SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON II.—JULY 11, 1909.

The Philippian Jailer—Acts 16: 16-60.

Commentary.—I. An evil spirit cast out (vs. 16-18.) The missionaries made their home at the house of Lydia (see v. 15) while they continued to preach the gospel at Philippi. They had good success, and in this city the first Christian church in Europe was founded. But their great victories did not come without great opposition. There was in the city a certain damsel who was a fortune-teller, who brought her masters great gain. This slave girl followed the missionaries and cried after them. Paul was grieved because of this and commanded the evil spirit to come out of her. "And he came out the same hour" (v. 18.) Why was Paul grieved? "1. Because her presence was troublesome to him. 2. Because it might appear that he was in alliance with her. 3. Because what she did was for gain and was a base imposition. 4. Because her state was one of bondage and delusion. 5. Because the system under which she was acting was then holding a large part of the pagan world in bondage."

II. Paul and Silas arrested and imprisoned (vs. 19-24.) After the evil spirit had left the girl she no longer had power to make money for her masters by fortune-telling. This made her masters angry, and they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them before the magistrates into the market-place, where legal business was transacted. "It was difficult to frame a charge against them. Had a pig been stolen from them there was a law in their behalf, but there was no compensation for a lost demon."—Whedon. "The Phillippian magistrates were excited against the missionaries by the accusation that they had attacked the religion of Rome." An excited mob rose up, violently tore the clothes off of the missionaries, and beat them "with rods" (2 Cor. 11; 25.) The Roman custom was to inflict blows on the naked body, and the punishment was not limited to "forty stripes save one," like that of the Jews. Then all sore and bleeding they were thrust into the "inner prison," a dungeon, probably underground, and their feet were made fast "in the stocks." The stocks consisted of a heavy piece of wood, with holes into which the feet were put, so far apart as to distend the limbs in a most painful manner. What a trying ordeal this was through which these faithful missionaries were passing! But they are in Philippi by special direction of the Holy Spirit and they need have no fears regarding results. God will work out all things to his glory and the good of his children.

III. A great deliverance (vs. 25, 26.) 25. Prayed, and sang praises—Their wounds were undressed; filth and vermin added to their pain; their position was one of torture. Sleep was out of the question. They passed the night in devotions. It is a significant fact that the most joyous of Paul's epistles is that written to the church at Philippi, born out of his experience of suffering. —Abbott. If we are not ready to please God where we are, and with our conditions and circumstances as they are, we should not be likely to praise him if we were differently circumstanced and our condition was just that which now seems to us most desirable. Daniel could sleep better in the den of lions than Darius in the royal palace. It is the man himself that must be changed and not his circumstances, in order that he may have a heart overflowing with joy and praise.—Trumbull. The prisoners heard—"God meant this midnight song not merely for the sufferers' joy, bus for the prisoners' hearing."

26. A great earthquake—Thus did God answer prayer and prove his presence and protection. No doubt all Philippi heard the sound and felt the force of the earthquake. Foundations..shaken—As God shook the foundations of that old prison so he is still able to shake the foundations of every power or influence arrayed against his truth have no fear of infidelity or false religions. Jehovah lives and reigns. Doors were opened, etc.—The chains were made fast to the fall, and the shock which burst asunder the bolts of the doors also released the fastenings which held the chains in the masonry.—Cam. Bib. A symbol of the spiritual deliverance they were to effect for the heathen (Isa. 42. 7).—Binney. Every deliverance bears a certain resemblance to the final deliverance. God breaks the chains of sin when the soul is regenerated. He bursts the prison of the grave when the body is redeemed. —Lange.

IV. The jailer converted (vs. 27.34). 27. Awaking—The praying and singing did not awake him, but the earthquake did. He evidently slept in full view of the prison doors. Drew out his sword—The Roman law transferred to the jailer the punishment due to an escaped prisoner.—Riddle. Supposing the prisoners had escaped, he decided at once to take his own life and thus avoid a worse fate. 28. Paul cried—Anticipating the jailer's fear, Paul raised his voice to secure attention at once. All here—"Strange for a prisoner to be solicitous about his keeper. But Paul was passionately trying to save men, and the whole gospel is an appeal to men to do themselves no harm."

