



SCRIPTURE: Mark 11:27-24. DEVOTIONAL READING: Mark 12: 1-12.

### Jesus And Critics

Lesson for May 8, 1949

DURING JESUS' last week, his enemies were firing at point-blank range. They were dead set to kill him; but they did not want to do that if they could ruin him some other way. What they tried to do was to make him out either a rascal or a fool, or both. Mark's story shows how Jesus took it.

The first question they asked Dr. Foreman sounded perfectly fair. "Where did you get your authority?" As we saw last week, Jesus had assumed simply tremendous authority. Wasn't it fair to ask him where he got it?

The trouble was that the men who asked the questions didn't want to know. They only wanted to heckle Jesus.

The world is full of just such license-hunting snappers as these. They do not like it when a man succeeds. They particularly do not like it when a man succeeds without their help.

"Who is this fellow anyway? Where did he get his start? what family does he have, where is his diploma?" Jesus never answered this question, because he knew why they asked it. (Mark 11:27-33.)

#### Taxes

IN JESUS' TIME you could not vote either for more taxes, or less. You paid what the Roman soldier at your door said to pay, and you were thankful not to be poked in the ribs with his sword while you were fishing up the money. But no one dared to complain. The Romans had some deep dank dungeons for people who complained about high taxes. So the next question Jesus' enemies asked him was about taxes, or tribute, which means the same thing. They thought they had Jesus on a spot where whatever he said would put him in the wrong. Suppose he said: "Yes, pay taxes by all means." Then they would snarl: "Bootlicker of the Romans! Traitor to your country!" But if Jesus said, "No, don't pay taxes," then they would howl: "Treason! Police! Arrest this man who defies the Emperor!" Jesus' answer was a masterpiece, because he not only did not dodge the hot question, he did not leave the questioners a leg to stand on. (Mark 12:17).

#### Hairsplitters by Trade

THE CRITICS of Jesus were hairsplitters by trade. Yet none of them had ever been able to answer another tricky question with which they now expected to floor Jesus.

"Which is the greatest commandment of all?" The question had been going the rounds for generations. The greatest minds in Jewry had wrestled with it. But it was a foolish question after all.

Which is the most important brick in a wall? What position on a volley-ball team is the most important? What is the most important link in a chain? An answer to these questions would seem about as easy as answering that one about the greatest commandment. Jesus knew they were trying to show him up as a bungler, as a very poor and amateurish hairsplitter indeed. But instead, he did what no one expected him to do: he answered their question, and answered it so well that it is one of the cornerstones of our religion today.

#### How to Take Criticism

THE READER should consult Mark for the whole story. It bristles with practical thoughts, one of the most practical being how to take criticism. All of us can take it from our friends and families: we know they mean it for our own good. But criticism that is unfair, from people who want only to show us up for fools or to get us into hot water—that is hard to take. Jesus should be our example.

He did not let other people's criticisms interfere with his work. He never avoided criticism. He did not "twist the lion's tail," he did not deliberately provoke criticism. But he would not claim exemption from what every one has to stand, being looked over and rated by the people who knew him.

He never broke his heart over what people said of him. He did not go around crying to himself.

### RURAL CHURCHES

Pleasant Mills & Salem Methodist  
Ralph R. Johnson, minister  
Salem  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school 10:30 a.m.  
Blue Creek Twp. S. S. convention  
at Union Church at 7:30.  
Prayer service Wednesday at 8:00.

Pleasant Mills  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
St. Mary's Twp. S. S. Convention  
at Calvary Church at 7:30.  
Prayer service Thursday at 8:00.

Winchester and St. Paul  
U. B. Circuit  
Dale Osborn, pastor  
Winchester  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.  
Sermon 10:30 a.m.  
Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

St. Paul  
Sunday school 9:15 a.m.  
Christian Endeavor 7 p.m.  
Pageant, "Holy Altar," 7:30 p.m.  
Prayer meeting Wednesday 8 a.m.

Mothers and Daughters banquet  
Friday May 13.

Calvary E. U. B. Church  
Albert N. Straley, minister  
Lloyd Lichtenberger, S. S. Sup't  
Services Sunday, May 8, 1949.  
Morning worship service 9:00 a.m.

Sunday school 10:00 a.m.  
These services are scheduled according to Central Daylight Saving Time.

Monroe Friends Church  
Russell B. Persons, pastor  
9:30 a.m. Sunday school. Wm. Zurich, superintendent.  
10:30 a.m. Morning service. Mes-

sage by Miss Lela G. McConnell, president of the Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association of Breathitt County, Kentucky.

Evening service will be dismissed for the Baccalaureate service of the senior class of the Monroe high school, to be held at the Monroe Methodist Church.

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

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

Pleasant Grove  
9:30 a.m. Sunday school.  
10:30 a.m. Mothers Day program.  
7:00 p.m. Christian Endeavor.  
8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Mt. Victory  
9:30 a.m. Sunday school.  
10:30 a.m. Class meeting.  
7:00 p.m. Christian Endeavor.  
8:00 p.m. Preaching service.  
8:00 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

Pleasant Mills Baptist  
Rev. Durward B. Gehris, pastor  
9:30 D. S. T. Sunday School.  
Lowell Noll, superintendent.  
10:30 Worship Service with sermon by the pastor.

