

Improved Uniform International **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
LESSON
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Lesson for November 24

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PAUL IN ATHENS AND CORINTH

LESSON TEXT—Acts 17:22-28a; 18: 1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:22-23.

MEMORY SELECTION — For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.—1 Corinthians 3:12.

History repeats itself, in spiritual things as well as in secular events. The experiences of Paul at Athens and Corinth are peculiarly applicable to our day, for here he encountered the very problems which face (and have apparently stopped) the church today.

The cities were not far apart in miles, and they were both pagan, but they differed widely in their cultural and commercial development.

Athens was the home of a godless culture. Corinth was a prosperous commercial center known throughout the world for grossly licentious living.

What did the gospel accomplish in such cities? We shall soon see.

I. Godless Intellectual Meets the Gospel (Acts 17:22-28a).

Paul was alone in Athens. He had been separated from his companions Silas and Timothy (Acts 17:14), and was to await them at Athens. While he waited he looked the city over and found it wholly given to idolatry (v. 16). This was no idle observation of a scientific mind, for it caused Paul's spirit to stir in him.

It is a bad sign when a professed Christian can live in the presence of sin and false worship and not be deeply moved by it.

Paul did something about it! He went into the great daily gatherings of philosophers and gave them some solid Christian philosophy to work on. They were curious to know more, and when the opportunity arose, Paul preached the sermon on Mars Hill.

He found them superstitiously religious, but religion does not save. They even feared lest they had forgotten some god, so one altar was "to the unknown God" (v. 23). This gave Paul his opportunity, for he declared the one true God—unknown to them—as the answer to their question.

The intellectual felt superior and had an idea that God needed him, a kind of snobbery which is as current in 1946 as it was in Paul's day. How effectively he disposed of that attitude appears in verses 24 and 25. They needed God, and without him they could not draw a breath!

Moreover, the pagan intellectual then as now would swell with pride as he thought of the race and people to whom he belonged. They were superior—a master race. Paul declares God's truth that all men are of one blood, and that the nations are in his hands (v. 28).

What they had to do, and what the godless intellectuals of our day need to do, is to seek God in humble repentance and faith; then lives can become fine and noble and useful (vv. 27, 32-34).

II. Sophisticated Immorality Meets the Gospel (Acts 18:1-4).

To Corinth Paul came (evidently still alone) without friends or funds. Like all well-bred Jewish boys, he knew a trade. He was a sail maker and tent maker. Rather than have the godless men of Corinth hinder his preaching by the criticism that he was doing it for money, he supported himself.

The minister is eager for rich financial return, and who is willing to accept the gifts of the godless that his work may prosper, has closed the door for his testimony to many who do not believe. In fact, one wonders whether he has any real testimony to give.

In this wicked city, given over to vice and fleshly pleasure, Paul made his way to the synagogue and began to preach Christ. He reasoned and persuaded and won some for the Lord as he continued with them for a year and a half (Acts 18:11).

Paul's letter to the Corinthians reveals the struggle of the believers at Corinth to maintain moral standards and spiritual warmth in such a city, but it also clearly indicates that the gospel of Christ is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16), even in the midst of sin and corruption.

III. The Gospel Meets Sin—and Is Victorious (1 Cor. 1:22-23).

The wisdom of this world—for which Athens stood in a special way—becomes foolish in the eyes of men, as it is already in the sight of God, when it stands up against the gospel (read vv. 18-21).

The preaching of the cross, which looks foolish to the worldling (v. 23), is the wisdom and the power of God, and by it men are saved.

Whether Jew or Gentile, whether seeking signs of wisdom, whether "up-and-out" by way of pagan intellectualism or "down-and-out" by way of immorality—no matter what man's race, or his problem—the answer is in the gospel which we are privileged to teach and preach, for it is the gospel of "Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" to all who are called by him.

RURAL CHURCHES

St. Luke Reformed Church
 Honduras
 H. M. Meckstroth, pastor
 9:00 worship service.
 10:00 Sunday school.
 2:00 Catechetical instruction.
 7:30 young people's meeting.
 Beulah Bertsch, leader.

Calvary Evangelical United
 Brethren Church
 F. H. Willard, minister
 Morning worship, 9 a.m.
 Sunday school, 10 a.m.

Union Thanksgiving service Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., at the Trinity Evangelical United Brethren church, with the Rev. William C. Feller of the Zion Evangelical and Reformed church preaching.

Willshire Circuit
 U. S. Church
 L. A. Middaugh, pastor
 Willshire
 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, Luther Fink, supt.

10:30 a.m. class meeting, Oatis Strickler, leader.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, thank offering service, Rev. Lawrence Delinger, speaker.

St. Paul
 9:15 a.m. Sunday school, Eddie McFarland, supt.
 7:00 p.m. preaching service.
 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, prayer meeting and Bible study, Robert McBride, leader.

Winchester
 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, Merle Ekes, supt.

10:30 a.m. preaching service.
 7:30 p.m. Thursday, prayer meeting, Fred Zurcher, leader.

Monroe Methodist Church
 E. O. Kegerreis, minister

A gospel team from Taylor University will be present to lead in Evangelistic services Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Services will be held at 7:15 each evening.

9:30 — morning worship led by Taylor University gospel team. Message by Rev. Paul Zook.

10:35 — church school classes for all ages.

6:00 — youth fellowship.

Monday 7:00 — board of education meeting in the church annex.

Tuesday 6:30 — father and son banquet.

Wednesday 7:00 — Thanksgiving service.