29. Called for a light—Which could be carried in the hand. This care for his welfare begat a tenderness in the heart of the keeper. It was the arrow of conviction which had reached his soul. Came trembling—He trembled because of his sins. A moment before, he was ready to destroy his life, to escape the wrath of man, but now he was eager to find the way of life, to escape the wrath of God. Fell down—Reverently recognizing the apostles as the ministers of God, who had restrained his suicidal hand. He had doubtless heard Paul preach about Jesus and His power to save. 30. Brought them out—From the inner prison into his own apartments, having no fear that they would escape but rather convinced that God was overruling all things for the. Sirs—"The Greek word implies an acknowledgment of great superiority." Those who had been his prisoners he now recognizes as his lords. What must I do—The question was earnest and was asked with the full expectation of following the directions which might be given.

31. Believe, etc.—Take Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Renounce every sin and make a full surrender of yourself to Him. This was unquestionably implied in Paul's answer. And thy house —His household would be led to believe in the same Jesus. No one can believe for others, and yet the influences of a Christian home make Christians. Ninety per cent. of the children of Christian people become Christians, and on the other hand an equally large per cent of the children of unsaved people continue in the ways of worldiness and sin. 32. Spake unto him—They proceeded to unfold to him the truths with respect to Christ and His salvation.

33. Washed their stripes—He showed his love to Christ and to them by performing this act of mercy. Was baptized—Baptism is "an outward sign of an inward work.' Even in this case the faith which led to an inward regeneration preceded the outward sign. In believing on Christ under such circumstances there was little danger of hypocrisy or self-deception. 34. Brought them up (R. V.)—The house was above the prison. Rejoiced—"Rejoiced greatly."—R. V. The Greek word signifies "exultant joy."

V. Paul and Silas released (vs. 35-40). 35. Sent the serjeants—The magistrates evidently were troubled because of their wicked, unlawful deeds and desired to be rid of their prisoners. The serjeants answered to sheriffs or constables. Literally the word means "rod-bearers." They were probably the ones who had scourged Paul and Silas on the preceding day. 37. Paul said—Paul refused to go in this manner. It was necessary for the good of the work that they be publicly exonerated. Paul made four grave charges against them. They had (1) beaten them, (2) publicly, (3) uncondemned, (4) and cast them into prison. Being Romans—The Roman laws made it a crime to scourge a Roman citizen.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

I. Praise. "Paul and Silas....were singing hymns" (v. 25, R. V.). They could not sleep, but they could sing. With feet fast in the stocks, with bleeding furrows from stripes, down in a horrible dungeon, damp with undried walls, close with putrid air, foul from filth, and black with darkness, these men of God could, like one of the old prophets, pray and give thanks as "aforetime" when the way was unclouded (Dan. 6, 10). Trials received from a Father's hand (John 18, 11) are something "given" (Phil. 1, 29); such are "precious" (I. Pet. 1, 7), and should be chariots in which to mount to victory. Fox, in his Book of Martyrs, tells of more joy in Bonner's coal-hole and in the Lollard's tower than ever was known in the palace of any king. The martyrs "felt a heaven of joy while in a hell of pain."

II. Deliverance. "Great earthquake" (v. 26). "Walls and chains are nothing against God's power. Oppression, poverty, temptation, sickness, sorrow, whatever holds fast a child of God, disappears when God speaks. The disciple of Christ may expect deliverance from trial as well as strength in trial."

III. Speaking. "They spoke unto him the word of the Lord" (v. 32). We should know how to point sinners to the Saviour, how to show them that "the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53; 5). Tell them he "bare our sins in his own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2: 24), that we might never die (John 8: 51, 52; 11: 26). Tell them he that believeth "hath eternal life and cometh not into judgment" John 5: 24, R. V.) Tell them the blood of Jesus Chrust cleanseth from all sin (1 John 1: 7, 9); that he ever liveth to intercede for us (Heb. 7: 25); that he is coming again to receive us to himself (John 14: 1-3).