Come unto His courts with gladness.

Union Chapel Evangelical  
United Brethren Church  
Pastor L. T. Norris  
9:30 Sunday School, T. I. Drew,  
superintendent.

10:15 Worship Service.  
There will be no evening services on Sunday May 8th, and 22nd due to the Baccalaureate services

10 a.m. Sunday school.

### THE COMMUNITY STANDING OF ANY PROFESSION

is determined by the experience of those who select it.

And so a funeral home must rely on the judgement of the bereaved families who choose its service.

WE APPRECIATE THE KINDLY COMMENTS THAT COME TO US FROM THOSE WHO CALL US IN TIME OF NEED.

**GILLIG & DOAN**  
FUNERAL HOME  
DECATUR  
PHONE 794

A. S. M.

### GRAND OPENING OF CONNIE'S DRIVE-IN FRUIT MARKET SATURDAY

COMPLETE LINE OF GROCERIES,  
MEATS AND FRUITS OF ALL KINDS

1 MILE NORTH OF MONROE ON U. S. HIGHWAY 27

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 11:00

Free Ice Cream

Church school and Bible study at

9 a.m. under the direction of Raymond Edwards, superintendent.

Morning worship at 10:30 a.m. with special music and sermon by the pastor, the Rev. Edwin C. Bissell, entitled, "We Stand at the Crossroads."

Basket dinner at 12 noon in the church basement to which all are invited.

The afternoon service at 2:30 p.m. will feature special music, the history of the church, and the address by Rev. George entitled, "The Glory of Seeing."

More than 30 ministers have guided the congregation during this time and have found a helping, worshipful and courageous laity to carry on the program of Kingdom building. Everyone is invited to join in this celebration.

St. Paul Church

A pageant "Holy Altar," a candlelight service for Mother's Day, will be presented at the St. Paul church, four miles southeast of Decatur, Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

Pleasant Valley

Mr. Raymond Teeple, supt.  
The Worship Hour will be 9:30 a.m.  
The Study Hour will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Remember Mother by going to Church. The pastor will have a special message for this service.

St. Luke Reformed  
Honduras

H. H. Meckstroth, pastor  
9 a.m. Worship service.  
10 a.m. Sunday school.

Edward L. Coffee and  
Genevieve Terstege,  
Co-Administrator  
Decatur, Indiana, April 28, 1949.  
Attorney Ed. A. Bosse. April 29, May 6

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed Executrix of the estate of Arthur Shock late of Adams County, deceased. The estate is probably solvent.

Elizabeth Dailey Butler,  
Executrix  
Nathan C. Nelson, Attorney  
April 28, 1949. April 29, May 6, 13

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTRIX  
ESTATE NO. 4522

Notice is hereby given that the

creators, heirs and legatees of

Grace C. Coffey, deceased to appear

in the Adams Circuit Court, held at

Decatur, Indiana, on the 4th day of

June, 1949, and show cause, if any,

why the FINAL SETTLEMENT AC-

OUNTS with the estate of said

decedent should not be approved.

and said heirs are notified to them

and there make proof of heirship,

and receive their distributive

shares.

Edward L. Coffee and  
Genevieve Terstege,  
Co-Administrator  
Decatur, Indiana, April 28, 1949.  
Attorney Ed. A. Bosse. April 29, May 6

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the

Board of Commissioners of Adams

County, Indiana, will receive sealed

bids at the office of the County

Auditor until the hour of 2:00 p.m.

Monday, May 16, 1949, for the fol-

lowing:

Repair of Court House:

Metal cornice doormers, and

flashing to be repainted.

Pick-up bails for the Adams

County Home.

Plans and specifications for the

above are on file in the office of

the County Auditor.

All bids must be accompanied

with bank certified check in the

amount of 10% of the price bid.

The Board reserves the right to

reject all or all bids.

By order of the Board of Com-

missioners of Adams County.

Thurman L. Drew  
Auditor, Adams County, May 6-9

1949.

The Blessings of the Home

will be the second topic in the

"Home Series," and will be the

worship theme for Sunday, May 15.

Unchurched parents and children

are especially urged to attend divine

services at some church on

Mother's day, and Zion Lutheran

extends a cordial invitation to its

worship services.

Willshire Methodist

Members of the Willshire Meth-

odist church extend an invitation to

all friends and former members of

the church to attend the special

120th anniversary and homecoming

day services of the church, which

will be held Sunday, May 15, in the

newly redecorated sanctuary and

basement, with the Rev. William

M. George of Columbus, Ohio, a

former pastor of the church, as the

speaker. The program committee,

under the chairmanship of Mrs.

Vernon Hoblet, announces the fol-

lowing program for the day:

WILLSHIRE METHODIST CHURCH

120th ANNIVERSARY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1949

10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

WILLSHIRE METHODIST CHURCH

120TH ANNIVERSARY