

SCRIPTURE: Daniel 1
DEVOTIONAL READING: 1 Timothy 6:13-16

Daniel Stands By His Convictions
Lesson for May 30, 1941

*A picket frozen on duty—
A mother starved for her brood—
Sacrifices drinking the hemlock—
And Jesus on the road."*

SUCH a picture we have before us in Sunday's lesson. All you need to do is get this dramatic picture is to read the first chapter of Daniel. You will then feel anew the meaning of that cherished statement, "His conviction that convinceth."

BRAVE TO DO RIGHT

WE GET the first draught of this tonic in verses 8-9, 14-15, and 17. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank . . ."

He was brave enough to take a stand for what he knew was right. Which reminds me of the story of Henry Ward Beecher, when yet a small boy. A teacher in the school he attended asked a boy a question which he promptly answered. The teacher appeared displeased, and told the boy to sit down. He asked several other boys the same question, and got the same answer. Finally he asked Beecher, and Beecher gave the same answer, but refused to sit down when the teacher frowned at him. Seeing that Beecher was going to defend the answer, the teacher said, "Boys, you were all correct, but only Beecher was sure enough to stand his ground. I was simply trying to teach you the lesson that you must stand by what you know is right."

DARE TO STAND ALONE

DANIEL knew that he was taking an unpopular position, but he was willing to be alone so long as he knew he was right. He knew that the consequences would take care of themselves. That is the quality of character which America needs today in her youth.

It is easy enough to be popular, if you run with the gang; but remember this—the gang is always heading downhill. Daniel stood by his convictions when it was costly. In the final windup, he was the head man.

ENDURING INVESTMENTS

DANIEL, winning his point, made every hour count toward victory. He not only abstained from strong drink, but used his superior strength to serve the kingdom in such way that his talents were sought out and brought into larger fields of opportunity.

Standing by his convictions, he had won over those who at first were disposed to poke fun at him. By superb performance, due to clear thinking and high purpose, Daniel made enduring investments that paid off in big dividends. He did not do right for reward, but because he did right, the reward was inevitable. And so it will be with every young man and woman who purposes in his or her heart to do right.

GOD'S FAVOR

I WANT you to look carefully at verse 17. "God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams."

It is impossible to account for Daniel's fortitude apart from his implicit trust in God. Remember the incident of Daniel opening his window toward Jerusalem in prayer?

God never fails those who stake their all on him. He will not—cannot let them fail. It was because of God's favor that Daniel and his companions proved themselves ten times better than the young men who defiled themselves.

"Who sides with God must always win."

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Scoffers Stay On

Even those who scoff at the Bible prefer to live in a culture in which the dominating ideas of the Bible have been influential.

The Bible is a very dangerous book—dangerous to all systems based on greed and prejudice and oppression.

RURAL CHURCHES

Union Chapel
Evangelical United Brethren
D. H. Pellett, minister
Dent School House

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

Holy Communion, sermon subject, "I Believe in the Word of God."

Youth Fellowship, 6:45.

Adult Bible study in Acts, 6:45.

Evening worship, sermon by the minister, 7:30.

Choir rehearsal following the evening service.

Prayer service, Wednesday, 8:00.

Choir rehearsal following the prayer hour.

This church is in the community for God's glory and for your good; you will get most out of its services by attending regularly. You are always welcome.

Rivarre Circuit
U. B. Church
L. A. Middaugh, pastor
Mt. Zion

9:30 a.m. Sunday school.

10:30 a.m. Class meeting.

7:30 p.m. Christian Endeavor.

8:30 p.m. Preaching service.

8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Victory

9:30 a.m. Sunday school.

10:30 a.m. Preaching service.

7:30 p.m. Christian Endeavor.

8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Pleasant Grove

9:30 a.m. Sunday school.

10:30 a.m. Class meeting.

7:30 p.m. Christian Endeavor.

8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Pleasant

Mr. David Cook, Supt.

Church School at 9:30.

Worship Service at 10:45.

This is the first Sunday in the new Conference term; let us begin it right by being in our place at church.

Beulah Chapel

Mrs. D. C. Shady, Supt.

Church School at 9:30.

If we want to make this year better than last this is the Sunday to begin. We rejoice that over the Conference a substantial gain of membership was achieved.

Wentzel Duplessis, former secretary of the Nationalist leader J. B. M. Hertzog, attributed his

Pleasant Valley
Mr. Raymond Teeple, Supt.
Church School at 9:30.
The M. Y. F. will not meet this Sunday. Election will be held next Sunday at Pleasant Valley.

Monroe Methodist

W. L. Hall, minister

9:30, Morning worship.

10:30, Sunday school.

6:45, M. Y. F.

7:30, Closing program of the Daily vacation Bible School. The public is invited to attend this program. This has been a community school in which thirteen different denominations were represented.

Wednesday, 7:30 Prayer meeting.

8:15, Choir practice.

Pleasant Mills Baptist

Albert Swenson

9:30 a.m. Sunday School with Donald Burkhardt, Supt.

10:30 a.m. Worship service. Sermon by the pastor.

United Brethren in Christ

Willshire Circuit

Duane A. Reahm, pastor

Willshire

Sun. 9:30 Unified Worship with sermon followed by S. S.

7:30 Evangelistic service.

Mon. thru Fri. 9:00-11:15—Daily Vacation Bible School.

Wed. 8:00 Prayer meeting.

Winchester

Sun. 9:30 Sunday school.

10:30 Preaching service.

Thurs. 8:00 Prayer meeting.

St. Paul

Sun. 9:15 Sunday school.

Mon. thru Fri. 1:00 to 3:00 Daily Vacation Bible School.

Tues. 8:00 Prayer meeting.

JAN SMUTS

(Cont. From Page One)

tions held Wednesday. Even the victorious Nationalists found it hard to believe that, with the aid of their allies, the smaller Afrikaner party, they would hold a majority of five seats in the new parliament.

Actually, the working majority they will have will be only four, since one seat will be held by the speaker of the new house.

What the policy of Malan's new government will be was not clear. As in the case of most opposition parties everywhere, his leadership has been based on attacking the regime in power.

Although the Nationalist party won more seats than the United party, it did not get more votes. Twelve candidates, 11 of them in the United party, were unopposed.

In the remaining 138 contested seats, the United party obtained 524,230 votes, the Nationalists 401,834, the Afrikaner party 41,885, the South African party 11,610, the Labor party 27,360, and the balance about 60,000.

Wentzel Duplessis, former secretary of the Nationalist leader J. B. M. Hertzog, attributed his

Mr. Donald Collier, Supt.

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Worship Service at 10:45.

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