

Lesson Prayer:

Lesson prayer: As members of an orderly society under God, we must come to terms with God in right relations with God and man. The forces of evil beguile us and cause us to walk in our own way. We pray for pardon and plead to have Thy salvation restored to us.

He who loses self gains all.

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CREAMED
Comments
On S.S.
Lesson

Creamed Comments on the Sunday school lesson, Jesus Calls for Repentance, Luke 13:1-35, for Sunday, January 15.

There are two phases for a sinner to become a matured Christian. The first is repentance, the second is growth. Without the first phase, the second would be impossible. Jesus in this lesson was addressing adults. To the innocent children, Jesus said, "Forbid them not to come unto me." The subject of repentance is well illustrated in the Billy Graham meetings. It is interesting to know that he promotes a program for the growth of the Christian converts.

V.1. "There was present with him at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." Here is a bit of tragic history: the tyrant Pilate took revenge in killing Galileans whom he might have thought subversive as if they were great sinners.

V.2. "And Jesus answering them, saying, 'Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such death?' There is a tendency among those not right with God to justify their position by calling attention to others having a fair reputation but considered sinners. Jesus would not tolerate such reasoning.

V.3. "I tell you, Nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Jesus pronounces doom on all impenitent. Here is a most sobering fact. The petition of forgiveness, Jesus placed in the model prayer. A sincere, "I am sorry" characterizes a true child of God. This is one mark of humility.

V.4. "On those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem?" To reinforce his preceding teaching, Jesus selects the sudden destruction of eighteen in Jerusalem; the holy city, whose citizens were highly favored. Could it be possible that these were great sinners because of their tragic death? And so he repeats his former answer. See verse 5.

V.6. "He spake also this parable: a certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon and found none." This parable applied especially to Israel, God's chosen people, who, regardless of all God's teachings by the prophets, failed again and again to obey God, and now this people as a whole was rejecting Christ. It may well apply to individuals also. In the following verse, instruction was given to cut down this fruitless tree, again pronouncing doom; but in this case, he was not only denouncing the sin of disobedience, but a failure to grow into fruit.

V.8. "And he answering him said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it and dung it." This indicates a period of probation. There is mercy in God's love but his love can not be continually abused; for our God of love is also our God of righteousness.

V.9. "And if it bear fruit, well; if not, then after that, thou shalt cut it down." This has direct reference to the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus in A.D. 70. Here is a historic fact with a spiritual meaning.

V.31. "The same day came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee."

Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee and Perea, where Jesus was now, had put John the Baptist to death and had his evil eye now fastened on Jesus. Would Jesus seek to save his life or stand his ground? Jesus called Herod a fox and he called attention to the evidences that he was divine by his acts of providence. See following verse.

V.33. "Nevertheless, I must walk today, and tomorrow and the day following; for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem." Jesus knew that he was soon to encounter his tragic death in the so-called Holy City because of the complacency of its people. He makes this fact clear in the following verse.

V.35. "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate; and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me till the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." The redeemed will justify Jesus' ministry by their praises.

The Rev. D. Carl Foder. —Based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., and used by permission.



Dr. Albert Schweitzer, eighty-year-old medical missionary, theologian, musician and author, received a rare honor from Queen Elizabeth II. He was invested with the insignia of an honorary member of the Order of Merit.

White and Negro ministerial associations in Asheville, N. C., will merge in January.

The elder brother of the Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet, has come to the United States and wants to become a citizen here.

For the eighty-sixth year, in what has become a traditional ceremony in the West Point Cadet Chapel, at the U. S. Military Academy, the American Tract Society made its annual presentation of specially bound Bibles to 468 fourth-classmen. Each cadet's name was printed in gold on the cover.

The bill of rights of the new Ethiopian constitution insures full religious freedom, but the Constitution states that the Ethiopian Orthodox church, founded in the fourth century on the doctrines of St. Mark, is the established church of the state.

Elaine Thomas, a college student from Dallas, Texas, recently recited 1,050 Bible verses from memory without a mistake. The recitation lasted for three hours and twenty minutes. When Elaine finished, she was given the highest award offered by the Bible Memory Association of St. Louis, Mo., which offers prizes each year to young people who commit assigned Bible passages to memory.

Priceless treasures dating back to Methodism's earliest circuit-riding days are now on display in Lovely Lane church in Baltimore. The museum, housed in three rooms of the church, was opened last month. It includes the first Methodist pulpit in America — a hand-hewn pulpit used nearly 200 years ago by Robert Strawbridge.

Those who stand for nothing, easily fall for anything.

