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Sunday School.

LESSON IX.—MAY 29, 1910.

The Multitudes Fed.—Matt. 14: 13-21; 15: 28-32.

Commentary.—I. Feeding the five thousand (vs. 12-21). This miracle as well as the feeding of the four thousand, which we study more particularly, is preceded by miracles of healing. It was but natural that the sick, and those whose friends were diseased, should make an effort to come to Jesus, when they knew of the mighty works He was accomplishing. It would take more than the opposition of the scribes and Pharisees to keep them from Him, who was healing the same kinds of sickness as those with which they were afflicted. The miracles of feeding the multitudes took place in the tetrarchy of Herod Philip, who was more humane and reasonable than Antipas, who ruled in Galilee. The feeding of the five thousand occurred in April, A. D. 29, just before the Passover, and it is thought by some, and with reason, that many of this multitude were Jews on their way to Jerusalem to attend the feast. This Matthew has not given two accounts of the same miracle, as some have suggested, but that there were two distinct miracles of feeding the multitudes, is clear from Matt. 16: 9, 10, where both incidents are mentioned particularly. There is a difference in the number fed. In the first instance there were five thousand and in the second four thousand. There was also a difference in the supply and the amount remaining over. In the first, there were five loaves and two fishes, with twelve baskets full of fragments remaining; in the second, seven baskets left over. Alford presents the following proof that the incidents were distinct: "It is, that whereas the baskets in which the fragments were collected on the first occasion are called by all four evangelists 'cophins,' those used for that purpose after the second miracle are, in both Matthew and Mark, 'spuris.' And when our Lord refers to the two miracles, the same distinction is observed as pointing to a matter of fact, that (whatever the distinction is, which is uncertain) different kinds of baskets were used on the two occasions." After the miracle recorded in Matt. 14, Jesus sends His disciples by night across the lake, and comes to them before morning walking on the water; after that recorded in the chapter following, He leaves the multitudes in their own country and goes to Magdala, west of the Sea of Galilee.

II. Healing the sick (vs. 21-31). 29. Jesus departed from thence—He had been laboring for several weeks in "the coasts of Tyre and Sidon," and after healing the daughter of the Syrophenician woman, He left that place, some forty or fifty miles northwest of the Sea of Galilee, to go to Decapolis (Mark 7: 31), or "the region of the ten cities." Into a mountain—A range of hills, or low-lying mountains on the east side of the Sea of Galilee. And sat down there—It was His purpose to spend some time in that place teaching the multitudes. The sitting posture was the one assumed by the teacher or speaker in addressing his listeners.

30. Great multitudes—Jesus had wrought miracles in this region and the people knew of His power. Some may have come through curiosity, as is usual when there is great religious interest, yet many came to receive instruction and relief. Having with them—They were interested in bringing others to Jesus. Lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others—Matthew mentions particularly four diseases difficult to cure, and gives the impression that these were but a small part of all that were presented to Jesus. The "maimed" according to the meaning of the Greek word, were those deformed in hands or feet from birth. In the parallel account in Mark, that writer singles out the case of one who was both blind and dumb, giving the details of the cure and the effect upon the people (Mark 7: 31-37). Cast them down at Jesus feet—Expressive of the humility of their submission—Whom. He healed them—Their earnestness and faith brought rich returns. 31. The multitude wondered—The most obstinate diseases, and even lifelong deformities of body, were, at the word or touch of Jesus, immediately cured. These maladies are each typical of sin. The same Being that caused the people to wonder because of the relief brought to afflicted bodies, waits to heal our souls' diseases. Saw the dumb to speak—blind to see—Indicating positively the completeness of the cures.

III. Feeding the four thousand. (vs. 32-34).

22. Called his disciples unto him—For a private council after his work of teaching and healing. The object was to arrange for the feeding of the throng who had eagerly sought him. I have compassion—The Lord's compassion was called out by their physical want which, however, resulted from their desire to be near Him—Schaff. His compassion had been shown by healing the bodies of the diseased, now it was to be shown in providing sustenance for the bodies of all. Now three days—nothing to eat—Their earnestness had prompted them to neglect their physical needs. Jesus knew their motives and their needs. He remembered how long they had been from their homes, and remembering, he determines to relieve them. The supply of food brought with them was exhausted. I will not send them away fasting—His tenderness toward them would now admit of his allowing them to go away hungry. Faint in the way—The multitude had followed him from the mountains. Such scanty provision as they had brought with them was consumed. There was no possibility of either going into the neighboring towns, or quickly returning across the lake. They could only retire to their mountain homes through the passes by which they had followed him. They might, therefore, faint by the way.