Union Chapel Church
 Evangelical United Brethren
 D. H. Pellett, pastor

Unified morning services:

Sunday school; Thurman I. Drew superintendent, 9:30.

Morning worship, annual cash day and holy communion, 10:15.

Special music by the choir, sermon subject, "Worship."

Christian Endeavor for young people and adults, 7:00.

Special Thanksgiving service Wednesday, 7:30.

Choir rehearsal following the services on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

You are always welcome at this church, in the heart of the community with the community at heart.

United Brethren In Christ
 Rivarre Circuit
 Paul A. Graham, pastor
 Mt. Zion

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.
 Preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Christian Endeavor, 7 p.m.

Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Mt. Victory
 Sunday school, 9 a.m.
 Class meeting 10 a.m.
 Prayer meeting Wednesday, 1 p.m.

INSURANCE

Leo "Dutch" Ehinger

FIRE — WIND — AUTO

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We Have

Garden Tractors, A. C. Tractor Cabs, Heat Houses, Cement Mixers, Lime and Fertilizer Spreaders, Rotary Hoe, Post Hole Digger, Cattle and Hog Curri-oilers, Stokers, Tractor Tires, Tarpolins, Electric Welders, G. E. Radios, Electric Water Heaters, Electric Irons, Toy Tractors and Trailers.

GERBER Imp. Store

Allis-Chalmers Sales and Service, U. S. 27, Decatur, Phone 2551.

Pleasant Grove

Sunday school, 9 a.m.
 Class meeting, 10 a.m.
 Christian Endeavor, 7 p.m.
 Revival services begin Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. The Monroeville girls' trio will conduct the song service, and the pastor will be in charge of the preaching services. We anticipate guest speakers the first week. All are invited to attend.

CHURCH NEWS

Pleasant Grove

The Pleasant Grove United Brethren church will conduct revival services, beginning Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The song service will be conducted by the Monroeville girls' trio. The pastor, the Rev. Paul A. Graham, will be in charge of the preaching services and guest speakers will assist during the first week. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend each night.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Adams County, Indiana, will until the hour of 2:00 P. M. Monday, December 2, 1946, receive sealed bids for furnishing the following equipment for the Surveyor:

New, one-half ton pick-up truck, equipped with 6.50 x 16 tires, and dual windshield wipers, for dual driving.

All bids must be accompanied with bond or certified check in the amount of 10% of the price bid.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

By order of the Board of Commissioners of Adams County.

Thurman L. Drew,
 Auditor Adams County, Indiana
 Nov. 22-29

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NOTICE TO TAXPayers OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the taxpayers of Blue Creek Township, Adams County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of said municipality have received at their regular meeting place, on December 1, 1946, will consider the following additional appropriations which said officers consider necessary to meet the extra-ordinary emergency existing at this time.

The taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon.

Tuition Fund No. 28 \$275.00

Special School Fund No. 23 500.00

Oron E. Patterson
 Trustee of Blue Creek Twp.
 Nov. 22-29

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals for widening and for resurfacing on certain highways will be received by the Chairman of the State Highway Commission at his office in the State House Annex, Indianapolis, Indiana, until 11:00 A.M. Central Standard Time, on the 10th day of December, 1946, when all proposals will be publicly opened and read.

CONTRACT M-2750—Bids are invited on cement concrete widening and bituminous resurfacing of approximately 16.00 miles in the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Districts, Adams and Jay Counties.

Proposals may be examined at the office of the Commission in Indianapolis, Indiana.

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF INDIANA
 John H. Lauer
 Chairman
 Nov. 22-Dec. 6

Red Cross Office To Be Closed Saturday

The Red Cross office in this city will be closed Saturday as Mrs. Ruth Hollingsworth, executive secretary, will attend the district junior Red Cross institute in Muncie.

Other Red Cross executives who will attend the institute, which opened today, are Miss Grace Coffey, Junior Red Cross chairman, and Miss Rose Sprunger of Berne. The annual enrollment of schools and children in the junior division of Red Cross is now underway in

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Place your order no later than Tuesday evening to assure packing.

law of the jungle," the anti-labor legislation resolution stated.

Jack Altman, vice-president of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, and Van A. Bittner, chairman of the resolutions committee, engaged in a brief verbal battle over the foreign policy resolution.

Altman failed to win permission to offer amendments to the resolution which he claimed was conflicting and not strong enough in parts. He said that the criticism of fascism "was not enough."

CITES PROGRESS

(Continued From Page One)

Heller, French Quinn, Robert Cole, Mel Tibble, all of Decatur; W. H. Soldier, Van Wert, Ohio; John E. Deahl, Harry Beitel and George

Auer, all of the Tiffin, Ohio General Electric plant.

4,000 At Open House

Nearly 4,000 persons attended the open house held at the plant Thursday, it was reported today by public relations officials of the company.

School children of Adams county, Wren and Willshire, Ohio, were guests in the morning, while the doors were thrown open to the general public in the afternoon and evening.

Trade in a Good Town—Decatur

Your Community Fund serves your support, generously.

Harold V. Dever
 DENTIST
 Monroe St.—East of Plaza
 Phone 1003

between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. of all

and if not sold on said day between said hours of each successive

bidding at private sale at the law office of Ferd L. Litterer at

South Second Street, Decatur, Indiana, and for not less than

the County in the State of Indiana, towit:

The northeast quarter of Section three (3) in township

twenty eight (28) north, range fourteen (14) east, ex-

cepting there