IV. Salvation. "He ..... was baptized" (v. 33). Knowledge of danger is not deliverance; remorse is not repentance; conviction is not conversion; submission is not salvation; earnestness is not enlightenment. Agony, repentance, conviction, earnest prayer will not save us. Faith is the instrument that saves. Christ is the Saviour. He "was once offered to bear the sins of many" (Heb. 9: 28). He made peace with God (Eph. 2: 14). He is the way opened to God (John 14: 6). We believe it. Faith does not change God and make him graciously do something to save us, but faith apprehends what his grace has done and accepts it. Faith is not begging God; it is believing Christ has died and that God will save, and then that God has saved. A little girl fell into a cistern, and her mother hastened to the rescue. The child, explaining how she was saved, said, "I reached up as far as ever I could, and mother did the rest." Faith is the hand stretched out to him who saves to the uttermost.

V. Service. "Washed their stripes" (v. 33). Works do not induce faith, but faith produces works. A missionary in Morocco wrote: "Once we were taken by a soldier before a governor, who ordered us taken to Basha, but we escaped and fled from the city at sunset, sleeping on the cobble stones paving the entrance to an enclosed village. Twice we were detained by wicked men, who threatened us with weapons and stones. In one of these instances we were driven at nightfall into a filty enclosure, open to the falling rain and exposed to keen winds from the snows of the Atlas Mountains. We preached Christ to a group that gathered, and one took us into his own house, turning a colt and donkey out to make room. He gave us food and said, 'Tell me again those precious words you spoke.' We thought of Paul and Silas cared for by the jailer at Philippi." The sinner saved by grace is anxious to serve.

A. C. M.

FULL OF MINERALS.

Saskatchewan's Hinterland is Reported to be Very Rich.

Prince Albert, Sask., July 5—Prospectors who have been attracted into the north by reports of gold and copper discoveries at Lac La Ronge and other places in the wilds are returning with very rich samples of other minerals which they have uncovered. The latest to come in is G. Parkinson, who brings a fine sample of petroleum and asphalt which he discovered at Buffalo Lake, 225 miles northwest of here and in the same locality of strata as the famous asphalt and petroleum beds of the Athabasca River.

Answer This Question

When shown positive and reliable proof that a certain remedy had cured numerous cases of female ills, wouldn't any sensible woman conclude that the same remedy would also benefit her if suffering with the same trouble?

Here are two letters which prove the efficiency of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Glanford Station, Ont.—"I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for years and never found any medicine to compare with it. I had ulcers and falling of the uterus, and doctors did me no good. I suffered dreadfully until I began taking your medicine. It has also helped other women to whom I have recommended it."—Mrs. Henry Clark, Glanford Station, Ontario.

Another woman says Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the best remedy in the world for women.

Fox Creek, N. B.—"I have always had pains in the loins and a weakness there, and often after my meals my food would distress me and cause soreness. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done me much good. I am stronger, digestion is better, and I can walk with ambition. I have encouraged many mothers of families to take it, as it is the best remedy in the world for women. You can publish this in the papers."—Mrs. William Bourque, Fox Creek, N. B., Canada.

We will pay a handsome reward to any person who will prove to us that these letters are not genuine and truthful —or that either of these women were paid in any way for their testimonials, or that the letters are published without their permission, or that the original letter from each did not come to us entirely unsolicited.

What more proof can any one ask?

For 30 years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has been the standard remedy for female ills. No sick woman does justice to herself who will not try this famous medicine. Made exclusively from roots and herbs, and has thousands of cures to its credit.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health free of charge. Address Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass.

MORE LIGHT

Thrown on the Corruption in Montreal Fire Department.

Montreal, July 5.—Further grafting methods were revealed at to-day's session of the Royal Commission. Mr. Oliver Munday, who passed so many members into Montreal's pay-as-you-enter fire brigade, made some serious statements regarding the actions of Mr. Z Benoit, ex-chief of the fire department. This morning Munday declared, in a manner that was free of the reserve which had characterized his previous utterances, that it had been an understood thing between ex-Chief Benoit and himself that any person desiring to join the fire brigade should pay an entry. In the same free way witness named to the commissioners certain specific sums of money that he had himself paid to Mr. Benoit, on behalf of men who had joined the brigade. He estimated that he had handed over to the ex-chief, in this way, an aggregate amount of eight or nine hundred dollars.