23. Whence should we have so much bread—They could not have forgotten the former occasion upon which a larger number had been miraculously fed. They knew that Jesus could do now as he did then, but they did not know that he would think best to do so, and simply asked, "Whence?" In all his dealing with the multitudes before this, he had fed them only on one occasion. Wilderness—A country district from towns.

34. How many loaves have ye—Jesus is answering their question. They are not staggered by the purpose of Jesus as on the former occasion, when Andrew said, "But what are they among so many?" He who can create from naught can multiply that which is. 35. Commanded the multitude to sit down—Probably with the same orderly precision as before, by hundreds and by fifties, the women and the children being in this instance also grouped together apart from the men—Ellicott. 36. Took the seven loaves and the fishes—Jesus made use of the food that was available, and by His power supplied what was lacking. The loaves were small, flat cakes. The fishes were small, prepared for eating by being salted or pickled. The Sea of Galilee abounded in fish. Gave thanks—Recognizing the Father as the giver. We should never eat without first thanking God for our food and asking His blessing upon it. gave to his disciples, etc.—It required faith and obedience on the part of the disciples to set about distributing food to such a multitude from such a meagre supply. However, as they gave it out there was constantly more to give, until the last man, woman and child had been satisfied. We cannot tell at what stage of the distribution the increase took place, but neither disciple nor person served saw any lack. What we have will increase as we give in the name of the Lord.

37. filled—Here is one miracle of our Lord attested by at least four thousand men, probably eight thousand persons. No one need ever leave Christ's table hungry. He is able to supply every need of soul and body. He is the bread of life. Whether we demand "little or much" it is an easy matter for Christ to fill us. There is a fulness in His mercy and love that only those who partake can understand. Broken meat—Broken pieces which remained over. According to John, Jesus directed them to gather up the fragments, "that nothing be lost." seven baskets—The word translated "baskets" means pockets or wallets. Jesus evidently intended that he and the apostles should eat the pieces as their needs demanded. 38. four thousand men—There must have been eight thousand to feed. Jesus had arranged them so they could easily be counted.

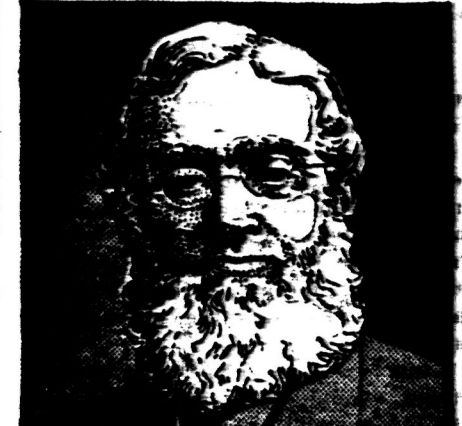
39. sent away the multitude—According to Mark's account, our Lord retired to the mountain alone to pray, after he had dismissed the multitude. Magdala—There was a town of that name on the west side of the Sea of Galilee. It was the place from which Mary Magdalene received her name. There is still a small village composed of a few wretched huts upon this site called Mejal.

40. PRACTICAL APPLICATION.

"Great multitudes came" (vs. 30). The crowds did not come to Jesus for himself but for his gifts; they came for "loaves" not for love (John 6: 2, 26). Our Lord's first thought was always for "others" (Phil. 2: 4). He could not rest while the weary, anxious, panting, dusty thousands waited to be healed of their diseases and comforted in their sorrows.

COVERED UP BY HIS PHYSICIAN

"FRUIT-A-TIVES" THE FAMOUS FRUIT MEDICINE, SAVED HIS LIFE.