UNION CHAPEL E. U. B.
REVIVAL SERVICES

January 15 - 29 — 7:30 P.M.

Rev. L. T. Norris will be bringing the gospel message.
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Gerig will have charge of the music.
Organ music courtesy of Decatur Music House.
A WELCOME EXTENDED TO ALL.

(Courtesy of Sprunger Implement Co.)

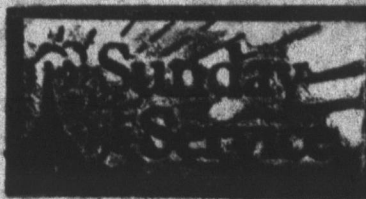
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Very Rev. Msgr. Seimetz, pastor
6 a.m., First Mass.
7:30 a.m., Low Mass.
9 a.m., Children's Mass
10:15 a.m., High Mass.
Weekday Mass, 7:30 a.m.
Holy Communion Sundays.
First Sunday, the Rosary Society.
Second Sunday, Holy Name Society.
Third Sunday, the Catholic Ladies of Columbia.
Fourth Sunday, Children of Mary.

ZION
Evangelical and Reformed
Third and Jackson Streets
William C. Feller, pastor
Church school at 9 a.m. Laverne Roth, superintendent. Each member of your family will find a welcome, a place to worship and to grow.

Divine worship at 10 a.m. Sermon by the pastor, "The Answer is God." This is the theme for the church attendance crusade, now being sponsored by the Associated Churches, together with many other churches throughout the country. Our church is cooperating in this crusade and we urge every member and friend of the church to be present every Sunday. Newly elected elders and deacons will be installed during this service. Mission Band will meet during the sermon portion of the service. The senior choir will sing, "The Haven of Rest" by Landon.

Youth fellowship at 6:15 p.m. Devotions will be given by Kathryn Goetz. A filmstrip, "Boy Meets Girl" will be presented. There will be recreation and refreshments. Sponsors will be Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Robinson and Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Kichenauer. The youth council will meet after the meeting.

Organization meeting of the official board will be held at 7 o'clock Monday evening.

Churchmen's Brotherhood meeting on Monday at 8 p.m. This will be a discussion meeting led by Ferd Litterer.

Youth choir rehearsal on Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.

Senior choir rehearsal on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Evangelical circle meeting on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Richard Linn.

Phoebe Bible class meeting on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the church social room.

Catechetical classes on Saturday morning: seniors at 9, juniors at 10 a.m.

Come and worship with us.

MISSIONARY
Tenth and Dayton Street
H. J. Welty, pastor

9 a.m., Sunday school hour. Ralph Myers, general supt. Junior supt., Mrs. Darrell Gerig. Primary supt., Mrs. Harold Idgewine. Classes for all and we urge you and your family to attend God's House together.

10 a.m., morning worship hour. Special music, Darrell Gerig. Message by the pastor.

7 p.m., children's gospel hour.

7 p.m., teen-age MYF.

7 p.m., adult fellowship hour.

7:30 p.m., evening gospel hour.

Come and enjoy the good Gospel song sing. Special music by the Beard brothers. Message by the pastor.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Bible study and prayer groups will meet.

Thursday, 7 p.m., Ladies Fellowship will meet for their work meeting in the church basement.

We believe that God is the answer to all our problems. Your family will be happier if you attend the House of God. A warm Christian welcome awaits you if you have no church home.

United Brethren in Christ
Nuttman Avenue
Paul D. Parker, minister

Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Lawrence Michel is the general superintendent. If you are not in Sunday school elsewhere, bring the family and study the Bible with us. There are classes for all ages.

Morning worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sermon by the pastor, "God's Secrets."

Christian Endeavor 7 p.m. There is fellowship and study groups for

all ages.
Evening worship service, 7:30 p.m. The Rev. L. D. Dellinger, our conference superintendent, will be with us to bring us the evening sermon and to conduct the Holy Communion.
Prayer and Bible study Wednesday, 7:30.
You are invited to attend these services.

ZION LUTHERAN
West Monroe and Eleventh Street
Edgar P. Schmidt, pastor
A Changeless Christ to a Changing World.

The festival of the Epiphany will be observed at both the 8 and 10:30 o'clock services Sunday morning. Epiphany commemorates the coming of the Wise Men from the east to worship the Christ child.

The choir will appear at the late service, singing "A Psalm of Worship," by Jean Pasquet.
All of the Bible classes: high school, young people's, and adult, began new study materials for discussion guides last Sunday, and extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend. All classes begin at 8:15 o'clock; the adult group meeting in the church, and the other two in the parish hall.