Fireman Villeneuve testified to having paid Sub-Chief Marin $75 for his position, but the latter asserted that this was as a present to his wife. Another witness swore that this money had gone to Ald. Proulx and Chief Benoit. Sub-Chief Marin not benefiting.

The morning's evidence was one long string of recitals of irregularity of appointments to the force. There were the payments referred to above. Then a number of men swore that they had been only a few weeks resident in Montreal before being appointed, although the law calls for two years' residence. In most of these cases, Sub-Chief Dubois was named as the responsible party.

To-day's session practically closed the investigation of the affairs of the fire department. Mr. Perron announcing that as the irregularity and viciousness of the system had been proven, there was no necessity for eliciting further evidence.

SUNK THEM.

Six Hundred Deadly Weapons Thrown Into Lake at Chicago.

Chicago, July 5.—Nearly 600 deadly weapons which the police have confiscated in the last six months will be cast into the lake to-day. The city tug will take the police department's custodian beyond the three mile limit and he will drop overboard the revolvers, dirks, slingshots, knives and other deadly weapons in thirty feet of water. This disposition of the weapons is prescribed by the city code.

MEN TO TEACH CHINESE.

Ottawa despatch: At a meeting of representatives of all the Anglican Churches of the city last night ,it was decided that hereafter all Chinese in the local Anglican Sunday Schools shall be taught by men instead of by lady teachers. The decision is in a large measure the outcome of the recent atrocity in New York in connection with the murder of Miss Sigel. There is a considerable Chinese population in Ottawa and in a number of Sunday schools there are regular Chinese classes taught by young ladies.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

Receipts of live stock, reported by the railways, were 124 car loads, consisting of 1,540 cattle, 2,975 hogs, 1,502 sheep and lambs and 262 calves, for Wednesday and Thursday.

The quality of fat cattle was fair to good. Stall-fed cattle sold readily at steady prices, but grass cattle were a little easier and slower sale.

Exporters.—Not many were offered. Prices ranged from $5.80 to $6.25; bulls, $4.75 to $5.40.

Butchers.—George Rowntree bought 500 cattle for the Harris Abattoir Co. Mr. Rowntree's quotations were: Exporters, $5.80 to $6.25; butchers' steers and heifers, $5 to $5.62½; cows, $2.50 to $4.85; bulls, $4 to $5.40.

Stockers and Feeders.—Harry Murby reports moderate trade, having buoght 225 cattle during the week. Mr. Murby reports average prices at follows: Steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs. each, at $4 to $4.50 per cwt.; steers, 700 to 800 lbs. each, at $3.-25 to $3.75; stockers, 400 to 700 lbs. each, at $3 to $3.50; selected lots brought 25c per cwt. higher than above prices.

Milkers and Springers.—Between 40 and 50 milkers and springers were on sale. There was a fair trade, one eastern buyer taking two car loads. Prices ranged from $35 to $55 each, one choice cow selling at $62.

Veal calves—Recepits moderate; trade steady, at $3 to $6 per cwt., with a few extra quality at $6.50.

Sheep and lambs.—Fifteen hundred sheep and lambs were on sale. Export ewes sold at $3.50 to $4 per cwt.; rams, $2.50 to $3 per cwt.; lambs, $7 to $7.75 per cwt., with a few selected lots at $8 per cwt.

Hogs.—Dealers report an easier market, with prices lower; selects, fed and watered, at the market, $8 and $7.-75, f.o.b., cars at country points.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The receipts of grain to-day were nil, and prices are purely nominal.

Hay was steady, with sales of 35 loads of No. 1 at $13 to $14.50 a ton. One load of bundled straw sold at $12 a ton.

Dressed hogs continue firm, selling at $11 for heavy, and at $11.25 to $11.50 for light.