James Dingwall, Esq.
Williamstown, Ont., July 27th, 1908.
"I suffered all my life from Chronic Constipation and no doctor, or remedy, I ever tried helped me. 'Fruit-a-tives' promptly cured me. Also, last spring I had a bad attack of BLADDER and KIDNEY TROUBLE and the doctor gave me up but 'Fruit-a-tives' saved my life. I am now over eighty years of age and I strongly recommend 'Fruit-a-tives' for Constipation and Kidney Trouble."
(Signed) JAMES DINGWALL.
See a box, 6 for \$2.50—or trial box, 25c—at dealers or from Fruit-a-tives Ltd., Ottawa.

He forgot his weariness and hunger in the desire to bless and to save. If, like your Lord, you cannot "be hid" (Mark 7: 24), if weary, hungry souls press upon you for the bread of life, do as he did, and as he bade. "Give to him that asketh thee" (Matt. 5: 42).

"How many loaves have ye?" (v. 34). Our "chief need is, not great resources, but great faith in our Master's power to use what we have. God had to teach all his ancient servants this lesson before he could use them fully. Moses must be willing to go with a simple rod (Exod. 14: 1-5); Joshua with a ram's horn (Josh. 6: 5); and Gideon with three hundred men armed only with lamps, pitchers and trumpets (Judg. 7: 16), ere God could work through their weakness."

"Gave thanks, and brake" (v. 36). There was only barley bread and dried fishes but Jesus gratefully thanked God for these. A visitor to the almshouse gave an old woman an orange and some tracts. Her face lighted up and she thanked her, adding, "You see, ma'am, there is always something to be thankful for, even in the poorest house." The blessing of the Lord upon what we have adds to its power to do good. "A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked" (Psa. 37: 16).

"They took up of the broken meat" (v. 37). God never wastes in nature, providence or grace. God's son was frugal. Never be prodigal but take fragments of food. Fragments from your home might bless another. For months those who might otherwise have gone hungry in a deaconess' home were fed from the fragments left from the tables of a Women's Christian Temperance Union coffee house. Take fragments of money. Lay aside for missions what you are tempted to spend on ornaments, luxuries or dainties. Put away the lilies and they will amount to much. A poor woman put three dollars into her pastor's hand as her contribution to the church fund. "But you are not able to give so much," he said. "Oh, yes," she replied. "I have learned how to give." "How is that?" "Do you remember that sermon three months ago, when you told us not one of your people was so poor but, if he loved Christ, he could find some way of ministering to him who was poor I am, or he never could have said that. I got to praying, and when I told Jesus all about it he seemed to say, 'If you cannot give as other people do, give like a little child.' When I had a penny over from my sugar or loaf of bread, I lay it aside for Jesus. Since I began to give to the Lord, I have had more money for myself, and it is wonderful how the work comes pouring in. Before, I could not pay my rent without borrowing, but it is no more. The Lord is so kind." Take fragments of time. There are few things we are apt to be so careless of as fragments of time, and few that yield so rich a return. It is said that Madame de Genlis composed several volumes while waiting for the tardy princess to whom she gave daily lessons. Take fragments of opportunity. "Redeeming the time" may be translated, "Buying up the opportunity" (Eph. 5: 16). Never miss an occasion for doing good or showing kindness. Nothing is so easily lost as opportunity. —A. C. M.

CHEAPER BEEF.

Better Cuts of Meat Cut in Price by Chicago Dealers.

Chicago, May 23.—A reduction of one half cent a pound was made in the price of the better grades of dressed beef yesterday, while cheaper grades remained the same.

Packers said that since the public has awakened to the fact that beef plates, chucks and rounds are as nutritious as beef loins and ribs even though their cost is much lower, the demand for the cheap cuts has doubled. Consequently, they say, they were compelled to reduce the cost of ribs and loins in order to equalize the demand for the inexpensive parts.

This latest reduction brought No. 1 ribs to 14 1/2 and No. 1 loins to 18 cents a pound, as compared with 17 1/2 and 22 cents in January.

TOO SWIFT FOR AGASSIZ.
(Youth's Companion.)

