

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
HOLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D.
of the Moody Bible Institute
of Chicago.
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lesson for May 19

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IAH DENOUNCES FALSE PROPHETS

IN TEXT—Jeremiah 23:21-32.
IN TEXT—Prove all things; that which is good.—1 Thessalonians 5:21.

ing the vanity and pleasing of ungodly people with flattery and false comfort, then the assurance of peace and prosperity in the very pursuit of it, did not begin with the prophets of the twentieth century. Six hundred years before Jeremiah the prophet had to deal with such false teachers. The manner of dealing with them was of interest to us, for essentially the same methods and had the same results. The false prophets that characterize their descendants of today, called modernistic religious leaders who are busy everywhere trying to undermine the faith of God's children in His Word. They are revealed as being destitute of authority, without a real message and under the disfavor and to the judgment of God.

Without Divine Commission (vv. 1-2)

"We have not sent these prophets"—would have been sufficient for people of Judah. A man who sent by God has no word from him, no help for needy humanity, worse than an admitted teacher or philosopher, for him to speak with divine authority, and yet has only the disappointing impotence of a liar and a

reason Judah listened to them because they so eloquently condemned the voice of their own consciences, assuring that all was well, when, as a fact, everything was.

Men listen to the same kind of teaching today for the very same

without a Divine Message (vv. 3-4)

"The false prophets may delude but they have not fooled God. Not a single being, limited to earth (v. 29). He looks on men far off viewpoint of heaven judges by His own high standards.

Can they hide from Him (v. 5)

God hears the word spoken in academic shelter of a college room, secretly poisoning the person's heart against the man of his father and mother. A judgment also awaits those in their public utterances or heresies of orthodoxy, while they undermine and de-

Christian faith.

A man is foolish enough to suppose that the dreams of his own heart will help anyone, be honest enough to call just that; namely, dreams (v. 6).

But God will assuredly not those men guiltless who try to off their own philosophies as the approval of God; would have people honor their abilities as Christian churches, they are at best only social or ecclesiastic gatherings designed to unify man rather than Christ.

He is in verse 29 that the Word is like the fire that consumes

purifies, and also like the hammer that breaks up the rocky heart.

Without Divine Favor and (vv. 30-32)

is against every false prophet. Small wonder that there is the fear of death in their speaking of their works. There is no divine in their message and no holy name to enable people to respond to their admonitions. Prominent

preachers are decrying in our day

that their cultured essays

polished philosophies are not

touching the hearts of men and are

going to transform lives. At the

same time, humble preachers and

shepherds of God's Word, sometimes

hidden and remote places, are re-

vealing as they see the transforming

force of God come upon lives as a

part of their simple proclamation

the gospel of grace. Keep on,

then God is with you.

Observe what God calls the false

shepherds—thieves (v. 30) and liars

32. Hard words, but they come

from One who is all-knowing, who

knows rightly and in love:

Like the shadow

am gone like the shadow when

describem; I am tossed up and

as the locust. My knees are

weak through fasting; my flesh fails

of fatness; I became also a re-

lach unto them; when they looked

on me they shook their heads.—

10:23-25.

Shepherd Becomes Sheep

Such preachers were the vogue

in Jeremiah's day. Then, as now,

many prophets followed fashions.

We are witnessing a wave of the

same sort in our own time: minis-

ters as a mass sweep up into cults

of pacifism "social gospel" preach-

ing; sentimental radicalism and

Bible-denying modernism. The

strange phenomenon of today's

pulpit is that many shepherds have

become sheep.

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COME TO CHURCH

Preachers A Problem When Shepherds Become Sheep

Nowadays, Even as in Jeremiah's Time, People Are Imperiled by Religious Teachers Who Miss the Message of God — Will a New Prophet Arise via the Radio?

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

become sheep — followers of an arid intellectualism, rather than God-led leaders of a flock. Their "ear is to the ground," rather than turned heavenward.

Some of these false prophets are heard on the radio, preaching intolerance, class and race hatred, and even open sedition. Their power points the need for the rise of a true prophet, after the order of Jeremiah, and of the other great Hebrew seers, who will command a national hearing for the clear command of God. The radio is God's new trumpet, whereby the whole world may hear at once the message of God's man for the hour, when he appears. No longer need he be a voice crying in the wilderness; or a lonely persecuted, imprisoned prophet like Jeremiah. He may set the ether vibrating with the explicit counsels of eternity. That ideal seems distant in a day when the most popular figure on the radio is a wooden dummy!

Cults and Preachers

It would startle many a Christian to take a pencil and check up the religious advertisements in the Saturday issue of a metropolitan paper. I have known instances wherein the advertisements of the various "cults" outnumbered those of the Christian churches.

The existence of these is an indictment of the Christian pulpit as a whole. They signify that soul-hungry folk have not found satisfaction for their spiritual needs in the regular ministry and so have turned to yogis and swamis and weird esoteric cults.

Equally an indictment of the Christian Church is the prevalence of crime and corruption and debased moral standards in our time. If the prophets of God, as Jeremiah pointed out, had been equal to their opportunity and to their duty, sin would not have been fortified by faith in the living God.

Summed up, all of the foregoing means that the true prophets of God must rise to the occasion. There is a deep under-surge of vague religious sentiment in the world today. But it needs the counsel and leadership of the ministry to become articulate and practical. This is a day of day for the widespread teaching and preaching of the Gospel of Christ, as applied to modern life. What a call it constitutes for young Christians to enter upon a career of Sunday school teaching!

