



SCRIPTURE: Daniel 3:6.

DEVOTIONAL READING: Acts 5:27-32.

By LOUISE D. MENTZER, D.D.

Men Who Dared To Stand For God

Lesson for June 6, 1948

A FIERY furnace, and a lion's den. These are the tests to which Sunday's lesson will put our hero about whom we studied last

Sunday, this young man Daniel. Three friends, Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego, will undergo the test of the fiery furnace, having been convinced by Daniel's example that God is trustworthy. And Daniel will spend the night in the den of lions. You will need to read chapters three through six to get the full story.

DANIEL IN THE DEN OF LIONS The sixth chapter must be read to have an adequate background for this study. Daniel had been chosen as the first of three presidents to rule over 120 princes who should govern the kingdom. The other two presidents and the princes could find no fault in this Hebrew, save that he believed and observed the law of his God. So, they conspired against him by persuading the king to issue a decree that no person in the kingdom was to make a petition to any God or man for 30 days, save to the king, on the penalty of being cast into the den of lions. This decree was issued by Darius, and Daniel's enemies reported to Darius that Daniel was opening his window three times a day, praying to his God. Darius was greatly troubled, but had to stand by his decree, and Daniel was cast into the den of lions. Darius spent a sleepless night, and hurried to the den at dawn to know about Daniel. Daniel replied, "O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me."

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DARIUS REWARDS DANIEL

CONVINCED that Daniel's convictions had been miraculously rewarded by God, Darius ordered the other two presidents and the princes, together with their wives and children, thrown into the lions' dens. They were all destroyed by the lions.

Then Darius issued a decree to all the nations and people of all languages that dwell in all the earth. Hear this decree:

"Peace be multiplied unto you. I make a decree. That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel; for he is the living God, and steadfast forever, and his kingdom which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end." So Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and of Cyrus, the Persian.

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COURAGE TO PUT GOD FIRST

LOOK now at the other test of faith—that of the three Hebrew children, Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had made a golden image, 90 feet high and nine feet wide, and set it up in the plain of Dura. On a certain day, when he was going to establish his state religion, he ordered every subject to fall down and worship this image.

But Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego refused to worship the image. Nebuchadnezzar was furious when he heard of their refusal. He summoned them into his presence, and warned them of their fate if they further refused to worship his gods. They answered him frankly that they would not bow down to the image. He ordered them thrown into the fiery furnace.

They decided that death was more honorable than apostasy. The men who cast them into the furnace fell dead!

* * *

UNSEARED AND UNSINGED:

BUT THE three Hebrew children walked in the flames, unseared and unsinged! The king was astounded. The people were amazed. They had witnessed what the God of all the earth can and will do.

Then went forth the decree. "There is no other God that can deliver after this sort." Thus we have the golden text for Sunday's lesson:

"Be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

And what happened in the long ago when men dared to stand up and trust in God will happen today and every day.

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RURAL CHURCHES

Riviere Circuit
U. B. Church
L. A. Middaugh, pastor
Mt. Zion
9:30 a.m. Sunday school.
10:30 a.m. Preaching service.
7:30 p.m. Christian Endeavor.
7:30 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.
8:30 p.m. Preaching service.
8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Victory
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.

Monroe Methodist
W. L. Hall, minister
June 6 will be "Visiting Day" for the Monroe church and Sunday school. The pastor will be on vacation.

6:45 the MYF will meet with Mr. Homer Winteregg in charge. Mr. Winteregg is charge lay leader. He will conduct the mid-week service also.

Pleasant Mills Baptist
Albert Swanson, pastor
9:30 a.m. Sunday school, Donald Burkhardt, supt.
10:30 a.m. Worship service. Sermon by the pastor.

"Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times."

United Brethren in Christ
Willsire Circuit
Duane A. Reahm, pastor
St. Paul

9:15—Preaching service.
10:00—Bible school.
Tues. 7:30—Prayer Bible study.

Winchester
9:30—Bible school.
10:30—Preaching service.
Thurs. 8:00—Prayermeeting.

Mt. Tabor Methodist Circuit
Clifford C. Conn, minister
Mt. Tabor

Mr. Donald Colter, supt.
Church school 9:30.
Class meeting in charge of class leader 10:30.