There are people still living, it is believed, who recall the marvelous energy of the great Professor Agassiz. He seemed to radiate energy, yet it is on record in "Life and Letters of Peter and Susan Lesley" that he once said to Mr. Lesley, speaking of America:

"It is a wonderful country, but I can't learn the American habit of doing up science running. I must walk."

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

The railways reported 94 car loads of live stock at the city market, consisting of 1,442 cattle, 1,573 hogs, 443 sheep and 743 calves.

The quality of fat cattle was fair to good, some lots of choice cattle being on sale.

Trade was slow, with several small lots left unsold at the close of the market.

Prices were reported barely steady at last Thursday's quotations for this market.

Exporters—There was one straight load of exporters bought by A. McIntosh at \$7.25 per cwt., and a few other export steers at \$6.75 and some bulls at \$5 to \$5.50 per cwt.

Butchers—Geo. Rowntree bought over 400 cattle for the Harris Abattoir Company—exporters at \$6.80 to \$7.25, butchers' steers and heifers at \$5.85 to \$6.80; bulls at \$5 to \$6.10; cows at \$5.75 to \$6.

Stockers and Feeders—Harry Murby reports having handled over 100 stockers and feeders thus far this week at following prices: 60 stockers, 500 to 700 pounds each, at \$4 to \$4.75; 50 feeders, 350 to 1,100 pounds each, at \$3.25 to \$3.75 per cwt.

Milkers and Springers—Good to choice milkers and springers were in demand at \$50 to \$65 each, but common, light cows were slow of sale at \$30 to \$40.

Veal Calves—Nearly 800 veal calves sold at steady prices, ranging from \$3 to \$7 per cwt., or an average price of about \$6 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, ewes, sold at \$5 to \$5.50; rams at \$4 to \$4.50; spring lambs, \$3 to \$6.50, with a few choice at \$7 each.

Hogs—Hog prices have again advanced. Selects, fed and watered, have reached the \$10 mark once more. Selects for h. cars at country points, were quoted by dealers at \$9.65 to \$9.75.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The grain market was very dull today, there being no receipts owing to unfavorable morning.

Hay is quoted unchanged at \$17 to \$20 a ton for timothy, and at \$12 to \$15 for clover and mixed. Straw nominal at \$13 to \$14 a ton for bundled.

Dressed hogs are firm, with quotations ruling at \$12.50 to \$13.

Wheat, white, new, \$1.00 1/2 to \$1.02
Do., red, new, 1.00 1/2 to 1.02
Do., goose, 1.00 1/2 to 1.02
Oats, bushel, 39 1/2 to 40
Peas, bushel, 40 to 41
Barley, bushel, 38 1/2 to 39
Rye, bushel, 35 to 36
Hay, timothy, ton, \$17 to \$20
Hay, mixed, ton, \$12 to \$15
Straw, per ton, \$13 to \$14
Dressed hogs, 12 1/2 to 13
Butter, dairy, 27 1/2 to 28
Do., inferior, 25 to 26
Eggs, dozen, 20 to 21
Chicken, spring, lb., 50 to 60
Turkeys, lb., 21 to 22
Fowl, lb., 15 to 16
Apples, bb., 1.00 to 1.20
Potatoes, bag, by lead, 40 to 45
Onions, sack, 2.50 to 2.75
Beef, hindquarters, 12 to 13
Do., forequarters, 8 to 10
Do., choice, carcass, 13 to 14
Do., medium, carcass, 8 to 9
Mutton, per cwt., 11 to 13
Veal, prime, per cwt., 11 to 12
Lamb, lb., 16 to 18

SUGAR MARKET.

Granulated, \$5.20 per cwt. in barrels; No. 1 golden, \$4.80 per cwt. in barrels; Beves, \$5.50 per cwt. in bags. Car lots 10c less. In 100-lb. bags, prices are 5c less.

OTHER MARKETS.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

London—London and Liverpool cables quoted live cattle, American, steady, at 14 to 15c, dressed weight; refrigerator beef steady, at 11 to 11 1/2c per pound.

WOOL.

Local quotations are: Washed fleece, 20 to 22c; unwashed fleece, 12 1/2 to 14c; rejects 16c. Prices to farmers paid by local dealers, 20c for washed, 12 to 13c for unwashed.

WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET.

Wheat—May 96 1/4c, July 95 1/2c.
Oats—May 21 1/2c, July 23 1/2c.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Montreal—About 700 head of butchers' cattle, 110 milch cows and springers, 1,000 calves, 175 sheep and lambs and 620 hogs were offered for sale at the east end abattoir today. The heavy rains seemed to have a depressing effect on trade; but prices remain without much change. There were no choice cattle on the market, a few of the best Northern westerns sold at about 75c per pound, and from that down to 65c per pound for

FAMOUS DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION.



PE-RUN FOR DYSPEPSIA CATARRH OF STOMACH

prime beefs. There were a number of large fat cows and milkmen's strippers, which sold at from 5c to a shade over 6c per pound; common stock brought from 4 to 5 1/2c per pound. The milch cows sold at from \$55 to \$65 each, the others sold at \$30 to \$50 each. Calves sold at from 3 1/2 to 4 1/2c per pound. Sheep sold at from 5 to 6c per pound; lambs at from \$4.50 to \$6.50 each. Good lots of fat hogs sold at 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c per pound.

CHEESE MARKETS.

Twed—There were 370 white cheese boarded; all sold at 10 1/2c.

Woodstock—To-day 539 white and 480 colored were boarded; sales at 10 1/2c.

Madoc—There were 735 boxes cheese boarded; 340 sold at 10 1/2c, 150 at 10 1/4c; balance unsold.

Stirling—On the cheese board to-day 790 boxes were boarded; all sold at 10-5c.

Campbellford—There were 840 boxes boarded; 775 sold at 10 7/16c; same price refused for the balance.

SPRING CROP REPORT

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has issued the following statement regarding agricultural conditions existing at the beginning of May:

Vegetation—The warm weather of March started vegetation unusually soon—from three to four weeks earlier than usual. The latter half of April, however, was very wet and cold, and further advance was much retarded, the result being that May opened with growth a week or two ahead of the average, and three weeks of a month in advance of last year. Forwards were in early leaf, and many orchards were in blossom, pastures were green and were furnishing a good bite for the many sheep and young cattle that had been turned out to feed.

Spring Sowing—Field operations have been the earliest for many years. Most of the plowing had been done in the fall, and owing to the mild weather but little frost remained in the ground after the snow went away early in March. Spring sowing is about a month earlier than last season, and a week or two ahead of the average year.

Fall Wheat—This crop entered into May well forward and presenting a good appearance on the whole, more especially where it had been sown in early May. Some late sown fields looked rather thin owing to the dry fall, and on low-lying places there were bare spots caused by ice forming during the winter. The injury from insect pests is less than usual, there being but scattering mention of Hessian fly, wire-worm, and white grub.

Winter Rye—The average of this crop is small, but where grown it is reported to be in good condition generally.

Clover—Like fall wheat, clover wintered well, and the spring was also favorable, there being practically no leaving from frost.

Fodder Supplies—A correspondent, describing the fodder situation, says: "The short and mild winter worked wonders, and others write to the same effect. The good corn crop of last year also helped farmers to save on hay and grain in feeding live stock. Straw has been scarce and dear, and the price of live stock is at a premium. Prices for horses are high and firm, attributed by some to the great demand from our western Provinces. Their general health has been good, except for a form of strangles. Cattle have been remarkably free from disease, but are rather thin in flesh owing to somewhat close feeding. Milk cows are fewer in number than usual, but in both dairy and beef-raising sections more calves are being kept. Fat cattle are very scarce, and stockers are harder to procure than in former years, while local butchers find it difficult to procure suitable animals. As a consequence a good deal of inferior beef has been disposed of at good prices. Sheep are doing well, lambs coming strong and plentiful in proportion to the number of dams. High prices for these also prevail. A correspondent very suggestively remarks that the rabies among dogs has been a boon to sheep. Swine are not so plentiful as in former years, as they have been rushed to market at prices characterized by one correspondent as "sky high." In fact, there are complaints of too hasty marketing.

Fruit Trees—With the exception of a severe ice or sleet storm in the latter part of November that broke off many branches, fruit trees have come through the winter in normal condition. The damage done was confined to a few sections in western Ontario.