And for the preacher it is a day of destiny. His power is greater than that of the politician, for he deals with the master motives of life. He must be an example: "Like priest, like people;" he must be a voice, not an echo; a voice calling to the world in the certain terms of Holy Writ: "This is the Way;

6:00 P. M. Evening Worship and Study: A Unified Service. Nursery for the infants. Junior Church for the Children, with special message. Music by the Young People's Choir. Special Mother's Day Theme: "Purposive Weeping." A most cordial welcome. For Mother's Sake, Come to Church.

6:00 P. M. Epworth League, Harriet Gilson, Devotional Leader. Special speaker, W. Guy Brown, subject: "The Church and Modern Social Problems." The public is invited. Young people are especially invited.

7:30 P. M. Evening Worship and Study: A Unified Service. Nursery for the infants. Junior Church for the Children, with special message. Music by the Young People's Choir. Special Mother's Day Theme: "Purposive Weeping." A most cordial welcome. For Mother's Sake, Come to Church.

9:30 A. M. Sunday School. An interesting class with a competent teacher for you.

10:30 A. M. Morning Worship. As this is Mother's Day very interesting and helpful services are planned. The theme of the morning message will be, "Memories of Mother." Mrs. Dan Tyndall will be our soloist for this service.

6:00 P. M. Young People's Service. A special speaker will be with us, so all young people are urged to be present.

7:00 P. M. Evening Evangelistic Service. A beautiful stereopticon lecture will be given at this hour, accompanied by appropriate organ selections. The picture theme is, "Mothers." Everyone is welcome to this service.

6:30 P. M. Tuesday evening our men's brotherhood will meet for their monthly meeting. All men of the church are expected and any friends will be most welcome.

6:30 P. M. Wednesday evening, our choir will meet for rehearsal.

7:30 P. M. Wednesday evening, all families of the church are urged to come to the church for an hour of fellowship.

Be sure you put your feet in the right place and then stand firm, — Abraham Lincoln.

Far be it from me to glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world hath been crucified unto me, and unto the world.—Gal. 6:14.

One God, one law, one element. And one far-off divine event To which the whole creation moves.—Alfred Tennyson.

There is more ado to interpret interpretations than to interpret the things; and more books upon books than upon all other subjects; we do nothing but comment upon one another. — Michael DeMontaigne.

Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:00 p. m. Groups for Children, Young People, Young Married People, and other Adults.

All these services will be held on Daylight Saving Time. A warm welcome awaits all who attend our church.

Mother is the name of God in the hearts of little children.

CHURCHES

St. Mary's Church
Rev. J. J. Selmetz, Pastor
(All services on daylight saving time.)

Pentecost Sunday
First mass — 7:00 A. M.
Children's mass — 8:30 A. M.
High mass — 9:45 A. M.
Prayer hour and Benediction,
2:00 P. M. Communion Sunday for
Mothers and daughters in observance
of Mother's Day.

Church of the Nazarene
7th and Marhsall Sts.
Paul Brandybush, Pastor
Our Church will abide by the vote
of the people and begin all services
on fast time.

9:30 A. M. Sunday School. Doyle
Lyle, supt.

10:30 A. M. Morning Worship.

Sermon theme: "The Ideal Mother."

Text: "Favour is deceitful,

and beauty is vain: but a woman

that feareth the Lord, she shall be

Praised." Prov. 31:30.

3:00 P. M. "The Singing Preachers" WOZO.

7:00 P. M. The young people's service.

7:00 P. M. The Junior service.

7:30 P. M. The Evangelistic service.

7:30 P. M. Wednesday. The regular mid-week prayer meeting.

It is appointed unto men once

to die, but after this the judgment." Heb. 9:27.

Let us prepare for the judgment now, not tomorrow. Come, you will

enjoy our old fashioned religious services. You are welcome!

First Christian Church
Kenneth Timmons, pastor

9:30 a. m.—Bible School. Fred

Scheiderer, superintendent. This

is an important day. First, a lesson

on "Faith." Also it is Mother's Day,

which is an occasion for a great attendance in activity.

Finally, but not least in importance, it is Pentecost Sunday, the birthday anniversary of the church.

10:30 a. m.—Special morning worship, communion and a sermon by Rev. Timmons. The sermon theme, "Mary, the Mother of Jesus."

7:30 p. m.—Evening worship services, commemorating the birthday anniversary of the church.

The sermon theme, "The Day of Pentecost."

Monday, 7:30 p. m.—Corinthian

class will meet at the home of

Mrs. James Kitchen. Mrs. Elmer

Darwachter will be leader of the

social entertainment.

Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.—Sisters of Ruth class will meet at the home of Mrs. Elmer Harfacher. Mrs. J. E. Anderson will be program leader.

Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.—Prayer and praise service and Bible study conducted by Rev. Timmons.

You are always welcome to come and worship with us.

First Baptist Church
Carey R. Moser, Pastor

(All services on daylight saving time.)

9:30 A. M. Sunday School. An interesting class with a competent teacher for you.

10:30 A. M. Morning Worship. As this is Mother's Day very interesting and helpful services are planned.

The theme of the morning message will be, "Memories of Mother."

6:00 P. M. Evening Worship. A special speaker will be with us, so all young people are urged to be present.

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