Wheat, fall, bushel	$ 1 35	$ 1 38
Do., goose, bushel	1 25	0 00
Oats, bushel	0 60	0 61
Barley, bushel	0 64	0 00
Rye, bushel	0 75	0 00
Peas, bushel	0 95	0 97
Hay, per ton	13 00	14 50
Do., No. 2	8 00	10 00
Straw, per ton	12 00	13 00
Dressed hogs	11 00	11 50
Butter, dairy	0 22	0 24
Do., inferior	0 18	0 20
Eggs, dozen	0 24	0 26
Chickens, broilers	0 25	0 35
Do., yearlings, lb.	0 14	0 16
Fowl, lb.	0 11	0 13
Celery, per dozen	0 40	0 00
Potatoes, bag	0 85	0 90
Onions, bag	1 65	1 75
Apples, barrel	3 00	5 00
Beef, hindquarters	9 50	11 00
Do., forequarters	6 50	7 50
Do., choice, carcase	9 00	9 50
Do., medium, carcase	7 00	8 00
Mutton, per cwt.	10 00	12 00
Veal, prime, per cwt.	9 50	11 00
Lamb, per cwt.	14 00	15 00

THE FRUIT MARKET.

Receipts of fruit and vegetables were large to-day, and prices generally heavy. Quotations as follows:

Bananas, per bunch	$ 1 50	$ 2 00
Strawberries	0 04	0 07
Gooseberries, basket	1 25	1 50
Cherries, basket	1 00	1 50
Oranges, navel	3 00	3 25
Lemons	3 25	3 50
Pineapples, crate	2 00	2 50
Peaches, Cal., box	1 75	2 00
Apricots, box	1 75	2 00
Watermelons	0 30	0 35
Cabbage, crate	1 50	1 75
Tomatoes, 4-bkt. crate	1 10	0 00
Onions, Bermuda, crate	1 00	0 00
Cucumbers, per hamper	1 25	0 00
Lettuce, per dozen	0 25	0 00
Asparagus, doz. bunches	0 75	1 25
Potatoes, new, bbl.	3 50	4 00
Rhubarb, per dozen	0 20	0 00
Cantaloupes, case	5 50	6 00

OTHER MARKETS.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

London—London cables for cattle are firm, at 14¼c to 15c per lb., for Canadian steers, dressed weight; refrigerator beef is quoted at 10¾c to 11c per pound.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET.

Wheat—July $1.33 1-4 bid, October $1.11 bid.

THE CHEESE MARKETS.

Stirling, Ont.—This afternoon there were 920 boarded, 250 sold at 11 7-16c; balance at 11 3-8c.

Campbellford, Ont.—1,245 boxes cheese registered; 1,140 sold at 11 5-16c; balance unsold.

Farnham, Que.— At the Farnham cheese board meeting yesterday 14 factories offered 507 boxes butter; all sold at 22 1-8c; five buyers present.

BRADSTREET'S TRADE REVIEW

Montreal—Business there continues to show steady if somewhat modest improvement. Wholesalers generally report an increase in the volume of orders and some improvement in collections. Warm weather during the past week has much helped the drygpods trade.

Toronto—The warm weather of the past week has given a decided stimulus to general trade and there are authorities here who state that the business revival which the general outlook has seemed to foreshadow is now at hand.

Winnipeg—Business continues to show a steady increase in volume.

Vancouver and Victoria—a good brisk trade is moving in wholesale and retail lines all along the coast.

London—The volume of business moving is generally satisfactory and prospects for the future are exceedingly bright.

Ottawa—A good steady volume of trade is progressing and the outlook for the future is good.

Hamilton—There is an excellent tone to all lines of trade here. The sorting up trade has increased appreciably during the week and fall orders are coming in very satisfactorily. Values of commodities are tending upwards and the general indication is that fall business will be heavy. Crop prospects in the surrounding district are good. Collections are improving.

Quebec—From reports gathered amongst the wholesale trade, business appears to be on the quiet side, although indications point to improvement.

THE FARM

A Pennsylvania farmer gives this experience with woodchucks (ground-hogs). He had set several hundred early cabbages, and in going through his patch early one morning he found several plants missing. He found the woodchucks' hole under the wall—in fact, several holes—near his cabbage field. He armed himself with several steel traps and used all his cunning in setting them in the burrows of the woodchucks, but after several mornings of patient waiting, capture by trap proved unsuccessful. But, having heard that they were very fond of salt, he mixed a liberal quantity of Paris green in about a quart of salt and placed a handful near each burrow. He was not troubled again that season, and this has been his remedy ever since.