"So you think the author of this play will live, do you?" queried the tourist in Fresno, Cal. "Yes," replied the manager of the Opera House. "He's got to live to see start an I don't think he'll be back here."

TWENTY MEN MEET DEATH

Dreadful Explosion at Plate Works at Canton, Ohio.

Seven Boilers Blew Up Causing Great Damage.

Canton, Ohio, May 23.—With a roar that was heard three miles away, a battery of seven boilers at the plant of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company exploded this afternoon killing from twenty to thirty men and injuring about fifty. Among the injured are a half-dozen who, it is said, will probably die before morning. Others, physicians say, cannot live. The list of known dead is:

George A. Lemley, catcher; — Rover, engineer; Charles Dewitt, engineer; Walter Ringerberger, heater; George Hole, heater; Charles Brown, heater; J. Henry, catcher, North Industry; Jack Whiting, Peter Woolgoff, A. S. Waeleer, E. Dunlop, Charles Richards and two unidentified men.

The cause of the explosion is at present unknown. The fireman and engineer, who were in the boiler room, are dead. No one else who survived the accident can give an explanation. One workman says that he heard three distinct explosions in quick succession. They came so close, however, that it was all over in a minute. The force of the concussion was terrific. The big plant is in such a state of ruin as to be practically a total loss. A mere eggshell of the building is left.

Identification of the dead is difficult, because many of them were so mutilated that even their most intimate friends could not recognize their features. Heads were blown from several of the bodies. Arms and legs were torn from the trunks. Fragments of the bodies were blown several squares from the scene, and bits of human flesh have been picked up in porches and on roofs of houses and in trees.

There were one hundred men at work in the plant at the time of the accident, and only a dozen or so escaped some injury. These and others who rushed to the front as soon as the disaster was known worked heroically to rescue the injured from the ruins. The ruins soon took fire, but the fire department extinguished the flames.

The superintendent of the plant to-night put foremen and other trusted men to work trying to make a list of the dead, injured and missing. The task proved difficult, because the injured had been rushed to the three hospitals of the city, and there was nothing by which to identify them. Members of the bereaved families rushed frantically to the plant and near the ruined shops in an effort to find a trace of their loved ones. It was thought at 8 o'clock to-night that all the dead had been removed from the debris. It was then stated that as far as known the dead numbered twenty, but this does not include any who had died at their own homes after removal from the ruins.

The body of one man was blown through a house over 700 feet from the plant. The body entered the house from the east side and continued in a straight line through a bedroom and out the other side of the house on Louis avenue. The bodies of seven men met fatal beyond recognition were found in the north end of the mill.

The plant had five mills. All the employees working at mills, numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 were either killed or injured, while the men in mill number 5, farther from the boilers, escaped serious injury.

AN ORGAN FOR 25 CENTS A WEEK

We have on hand fifty-five organs, taken in exchange on Belmont & Co. pianos, which we must sell regardless of loss, to make room in our store. Every instrument has been thoroughly overhauled, and is guaranteed for five years, and full amount will be allowed on exchange. The price is from \$10 to \$35, for such well-known makes as Thomsen, Dominioni, Karn, Curbidge, Goddard and Bell. This is your chance to save money. A post card will bring full particulars. Belmont & Co., 71 King Street East, Hamilton.

TROOPS AT SOO.

Government Suing the Town on an Old Bill For Troops.

Sault Ste. Marie Dispatch—The Spring Assizes held by Sir Genholme Falconbridge practically closed today with the case of the Government vs. Sault Ste. Marie. This case an echo of the riots here in 1903. The Government is suing the town for \$7,000, expenses of transportation and pay of 364 Toronto troops sent to quell the riots when the Clergue industries collapsed. At that time the civil authorities were not able to cope with the trouble and asked for assistance. The town claims that the troops from Toronto were not required to quell the riots, and had not been legally summoned here. The Government contention is that when a municipality asks for troops it is left entirely to the discretion of the military authorities as to the number of men required. The town claims that it only asked for men from the 97th Regiment, for which it has paid. Chief Justice Falconbridge reserved decision.