



SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 18: 34; 36:22-28, 37:1-14.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Ezekiel 34:25-31.

His Message to Exiles

Lesson for April 11, 1948

CONTINUING the theme of last Sunday's lesson, we go further into the ministry of Ezekiel as God's messenger to a people in exile. For this Sunday we have chapters 18 and 34, and portions of the 36th and 37th chapters.

The 18th chapter opens with a revealing rebuke to Ezekiel. God tells him expressly that he is not to say any more to the Jews that "the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge. As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine." And then God adds, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

GOD'S LOVE AND CARE

ALL through these chapters in Sunday's lesson, two solemn truths appear—God's love for his people, manifest in unwearied care; and the responsibility of each soul for the sin which such commits against God.

This truth, or these truths, I should say, are equally applicable for us today. As Ezekiel was sent to remind the people of God's love and care, so must we, early in our youth, accept the responsibility of accepting his love or rejecting his love.

We cannot claim his care if we despise his will. That is the message of Ezekiel for us.

WHAT GOD IS LIKE

NOWHERE in the Old Testament is the love of God more manifest and compelling than in Ezekiel 34:11-27. I hope that you will open your Bible to this passage. Here the Bible speaks in words that burn with the compassionate love of God for sinful souls.

"I will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and I will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day . . . And I will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers."

One is reminded here of Jesus, when he said: "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

A NEW HEART

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you," Ezekiel 36:26.

Here we have, perhaps, the sublimest sentence in the prophecy of Ezekiel. God is speaking. Ezekiel is merely the messenger—the voice, as John the Baptist delighted to describe himself.

Ezekiel has faithfully declared that each individual is responsible unto God, and just as faithfully he has proclaimed God's love and care, and now he adds the third great truth, namely, that God waits to bestow the new heart and the new spirit to every repentant soul.

A new heart and a new spirit. That is what the Jews needed. That is what the world needs today—a new heart and a new spirit. Only God could give a new heart, and only God can make such a gift today.

EZEKIEL'S MESSAGE FOR US

WOULD we listen to Ezekiel today? He has the message we need above all other words that may be spoken. He called the Jews to repentance of sin. That is what America needs today. Boys and girls need it. Men and women need it. And just as God waited patiently to bestow the new heart and spirit to Israel in the long ago, so does he wait to grant us today a new heart and a new spirit.

"Our God, our help, in ages past,
Our hope for years to come;
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home."

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There's No Substitute

"I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women, but I believe that a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without the Bible. Every one who has a thorough knowledge of the Bible may be truly called educated, and no other learning, or culture—no matter how extensive and elegant—can be a proper substitute."

RURAL CHURCHES

Calvary Church
Evangelical United Brethren
F. H. Willard, minister
Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Lloyd Lichtenberger, supt.
Prayer meeting, following Sunday school.
Midweek service, Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Sunday evening service, April 18 with film.

Monroe Methodist
W. L. Hall, minister
Worship services, 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.
M. Y. F. 6:45.
Mid-week service and choir, Wednesday 7:30 and 8:15.

April 16, Missionary address by the Rev. J. J. Davis, Belgian Congo, Africa.

April 18, 9:30 Dr A. P. Teter will dedicate the organ and preach for us.

United Brethren in Christ
Willshire Circuit
Duane A. Reahm, pastor
St. Paul (CST)
Sign, 9:15—Bible school.

Tues. 7:00—Prayer and Bible Study.

Winchester (CST)
Revival services will continue each night at 7:30, through April 11.

Sun., 9:30—Bible school.
10:30—Morning worship.
7:00—Harvester band.

7:20—Revival service. The Huntington College male quartet will be guest musicians Sunday.

Willshire (EST)
Wed., 8:00—Prayer meeting.
Sun., 9:30—Unified Worship Service and Holly Communion followed by Bible school.

Pleasant Mills Baptist
Albert Swenson, pastor
9:30 Sunday school with Donald Burkhardt, supt.

10:30 Worship service with sermon by the pastor.

This is the date for the monthly missionary offering, also the last opportunity to give for this fiscal year.

Monroe Friends
R. B. Persons, pastor
"Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you."—James 4:8.

Sunday, April 11, 1948
9:30 a.m. Sunday school.

