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

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JUNE BRIDES

June is the time of the year when the sap reaches its highest peak, and everyone feels the warmth of the day and the warmth of each other. This is the most favorite month chosen by young and old lovers alike to unite in holy matrimony.

It has been said for so many a year that the June brides are the prettiest and most successful of all the brides of the year.

There is amazement in one's eyes when looking in the newspaper to see so many beautiful pictures of some you know and with dazzling eyes wonder how it feels to be a bride and finally a married woman or man.

The gayla festival of getting married can be a fade. Just because one thinks it would be different or fun to get married. Many people get married for different reasons. One shouldn't get married if they don't love. Maybe just because one thinks she may be pregnant and the marwhom the child is by doesn't want to get married. Therefore one thinking the man that does love her so much that she can easily trap him into marriage, and have the child at an odd time and causes conflict and unhappiness.

Usually these marriages end up in separations and finally divorce. It is not good to just separate because unfortunate circumstances can occur within the family within which you married.

Another problem in a marriage can be the in-laws. Mother-in-law can't get along with son-in-law, or daughter-in-law. Father can't get along with daughter-in-law or son-in-law. Both trying to run their daughters and sons marriage and cause conflict among them.

There should be harmony within a marriage, remember the words in the oath of holy matrimony. Do you take this man or woman to be thou lawful wedded husband or wife to cherish in sickness and in health til death do you part. These are sacred words of oath, nothing for a trial ceremony.

Many feelings are involved in marriage, make plans to start and keep your marriage together. Honesty is said to be the best policy in all occasions especially in a mar-

Married life will not and can not always be happy. However it can be peaceful. A little understanding, honesty, cooperation and most of all love can keep peace within a home. Your financial status should be decided before marriage and that can't be used as an excuse for unhappi-

Eventually everyone will find the right mate and be compatible with each other. Everything is settled among the couple, with a discussion among themselves.

As far as the June bride is concerned, yes, she's happy but really no happier than any other bride of any other month. A happy marriage can be made by any bride and her mate married in any month.

DRIVE SANELY

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

HUNGER FOR SECURITY What Is Our Concern?

We live in a threatened world. From every side the evidence is pouring in that the human race is sadly guilty of fouling its own nest. What we have so fondly labeled as "progress" threatens now to pollute beyond redemption our supplies of air and water. Our search for power has brought us into the nuclear age, and the fruits of much of our scientific labor rise up to hold the threat of extinction over our heads

We know that we are also threatened by the beast lurking just beneath the surface of our human nature. We have seen open, bitter, and violent conflict sweep across our cities and college campuses. Men feel threatened, and they are fearful. There is an almost universal longing for some better way. Men search feverishly for security in this world so marked by problems. Not only does our social order seem to be threatened. Individual men feel they have no basic security within this troubled world. Two disturbing factors that touch many private lives may be pointed out: the sickness in American marriage as an institution and the conflict that pervades so many parent-child relationships.

Add to this situation the alcoholism rate in our country Compound it with other disorders reflected in drug addiction, runaway husbands or wives, the high rate of unwed parents; and ask what man or woman in our time can be sure that bitter personal disaster will not next strike his or her own life?

These apparently simple facts of life can and do create great unease and insecurity for many persons.

Does the Christian gospel address itself with power and healing to our human hunger for security? Are we searching for life's solid foundations with the aid of God? Or are we struggling alone with our anxities and problems?

Searching the Scripture

The Scripture for this lesson is Psalms 57; 90:13-17; Isaiah 6:1-6; Romans 8:28-39. Selected verses are printed below. Psalms 57

1 Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in thee my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of thy wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.

2 I cry to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me. 3 He will send from heaven and save me, he will put to struggled deeply with the meanshame those who trample upon ing of his life as he lived it in me. God will send forth his concrete situations of tension,

spears and arrows, their tongues sharp swords. 5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let thy glory be over all the earth. 6 They set a net for my steps; my soul was bowed down. Thy dug a pit in my way, but they have fallen into it themselves.

7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfasti will sing and make melody! 8 Awake, my soul! Awake, O harn and lyre! I will awake the dawn! 9 I will give thanks to thee, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to thee among the nations. 10 For thy steadfast love is great to the heavens thy faithfulness to the clouds 11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let thy glory be over all the earth!

Memory Selection: I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ our Lord.

-Romans 8:38-39 What the Scripture Says to Us

Those who wrote the psalms did not live in a world without problems. In many respects their world was like ours. The security of the nation and of individuals within the nation could never quite be taken for granted. Always there were foes "without and within" who challenged a person's security. These forces are indicated in the chief biblical passage for this study (Psalms 57) by such terms as "the storms of destruction," "those who trample upon me," "I lie in the midst of lions," "they set a net for my steps," "they dug a pit in my way."

The technical term used by some Bible scholars to describe Psalms 57, and forty others in the Psalter, is "individual lament." It is judged to be one of a class of psalms "composed by individuals who, in a time of need or anxiety, went to the temple to pray to Yahweh (God)."

This type of psalm always reflects the distress of the person who was offering the prayer. The psalmist often referred to his "enemies." Who were these enemies? What were these dangers from the midst of which he raised his cry for God's mercy? The psalmist did not point them out directly, and we can only wonder.

What is more important is that we see here a man who steadfast love and his faithful- hostility, conflict, deceit, and an-

ness! 4 I lie in the midst of ger. We find here a devout belions that greedily devour the liever who won his way through sons of men; their teeth are to peace and certainty in the face of great pain.

The Psalmist's Security

First, the psalmist found his security in the unchanging and absolutely trustworthy character of God. (Verse 3b) He found his security in confidence that God had a purpose for his life and that, even in the midst of his pain, God was fulfilling that purpose. (Verse 2) The "steadfast love and . . . faithfulness" of God were this besieged man's surest source of confidence.

Second, the psalmist was able to speak of his own steadfast heart. (Verse 7) He could have used as his own the words of 2 Timothy 1:12: "I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that Day what I have entrusted to him."

The psalmist found his confidence in his remembrance of God's mighty acts in the past. Much of the worship and total religious life of the Hebrews centered around a recital of God's actions in the history of their people. The most important event in that history was the Exodus, God's gracious choice and deliverance of the Hebrews from their Egyptian

A rapid survey of the Book of Psalms shows how often the psalmists called to mind and rejoiced in what God had done. Their confidence in God's future eliverance of his people grew, in no small degree, from their celebration of what he had done for them in the past.

A third source of the psalmist's sense of security may well have been his practice of the presence of God. Not only may we remember the mighty acts of God in great historical events! we may also celebrate his goodness in the daily round. Each morning the sun rises; each evening comes the peace of darkness. "Seedtime and harvest, cold and head, summer and winter, day and night," do not cease. (Genesis 8:22) Everywhere we see evidences of human love.

Surely God is good. We may trust him fully, for with him "there is no variation or shadow due to change." (James 1:17)

Sources of Insecurity

We often read or hear the comment that a basic sense of insecurity pervades human life today. What are some possible reasons for this insecurity in the life of so many modern persons?

The following suggestions are by no means intended to be a complete list. These are simply what one man sees as he tries to understand himself and his

(Centinued on Page 3)