Sunday school classes, beginner to senior departments, meet at 9:15 a.m. The lesson tomorrow is the story of the boy Jesus in the temple at age 12. Enroll your child in our Sunday school.

The pastor's adult lecture course will be given Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the east classroom of the parish hall.

The parents of the children enrolled in the junior confirmation class are asked to meet with the pastor Tuesday evening at 7:30.

The Missionary Society meets Wednesday afternoon at 1:30. Pastor Schmidt will lead the topic discussion on a mission theme.

Choir rehearsal Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Evangelical United Brethren
Madison at Ninth Street
John E. Chambers, minister

9:15 a.m., Sunday school; Clifford Hoverman, superintendent.

We continue our participation in the national church attendance crusade, and urge all to be present.

10:30 a.m., morning worship. Message by Rev. Homer Achor: "I Beg to be Excused." Harold Mumma is organist and Walter Henkel will direct the choir in the anthem, "Creation" by Haydn. You will want to hear Rev. Achor, who is our guest speaker for our crusade for Christ.

2 p.m., the youth will meet at the church for the "Jalopy Caravan." They will return to the church for recreation, refreshments, and youth fellowship service. Rev. Achor will give an illustrated talk on "What Makes a Healthy Christian?"

6:30 p.m., Jewels and Junior meetings.

7:30 p.m., the evangelistic service with Rev. Achor bringing the message and Walter Henkel leading the music. The crusade for Christ continues with services each night this week at 7:30.

Tuesday night is youth night. Wednesday is Sunday school night. Thursday is Couples Night, and Friday is Family Night.

The boys and girls will meet for a Children's Service Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoon after school.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Mercer Avenue at Five Points
Ray J. Walthers, pastor

Sunday school, 9:15 a.m. Royal Friend, supt.

10:30 a.m., worship service. Sermon: "Men Whose Hearts God Touched." Anthem "My Task."

During the service newly elected officers will be installed.

The Ordination, installation and recognition services: On December

221 South Fourth Street
Stuart H. Brightwell, pastor

9:15 a.m., Sunday school hour. James B. Strickler, supt.

10:30 a.m., morning worship service. "Hosea, Prophet of Love" is the sermon. The choir will sing: "Crown Him Lord of All" arr. by Roger Wilson.

6:30 p.m., fellowship groups meet.

7:30 p.m., evening gospel hour. "Joy in Prayer" will be the sermon subject. This will be the first

in a series on the book of Philip-
plines.

The public is invited to all the services of our church. Our people are encouraged to attend the services as a part of the community attendance crusade. May this be a year in which you "Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of Christ."

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Salomon Association Men's Rally at the First Baptist church of Bluffton. Cars will be leaving the church at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, 7 p.m., midweek hour of power prayer service, 8 p.m., choir rehearsal.

Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Women's Missionary Society meeting at the church. Devotional leader is Mrs. Robert Boat. Lesson leader is Mrs. Warren Lehman. Hostesses: Mrs. Homer Reese, Mrs. Wilbur Stanley and Mrs. Harve Shroll.

FIRST CHRISTIAN
Traverse W. Gandler, minister

Morning worship begins at 9:30 a.m. with the psalm by Mrs. William Bauman. Communion meditation and the Ordinance of the Lord's Supper. The topic of the minister's sermon will be: "The Choice You Have Made." Scripture lesson: Psalms 77. Text: Josh. 24:15.

The choir under the direction of Mrs. Gerald Strickler will sing: "It's So Sweet To Trust in Jesus" Ellis.

Junior church will meet in the lower sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. The lesson will be a flannelgraph story: "Latus—Bud of India."

Bible school hour, 10:30 a.m. Everett Faulkner, supt. Gerald Strickler assistant.

Junior choir practice, Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Adults at 7 p.m. You are invited to worship with us.

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in 1885, the congregation elected the following men and women to the following offices and on this Sunday in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we proceed to their ordination and installation and recognition. Those ordained as ruling elders are: Jack Heller and Clark Smith. Those installed to the office of ruling elder are: Jack Heller, Clark Smith, and E. B. Rydell. Those ordained and installed as deacons are: Mrs. Robert Gay, Mrs. James Koehner, Jr., Mrs. Robert Flora, and David Macklin. Those recognized as trustees are: John DeVoss and Lewis Smith.

2 p.m., deacon's meeting in the study.

4:30 p.m., junior fellowship. The film, "Reading Our Bible," will be shown. Mrs. Robert Gay and Mrs. Roland Ladd are sponsors for the month.