If it was not for butter color, not a pound of oleomargarine or poor butter could ever have been sold as the genuine, clean product of the cow.

There is one thing the farmer cannot afford to overlook in sheep raising, and that is thrift. Thrift means health, gain in quality, quantity and productiveness, the elements out of which the profits are derived. It must be the first object of the owner to keep his sheep in thriving condition. The quality of the wool, as well as the quantity, and the general productiveness of the flock make this requirement imperative.

An odor will be observed in the milk if silage is fed to cows a short time before milking, but if given shortly after milking the silage smell cannot be detected.

There are several points in feeding sheep that must not be overlooked. The feed lot must be dry, with plenty of clean, dry bedding; the animals must have plenty of clean, pure water, and the feed troughs should be kept clean. These should be arranged so that the sheep cannot foul them with their feet. Another point is to keep them from becoming excited or frightened. To this end it is better that one person feed them all the time.

It is said that Greater New York consumes 7,764,930 gallons of milk, 361,-600 gallons of cream, and 83,160 gallons of condensed milk in one month. The daily average is 242,490 gallons of milk, 10,340 gallons of cream, and 1,480 gallons of condensed milk.

It will mean a loss to the farmer to have the cow afraid of him. It is a loss every time she is frightened. To run a cow to pasture is like throwing money away. A cow in any way worried will not do her best. The cow that is made a pet of will make money for its owner. The milk of a frightened or abused cow is poisonous.

If orchard grass is not sown thickly it will not be a success. Three bushels to the acre should be used. Orchard grass is more vigorous than timothy, with a stronger root system; but if a permanent meadow is expected it must be top-dressed freely.

CORPSE SAT UP.

Heat Victim in a Morgue Coffin "Had a Nice Sleep."

Brought Back Life to Man With Electric Current.

Worcester, Mass., July 5.—Forty minutes after Joseph Remillard, aged 40, a baker's assistant, had been pronounced dead by the doctors at the city hospital, he sat up in a margue coffin and remarked:

"What a nice sleep I have had!"

Remillard had been overcome by the heat and rushed to the hospital, where the doctors worked over him until he died, as they declared. He was put into a pack of ice and was being wheeled into the morgue in the coffin used for that purpose, when Dr. Edgar L. Drew, the new superintendent of the hospital, passed in the corridor. He pulled back the sheet, looked carefully at the face of the corpse and asserted his belief that there was a chance of life not being extinct.

The coffin was wheeled into the X-ray room. For 15 minutes Dr. Drew worked. Results visible, none. Dr. Drew was insistent. He ignored the incredulous looks of the other physicians and insisted on applying current after current and all sorts of shocks on the officially dead man. There was a tremor of the man's limbs. Then the doctors eagerly surrounded the coffin in which the man lay. The muscles quivered and contracted. The chest heaved and a sigh broke the stillness of the room. Remillard's eyes opened, a faint color stole into the marble face.

"What a nice sleep I've had," he murmured drowsily.

"More electricity," ordered Dr. Drew.

Just 40 minutes after Remillard was declared dead at the hospital, he was wheeled from the X-ray room to a ward and placed in a bed his name being taken from the list of dead and placed on the "will recover" list.

MUST SHOOT QUICKLY.

Speeding Up the Competitors at D. R. A. Matches.

Ottawa, July 5.—A number of important changes in the conditions for the Dominion Rifle Association competition at the Rockliffe Rifle Ranges from August 23 to 28 were announced to-day by Capt. Birdwhistle. A new time limit for shooting is provided. The time limit in which each competitor must fire a shot has been placed at 40 seconds instead of one minute as heretofore in order to provide more rapid firing. In some of the matches new targets, colored so as to represent natural surroundings, such as grass, are to be used.

There will be a match for school cadets for teams and for individuals. Teams of cadets must be 16 years of age or under, and the age limit for individual cadets is 18 years.

Former President Eliot, of Harvard has been appointed president-emeritus. He will get a salary and a present of half a million dollars.