

**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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**COME TO CHURCH****Creamed Comments  
On a Sunday Lesson**

Creamed Comments on the Sunday school lesson, Jesus Calls for Repentance, Luke 13:1-5, 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 subversives as if they were great sinners.

V.2. "And Jesus answering them, said, '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 pronounced doom on all implement. 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.5. "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." 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. Darrel Gerig will have charge of the music.

Organ music courtesy of Decatur Music House.

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all ages.

Evening worship service, 7:30 p.m. The Rev. L. D. Dellinger, our conference superintendent, will be with us to bring 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 7:15 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.

Sunday school teachers staff meets Thursday evening at 7 and 7:30 for class preparation and teacher training course.

**FIRST METHODIST**

W. Monroe at Fifth Street

Virgil Wesley Sexton, minister

9:30 a.m., church school, Leonard Soliday, general superintendent, in charge. Classes for all ages, nursery for toddlers and a supervised crib room for babies.

10:20 a.m., divine worship. This service will open with the prelude, "Adagio" by Beethoven; with Mrs. Edgar Gerber at the organ. During the service, she will also play "Prelude in B Minor" by Bach and "March in B Flat" by Martin.

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. Weitz, pastor

9 a.m. Sunday school hour

Ralph Myers, general superintendent

9:15 a.m., Sunday school: Cliff

ford Heverman, 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 afternoons after school.

Wednesday evening service, 7:45 p.m. Bible study.

You have a personal invitation to attend the church where people from all denominations meet to worship God. If you have a spiritual need, come and let God meet your need.

The First Presbyterian

Mercer Avenue at Five Points

Ray J. Wathen, 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

18, 1965, 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. E. Rydell.

Those ordained as deacons are:

Mrs. Robert Gay, Mrs.

James Kocher, Jr., Mrs. Robert

Flora, and David Macklin.

Those recognized as trustees are:

John DeVos 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