



SCRIPTURE: Psalms 1: 33:12-18; 67: 100; DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalms 145: 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 hymns 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 hymnals, 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, are no part of the original Psalms, 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 hymnals.

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 108 is made up from Psalm 57:11 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 108:6-14), 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 hallelujahs of hope and gladness.

#### Message of God

If the Psalms are so human, how can they be also God's Word? Yet they are also, 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 later 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

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

Union Chapel  
Evangelical United Brethren  
Church  
L. T. Norris, Pastor.  
Sunday School 9:30  
Morning Service 10:30  
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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### UNCLE HANK SEZ



**MONEY IS SOMETHING LIKE DOPE—A FINE THING IF USED IN TH' RIGHT WAY!**

evening. Omar Merriman leader, 8:00.

Vacation Bible School:  
We are beginning our Vacation Bible School Tuesday July 5th, and continue through the 15th, with the Pastor as the Dean. All children are invited to join in with us, and if you have no transportation, we will arrange to pick you up if you call us. Phone, 1312.

Monroe Methodist  
W. L. Hall, minister  
9:30, Morning Worship  
10:30, Sunday School  
6:45, MYF  
7:30, The Evening Service  
Wednesday, Mid-week service at 7:30, Choir rehearsal at 8:15.

Thursday, 7:30, Regular monthly meeting of the WSCS. Mrs. Bixler of Decatur will be the principal speaker. District officers will be present to present the "Advance Movement" to the Society.

Antioch United Missionary  
L. W. Null, Pastor  
John Arnold, Supt.  
Sunday School 9:30

Morning Service 10:30  
Evening Service 7:30  
Bible Study (Wed) 8:00  
Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Ps. 106.

Calvary Evangelical United  
Brethren

Albert N. Staley, minister  
Quarterly conference for the Calvary-St. Peter's mission will convene at Calvary church following Sunday morning preaching service. The Rev. M. O. Herman, Indianapolis, will bring the morning message at 10:30 a.m. and conduct the quarterly conference at 11:30 o'clock.

The church has been newly re-decorated and a large crowd is expected to hear the conference superintendent and participate in this first quarterly conference of the new church year.

Sunday school will be held at 9:30 a.m. with Lloyd Lichtenber-

### Pastor Returns



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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.

Will Show It — Philip McBride.  
Whose Ideas Was It — Paul Scheiderer.  
The Rose Tells You — Barbara Tinkham.  
Choir — "The Voice of My Savior."

Roses on My Shoulders — Alice

Thornton.

How To Help — Jerry Johnson.  
Just A Minute — Ned Mitchell.

I Am Quiet — Larry Ulrich.

Play — "We Want Mama," seniors.

Offering.

Pastor's remarks.

A Little Bird — Larry Burkhardt.

Our Invitation — Rheta and Mary Louise Thornton.

Our Day — Donna Painter.

Duet — Jim and Virginia Fosnaugh.

A Secret — Donald Thornton.

The Squeaking Shoes — Gretchen Schnepp.

Pageant — "Good Night Song," juniors.

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., Tuesday, July 5, 1949 for the following:

Groceries and tobacco for the Adams County Home for a three month period beginning July 1, 1949. Requisition for supplies now on file in the office of the County Auditor.

All bids must be accompanied with bond or certified check in the amount of 10% of price bid.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. By order of the Board of Commissioners of Adams County.

Thurman L. Drew,  
Auditor Adams County  
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