, from trees to bonsai. I find it highly comprehensive and extremely helpful.

# Church news

Bay Branch A.M.E. Zion Church Sunday school begins at 10:00 with Mrs. Esther Hunter in charge. Morning worship begins at 11:15. Music will be rendered by the senior choir with Mr. Larry Felton, organist.

Homecoming will be observed at 2:00 with the Rev. Charlie Moore and the congregations of St. Paul Baptist Church, Sunbury, N.C. and Blanchard's Grove Baptist Church, Hobbsville, N.C. will render service. Dinner will be served following service.

The public is invite to attend.

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## First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church will worship Sunday morning and afternoon at the Sixth Mount Zion Temple Baptist Church, Hampton,

Virginia. The Rev. M. Ivory Jefferson is host pastor.

A charter bus will leave from First Baptist Church at 8:35 a.m.; fare is \$8.00. The Rev. London invites all friends to come and go with First Baptist members.

The First Baptist Church doors will be open for Sunday School and morning worship.

## Ministers meeting

The Albemarle Black ministers conference will hold its First Minister's Meeting at First Baptist Church, Saturday, Sept. 6, 1986 at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Ricky Banks will be the speaker. The Rev. John H. London, host. Ministers should attend.

**To subscribe call 426-5728**



The family of J.E. Jordan of Winfall deeply appreciates all the kind deeds, thoughts, prayers, visits, calls, food, cards, flowers and all other expressions of sympathy during his recent illness and death.

A special thanks is in order to the family physicians and all the nurses and doctors at the Albemarle Hospital. May God bless each one of you.

The family of J. E. Jordan

Thank you for the cards, food, visits, flowers, prayers, and all acts of kindness shown to me during my operation and recovery.

Frances Merritt

I wish to thank everyone for all the phone calls, cards, and visits during my illness. Thank you also for your prayers they meant so much.

Your thoughtfulness has been sincerely appreciated during my recovery.

Sincerely,  
 Annie (Tup) Winslow

I want to thank my many friends, neighbors, and loved ones, for the flowers, cards, visits, and all other acts of kindness and especially your prayers. I also want to thank the doctors, nurses, and entire staff for their kindness and patience I received during my stay in Chowan Hospital.

Pink Hurdle

We greatly appreciate all the prayers for our family, food sent to the house, visits, phone calls, cards, and kind words of sympathy by friends and neighbors during the illness and loss of our loved one. Your concern has meant so much to us. We also thank Dr. Robert Lane for his excellent care and kindness. Again, we thank each of you for your thoughtfulness and continuing prayers.

The family of  
 Esther T. Lane

# "HE'S NOT KIDDING"

Raymond C. Needham, Pastor  
 Hertford Baptist Church  
 Hertford, N.C.

When scripture says, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked..." it means that God's word to man is to be taken seriously; He is not kidding! We live in a day when multitudes give little or no heed to God's word. They seldom read the Bible or make an effort to apply its teachings to their lives. They decide what is right and wrong by what those around them are doing. Their standards are set according to the latest trend or fad. How easy it is to forget that God will have the last word. He is the final authority, not man. Every person is accountable to Him.

Psalm 119:89 says, "Forever, O Lord, they word is settled in heaven." Matthew 24:35 reads, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Isaiah 40:8 tells us, "The grass withereth the flower fadeth; but the word of God shall stand forever."

Someone has called the Bible "God's written voice." In it He has set forth the way of righteousness. He has given His standard for the life that will result in blessings from Him. His way is the way of peace and abundant life. When we reject His instruction, we at the same time invite into our lives trouble and sorrow. It is a fact of the moral universe that when God's word is ignored, there is a price to pay; and when men are

obedient, God is pleased to bestow His blessing. Many today have the attitude that God is indifferent to how we live, and that He is indulgent toward our violations of His Holy Word. They say, "God is the God of love." That is true, for He "so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." However, He is equally the God of righteousness, and He instructs us in righteousness that we may follow it for our good and his glory. The fact that God loves does not mean that He condones disobedience to His word.

Yes, God has spoken to us through His word, the Bible, and He is not kidding! He tells us that "whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatian 6:7). If one repents of his sin and believes in Christ as Saviour, he reaps eternal life. But if he rejects the Saviour he shall not see life, and the wrath of God abides upon him according to the scriptures (John 3:36).

Do we truly want His blessings upon our lives? If so, then let us go to His word and learn of His will and give obedience to it. We cannot rest upon man's wisdom, for an every hand we see it failing to solves our problems. Would we have our lives and homes blessed? Then listen to the sure word of God. He is not kidding!

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