M. Y. F. at Pleasant Valley 7:30. This is the time for election of officers. Plan to be there.

Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7:30. These are exceptionally fine prayer meetings. If you haven't been there you've robbed yourself and the church.

Mt. Pleasant
Mr. David Cook, supt.
Church school at 9:30.

M. Y. F. meets at Pleasant Valley Sunday evening 7:30. All members should be there. It's election day.

M. Y. F. party Wed. eve. Hanna Nutman park.

Thursday afternoon W. S. C. S. meets with Mrs. Brentlinger.

Friday night the Bible Class meets with Mrs. Brentlinger.

Beulah Chapel
Mrs. D. C. Shady, supt.

Worship service begins at 9:30. Church school at 10:30.

M. Y. F. at 7:30 at Pleasant Valley.

W. S. C. S. meets with Mrs. Henry Breiner Wednesday.

Pleasant Valley

Mr. Raymond Teepie, supt.
Church school begins at 9:30.

Worship service at 10:45.

M. Y. F. meets here Sunday evening 7:30. Every members should be here. It's election day.

We are very glad for the new seats installed this week. Come and rejoice with us.

Union Chapel

Evangelical United Brethren
D. H. Pelett, minister
Unified morning services.

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

Divine worship, sermon subject:

"I Believe in the Holy Christian Church." 10:15.

Youth fellowship, 6:45.

Adult study in the books of Acts, 6:45.

Evening worship, sermon subject:

"Enlarged Horizons." 7:30.

Third quarterly conference, 8:30.

Prayer service and choir rehearsal, Wednesday, 8:00.

Plans are now under way for the dedication of our new Church building, July 25. There is yet much work to be done and the full cooperation of all concerned is needed, but we believe that God is with us and that with our united efforts this great victory will be achieved. This church is in the community for God's glory and for your good: you will enjoy the greater blessing when you attend every service. We invite you to worship with us regularly.

Curiosity Kills Cat

Carlsbad, N. M. (UPI) — Curiosity killed a cat. Someone saw the feline stumbling down the street with a spaghetti encircling its head. The police blotted said:

"Feline extermination."

Church Conference Planned At Anderson

Church Of God Will Hold Convention

Anderson, Ind., June 6 — First official session of the 6th annual convention of the Church of God will be held Thursday, June 10, along with a meeting of the national woman's missionary society, an allied organization.

Friday, the annual commencement of Anderson College and theological seminary, will be held, with Dr. Roy L. Smith, of Chicago, as the speaker for both the commencement and the alumni banquet. Dr. Smith was also the commencement speaker in 1941 for the college, which is fully accredited by the north central association of colleges and secondary schools, and by the Indiana department of public instruction.

June 6 will be "Visiting Day" for the Monroe church and Sunday school. The pastor will be on vacation.

6:45 the MYF will meet with Mr. Homer Winteregg in charge. Mr. Winteregg is charge lay leader. He will conduct the mid-week service.

Dr. A. F. Gray, of Portland, Ore., is chairman of the general minis-

terial assembly; Dr. W. Dale Oldham, of Anderson, vice-chairman, and the Rev. I. K. Dawson, secretary. The convention will continue through Sunday, June 20.

Delegations will be in attendance from practically every city in the United States. Those who are expected to attend from Decatur are: Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Strickler and family, Mr. and Mrs. Emery Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Holman Egley and family, Wm. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Myers, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Strickler and family, Miss Alice Jean Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Strickler, Mrs. Alma Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Strickler and family, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Irvin and Edith Mattox.

Rev. Dwight R. McCurdy is on the program Friday morning, and Mrs. McCurdy is in charge of the music and will preside at the organ.

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Donn Eichar Heads Honorary Group

Donn Eichar, Belmont Road, Decatur, sophomore at Indiana University, was elected president of Skull and Crescent, honorary for organized sophomore men. Eichar is a member of Sigma Nu social fraternity.

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MEAT PRICES

(Cont. From Page One)

"The farmers and packers were making plenty as things were," he said. "These new increases cannot be blamed on the meat strike alone."

Indianapolis market men claim

that prices were going upward in the midwest because more meat is being shipped to eastern markets, making it hard for midland

buyers to buy as cheaply as formerly.

Some Des Moines retailers said they were "trying to hold the line" but that it was virtually impossible because of increases in packer's prices.

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