

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

J. F. JOHNSON _____ Editor & Publisher
 MISS EMMA P. JOHNSON _____ News Reporter
 MISS GAIL WEEKES _____ News Reporter
 & Bookkeeper
 L. A. WISE _____ Staff Photographer

Make all checks payable to and mail to:

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

P. O. Box 20831 — GREENSBORO, N. C. 27420

PHONE 273-1758

Second Class Postage Paid at Greensboro, N. C.

10c Per Copy Published Weekly \$6.00 Per Year

FIRE NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY

Fire never takes a holiday, it comes at the least expected times. Just about every week one turns on the television before reading the paper and hears that some family has been involved in a fire. The sound goes out, a family of eight (8) was involved in a fire, the house was old and completely destroyed. All their belongings went up in flames. Sometimes one or two of the family members are lost or receive serious burns and die on the way to the hospital. The fire usually comes late at night by an old stove or oil heater.

Many times the windows are open due to the heat of night for a comfortable rest and every one is sound asleep and that's when the fire starts.

However fires aren't only started from old stoves, there are industries, and businesses where fires start. The rubble of a hurried clean-up causes a spontaneous combustion to start at a very unpredictable time.

Just a few months ago a company was destroyed due to hazardous conditions and hazardous habits as smoking. Someone carelessly smoking around the plant caused the fire. Many of the employees had to overcome the smoke of the fire, streets were also closed for a couple of days due to the fire. The firemen tried to bring the fire under control but unsuccessfully until the building was destroyed.

Some philanthropists are making a contribution to Greensboro for protection from such incidents by training the employees to handle the job.

Courses should be offered in college in operation of fire trucks in case the time comes when one may want to be a fireman.

When fire strikes, people not thinking take old junk, that they don't want to people that are victims of this fire. Put yourself in the persons place, you know you don't want it why should they want it, and one calls himself helping.

First aid is needed at all times, especially in cases of fire. Many things can be prevented if one knows first aid. Many hazards can be prevented, why smoke in bed and fall asleep. Arson in many cases cause fires that are usually very unnecessary.

Remember God said the world is going to be destroyed by fire and more and more every day there are more and more fires. Draw your own conclusions.

Fires occur more in the winter months than any other time of the year. And many more people are left out in the cold of winter.

Fire insurance is not really on the house but on the furniture in the house and usually fire insurance is not deductible.

Fire hazards can be prevented so why don't we all try to prevent them.

DRIVE SANELY**THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON****GOD CALLS MEN****What is Our Concern?**

Can God use us in accomplishing his purposes on earth? Before we reply, let us think for a moment.

We may be willing to admit that he has called and does call many men and women of exceptional quality to serve him. But can he use common folks like you and me? We feel that our talents are so small and our means so meager that we can be of little service. But the Bible and Christian experience testify that what matters is not the largeness of our abilities but our willingness to heed the call and to put ourselves at God's disposal.

Any doubts we have on this point will be quickly eased, if not removed, when we consider the men Jesus chose. He began with four fishermen and a tax collector. We may learn most from the story of this tax collector, called "Matthew" in the Gospel According to Matthew and "Levi" in Mark and Luke. Here is what Mark says:

"He went out again beside the sea; and all the crowd gathered about him, and he taught them. And as he passed on, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he rose and followed him." (2:13-14)

Several points should be noted about the call of Levi. First, he had a secure, profitable position. He was almost certainly wealthy. Jesus chose this man from the secular, commercial world to be his disciple.

Note also that Jesus did not try to talk Levi into taking his new job. He made no promises that Levi would be better off than before. Jesus simply walked up to him and said, "Follow me." I like to think that Jesus then moved on, leaving the decision entirely with Levi. If he followed, it must be because he chose to do so.

The call of God to men is always like this. God summons but does not compel us. We can come or stay as we choose. We can accept his call, or we can reject it.

Jesus did not enter into negotiations with Levi over his new position. This fact should remind us that when we are called, we are summoned on God's terms. He is sovereign Lord of the world, and his terms are not subject to negotiation.

Being a follower of Jesus is not easy. It requires self-sacrifice and total commitment. The call of God is always a challenge but one that bears the promise of victory through struggle.

This call is well illustrated in an event that took place many

years ago. When the Italian patriot, Giuseppe Garibaldi, was seeking to deliver his country from foreign oppression, he gathered his followers with words such as these: "I promise you no easy time. I offer you hunger and suffering and death, but I promise you victory. Let him who loves his country follow me."

In a far more wonderful way God calls each one of us to opportunity, to struggle, and to victory. We need only follow him.

Searching the Scripture

The Scripture for this lesson is Exodus 3:1-20; 2 Timothy 1:8-9. Selected verses are printed below.

Exodus 3:1-14

1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Mid'ian; and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and lo, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt." 4 When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here am I." 5 Then he said, "Do not come near; put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the Lord said, "I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring forth my people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" 12 He said, "But I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you

shall serve God upon this mountain."

13 Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I am has sent me to you.'"

Memory Selection: Take your share of suffering for the gospel in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago. — 2 Timothy 1:8-9

What the Scripture Says to Us

We can hardly overemphasize the importance of Moses in the history of man. He mediated to the people of Israel a new awareness and a new knowledge of God. He delivered them from slavery in Egypt, and then at Sinai he led them to become the covenant people of God.

We know nothing about Moses beyond what is told us in the Bible. He apparently was raised in the court of the Pharaoh. As a result of killing an Egyptian for beating a Hebrew slave, he was forced to flee to Midian.

In Midian, Moses came to the home of a priest by the name of Reuel or Jethro. He subsequently married a daughter of the priest and became a shepherd, keeping the flocks of his father-in-law. In our Scripture passage we find him at this point.

As he led his flock, Moses came to Horeb, 'the mountain of God.' (Sinai is another name for this same sacred mountain.) Here Moses saw a bush that burned, yet was not consumed. We need not try to explain this phenomenon in scientific terms. Rather, let us seek the religious meaning of the burning bush. Throughout the Bible fire is used to indicate the presence of God. This passage is one that uses the figure of the flame to symbolize God's presence.

Moses saw the great phenomenon, turned toward it, and heard his name being called from out of the flames. He was told to remove his shoes, for he stood on ground made holy by the presence of God. Then God told Moses to go down into Egypt and bring out the people God had chosen. Moses quite naturally objected that he was not able to perform so great a task. Then came the assurance that God would be with him and that the sign of his presence would be that Moses would return to the place where he was now standing.

Verse 13 makes it clear that the people of Israel did not know

(Continued on Page 6)