



SCRIPTURE: Psalms 1; 33:12-15; 67:100.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalms 148:1-10.

Songs for All Hearts

Lesson for July 3, 1949

THE greatest hymn-book in the world is to be our study for three months. Not the oldest; that honor belongs to the Vedic Hymns of ancient India. Not the largest; the hymnal of your own church may easily be twice as large. But the greatest hymn-book in the world is the book of poems was used as the hymn-book of Psalms. This collection of religious the temple which was built when the Jewish exiles returned to Babylon. It was the hymn-book of Herod's temple, and we know our Lord used and loved it. It is indeed the song-book of the Bible. It was the only hymnal which the first Christians used, for some time. Indeed the book of Psalms is probably the only hymn-book honored and used by three separate religions—Judaism, Mohammedanism and Christianity.

How It Grew
LIKE all hymns, this book of Psalms grew by degrees. It was not written all at one time or by one person. David wrote some of the Psalms, how many we do not know. The "titles" of the Psalms were added by later Hebrew editors, and are often inaccurate.

It is very likely that as much as a thousand years went by between the first of the Psalms to be written, and the last. Every modern hymnal that is any good is in part a collection of the best of the old hymns.

So our book of Psalms, as it finally took shape, came from older collections. A glance through it in the American standard version will show that in its present form it is made up of five smaller books, ending with Psalms 41, 72, 89, 106 and 150. Each book ends with a doxology and book V ends with a magnificent series of them. Sometimes the editors left in duplicates. Reading Psalm 14 side by side with Psalm 53 will show that these two are exactly the same, only using different names for God. At least one of the Psalms is made up of "clippings" from earlier Psalms: thus Psalm 106 is made up from Psalm 57:7-11 and Psalm 60:5-12. The Psalms were cherished and preserved generation after generation because of their heart-appeal. Our Psalm book has gone through centuries of sifting; many were dropped out and forgotten, but the best were saved and sung; and what we have is the cream of the best of the singers of Israel.

Mirror of Man
JOHN CALVIN called the Psalms the "mirror of the soul." All the varied moods of man—hope, despair, triumph, envy, doubt, aspiration, loneliness, hatred, fear, irritation, patriotism, joy, bitterness, weariness, amazement, anguish, rapture—almost every emotion that can be felt toward God or man breathes somewhere or other in these Psalms.

Since not one of the authors of the Psalms was a Christian, of course, we should not be surprised to find, here and there, expressions (for example) of hatred which are out of harmony with the spirit and teaching of Jesus. The wonder is that there is so little of that kind of thing.

For every Psalm in which the poet says something cruel or hateful (e. g. Psalm 137:9 or 109:6-14), there are scores that breathe a spirit of gentleness and grace. For every note of despair (Psalm 88 is the only completely gloomy one in the whole collection), there are many halloos of hope and gladness.

Message of God
IF the Psalms are so human, how can they be also God's Word? Yet they are, truly, a message of God. For they not only cast a divine light on the state of man's heart, but they show what the life of man is when God becomes real. For God was real to each poet who contributed to this great book. In latter weeks this summer we shall be looking at the Psalms from various special angles. This week it will be helpful to sit quietly with the three typical Psalms, 1, 67 and 100, and as you ponder over each one in turn, ask yourself: What does this show me about God? What does this show about life when it turns to God?

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RURAL CHURCHES

Mount Tabor Methodist Circuit
A. G. Simmons, minister
Mount Pleasant Church
Preaching service 9:30.
Church school 10:45.
Mount Tabor Church
Church school 9:30.
Preaching service 10:45.

Winchester and St. Paul
U. B. Circuit
Dale Osborn, pastor.

Winchester:
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Preaching 10:30 a.m.
Prayer meeting Wednesday 8 p.m.

St. Paul:
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Children's Day service 8 p.m.
Prayer meeting Wednesday 8 p.m.

Union Chapel
Evangelical United Brethren Church
L. T. Norris, Pastor.

Sunday School, 9:30
Worship service, 10:15
Evening service:
Junior C. E. Mrs. Carl Hurst, 6:45.

Adult C. E. Nile Williamson, Pres., 6:45.

Youth Fellowship, Janet Brown, Pres., 6:45.

Worship service, 7:30
Wednesday Evening:
Prayer service each Wednesday

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Pastor Returns



The Rev. L. W. Null, pastor of the Antioch United Missionary church for the past two years, has been returned to the pastorate. He was graduated from the Fort Wayne Bible Institute June 3 of this year and was ordained to the ministry at the annual conference June 23, having previously been student pastor.

ger in charge.

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

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

Motion Is Filed For New Trial

Leroy Beer, through L's attorney, Hubert R. McClenahan, filed a motion in the mayor's court asking for a new trial. Beer was fined \$40 and costs May 20 for driving under the influence of alcohol. At the time he pleaded guilty. However, his motion states that he was not informed of his right to have a lawyer defend him. If he had consulted with his lawyer, the motion maintains, he would have pleaded not guilty. Also, the motion states that the decision was contrary to law and evidence. Mayor Doan has affirmed that the new trial will be granted.