10:30 a.m. Morning worship message by pastor.

7:30 p.m. Evening evangelistic service.

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POULTRY HEADQUARTERS



ON SCALE COMPARABLE TO THE "WESTWARD HO" DAYS of American history, industrial development of forbidding territory known as Siberia is being rushed by Russia. Using subsidized European Russians, "repatriated" White Russians, convicts and Jap prisoners of war, the Soviet is building and manning factories, farms, shipyards and steel mills in the vast area, which 50 years ago held

little but fur-trading villages and forts. Center of the industrialization is in area of Irkutsk, Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Kom-somol'sk and Chita, while the north Okhotsk sea regions, particularly Sakhalin and the Kurile islands, are centers for fishing combines. Here, demobilized Soviet soldiers are reported held to bolster Siberia's labor pool and for possible military use. (International)

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Mid-week prayer service.

Evening service, 7 p.m.
Come and enjoy these services with us and renew old friendships.

Union, Chapel

Evangelical United Brethren

D. H. Pelett, minister

Den School House

Unified morning services.

Sunday church school, Thurman L. Drew, superintendent, 9:30.

Divine worship, sermon subject, "Remember," 10:15.

Youth Fellowship, 6:45.

Adult study, 6:45.

Public worship, sermon subject, "Jesus Wept," 7:30.

Choir rehearsal, 8:30.

Prayer service, Wednesday, 7:30.

Choir rehearsal, Wednesday, 8:15.

This church is in the community for God's glory and for your good. You are invited to share its blessings in every service. You are always welcome.

St. Luke Evan. & Reformed Church

Honduras

H. H. Meckstroth, pastor

9:00 worship service.

10:00 Sunday school.

3:30—Ft. Wayne Regional Youth Fellowship in Zion Evan. & Reformed Church, Decatur. Dr. David Baker, editor of the "Messenger" will be speaker at both afternoon and evening services.

Wed. 9:30—Ft. Wayne Regional Women's Guild Spring Meeting at St. John's Evan. & Reformed Church, Vera Cruz.

Thursday—An all-day meeting of the Women's Guild at the church. Mrs. Frank Yager will be leader and Mrs. Elmer Beer, hostess.

Rivarre Circuit

U. B. Church

L. A. Middaugh, pastor

Mt. Zion

9:30 a.m. Sunday school.

10:30 a.m. class meeting.

7:00 p.m. Christian Endeavor.

8:00 p.m. preaching service. Mr. Marcus Hey will be the speaker.

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Pleasant Grove

9:00 a.m. Sunday school.

10:00 a.m. class meeting.

7:00 p.m. Bible study.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Victory

9:00 a.m. Sunday school.

10:00 a.m. class meeting.

7:00 p.m. Christian Endeavor.

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Tabor Methodist Circuit

Clifford C. Conn, minister

Mt. Tabor

Mr. Donald Colter, supt.

Church school at 9:30.

Worship service at 10:45.

Thursday evening prayer meeting 7:30.

Our prayer meeting is well attended. Plan to be there; it will pay you.

Mt. Pleasant

Mr. David Cobb, supt.

Worship service at 9:30.

Church school at 10:30.

The best evidence of interest in Christ is attendance at His Church. We are glad for your interest.

Bethel Chapel

Mrs. D. C. Shady, supt.

Church school at 9:30.

There will be a worship service in charge of the class leader following church school. We are just beginning this but we believe you will appreciate it.

Pleasant Valley

Mr. Raymon Teeple, supt.

Church school at 9:30.

There will not be preaching this Sunday.

Antioch United Missionary

L. W. Null, pastor

The Rev. John and Betty Bontrager, returned missionaries to Africa, will speak at this church tonight, Saturday night and Sunday. Rev. Bontrager is a former pastor of Antioch church.

Services tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.

Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.

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POULTRY HEADQUARTERS

sin votes showed today that Stassen positively has won 19 delegates to eight for MacArthur and a few more to Taft. The commission will determine which phases of the election will be held first and a conference will be held with council members to decide and attitude on the proposed planning ordinance will be made unless there is adequate financial support.

It is believed that parts of the proposed ordinance will be held in about four months.

PLANNING

(Cont. from Page 1) because no city can go forward, and no plans for the future can be made unless there is adequate financial support.

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