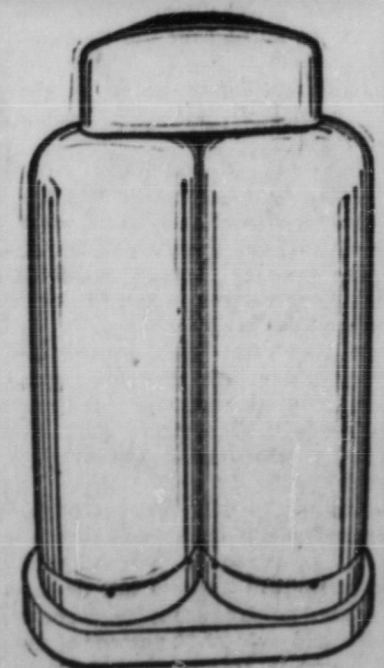
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Children's Program At St. Paul Church

To Present Program On Sunday Evening

A children's day program will be presented at the St. Paul church Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. The St. Paul church program is as follows:

Song—Juniors.
Prayer—Betty Smith.
Welcome—Jerry Franz.
Thankfulness—Ralph Parrish.
Friend from cradle roll—Joan Barker.

Solo, "Bells of Summer," Larry Stauffer.
"Count on Me," Vernon McBride.
Robin Red Breast — Rose Ann Lautzenheiser.

Choir — "Roses Are Telling His Love."

Exercise — "Grandma's Bouquet," junior girls.
Little Folks Too — Dorothy Scheiderer.

A Helpful Friend — Dewayne McBride.

Solo—Donna Shoaf.
Little Sunbeam — Gyneth Schnepf.

Drill — "Sunflowers," junior girls.

Piano duet — Osborne sisters.
Welcome — Donna Shoaf.

A Short Piece — Caroline Johnson.

You'll Show It — Philip McBride.
Whose Idea Was It — Paul Scheiderer.

The Rose Tells You — Barbara Tinkham.

Choir — "The Voice of My Savior."

Roses on My Shoulders — Alice

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Now I'm Going Back To High School!

When I saw lights burning in the High School auditorium last night, I looked in to see what went on. About twenty people were listening to Buzz Ellis, the electrician, talk about television.

I slipped into a back seat and asked Hap Thomas what was up. Hap told me it was the new Self-Improvement Club. I stayed to listen—and learned a lot. Buzz really knows his stuff.

Turns out this club meets every Friday night. Each member gives a talk on the subject he knows most about. I joined on the spot because

learning new things is one of my favorite hobbies.

From where I sit, it's willingness to learn from the other person that makes Americans tolerant towards so many different viewpoints and tastes in things. Just because Buzz Ellis goes for chocolate malteds, while I prefer a mellow glass of beer, doesn't mean I'm right and he's wrong. Incidentally, next week I'm going to talk on how to run a newspaper.

Joe Marsh

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SALE CALENDAR

JULY 2—Fred Deininger, Sylvan Lake, Rome City. 5-room lake front cottage. 1 P. M. Fred Stolz, Fort Wayne, Auctioneer. Sold conducted by Troutner Realty Co., Decatur, Ind.
JULY 2—Earl Boone, 6 mi. S.W. of Silver Lake, Ind. on the East Side of Rock Lake, Ind. Four Lake Cottages, Boats and Extra Lake Front Lots. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sanmann—Auctioneer.
JULY 6—Wm. J. Tarducci, 1 1/2 mi. N. 1/2 mi. E. of Mark Center, Ohio. Well improved 120 acre farm. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sanmann, Auct.
JULY 6—Mr. and Mrs. Ward Huffman, 318 So. Morgan St., Bluffton, Ind. Frame building, grocery stock, fixtures. 7:00 p. m. Ellinger Bros., Auctioneers.
JULY 7—Corwin and Lena Fleming, 128 N. 3rd St., Decatur, Indiana. Complete line of new, extra good quality household goods. 6:30 p. m. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sanmann—Auctioneer.
JULY 8—Barkman and Nottingham, Inc., 111 N. Main St., Dunkirk, Ind. Modern brick store building and extra parking lot. 6:30 p. m. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sanmann—Auctioneer.
JULY 8—Mrs. Marie Wiehe, 11 mi. S.W. of Fort Wayne on 24 and 32 one-acre lots. 7 P. M. D. S. Blair and C. W. Kent, auctioneer. Kent Realty and Auction Co., Decatur, Ind.
JULY 9—Robert McMichael, 609 North Main St., Paulding, Ohio. A attractive 6 room home. 1:30 P. M. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sanmann, auct.

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