



LESSON III.—January 17, 1916. The Call of Gideon—Judges 6: 11-16.

COMMENTARY.—I. Gideon's call (vs. 11-16). 11. An angel of the Lord—It is quite evident that this was he who appeared later as the Messiah.

12. Appeared unto him—The call came to Gideon while he was at his work, which was humble but he was doing the best he could under the circumstances.

13. If the Lord be with me, why, etc.—This was a most natural question to occur to Gideon under the circumstances. The Lord told Gideon that he was with him, not that he was with the people of Israel as a whole.

14. Go in this night—Nothing of the past or of the present should be a hindrance to the fulfillment of God's purpose to deliver Israel.

15. Surely I will be with thee—Such a promise as this was most reassuring. A similar promise was given to Moses (Exod. 3: 12) and to Joshua (Josh. 1: 5) and to the apostles (Matt. 28: 20).

16. The Lord said—Gideon believed God, and yet his heart craved still greater assurance. He would test the matter further.

17. What enemies were troubling Israel? Describe the condition of the Israelites at this time. Who came to Gideon with a message? Who was Gideon and what was he doing?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic.—Deliverance for Israel. I. From the worship of Baal. II. From the yoke of Midian.

I. From the worship of Baal. This lesson reveals an extraordinary change in the whole aspect of things in Israel. The chapter opens with a vivid description of the ravages of the Midianites, and the pitiable distress to which Israel was reduced.

II. From the yoke of Midian. The work to which Gideon was called was no common task. His response to the call ripened his task into power, resolve and fruitfulness.

III. Baal's altar destroyed (vs. 25-27). That very night the Lord told Gideon to pull down the altar of Baal and destroy the grove by it.

IV. Gideon assured (vs. 33-40). 33. Amalekites—A wandering race which was then a band of robbers, occupying parts of Canaan.

JAP CABINET CHANGES. Tokio, Cable.—Count Okuma, the Premier, who also held the portfolio of Minister of the Interior, has relinquished the Home Portfolio, it is announced.

LEADING EVENTS OF YEAR JUST CLOSED

JANUARY.

Jan. 1—Knighthood was conferred upon F. C. S. Langelier, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec.

Jan. 5—Local option carried in sixteen Ontario municipalities.

Jan. 12—A "free wheat" resolution was adopted unanimously by the Manitoba Legislature.

Jan. 15—The Dominion Parliament opened.

Jan. 16—Senator George A. Cox died at Toronto.

Jan. 20—A Montreal newspaper launched charges of graft against three members of the Quebec Legislature.

Jan. 21—Lord Strathcona died at London.

Jan. 27—The South African Government deported ten labor leaders.

Jan. 28—Hon. L. P. Pelletier announced the rates for the parcel post system.

Jan. 29—The three members of the Quebec Legislature accused of bribery, resigned.

Jan. 30—The steamer Monroe was rammed and sunk off the coast of Virginia with a loss of 39 lives.

FEBRUARY.

Feb. 1—The German bark Hera was wrecked off Falmouth, England, with a loss of nineteen lives.

Feb. 7—T. H. Johnson, a Liberal member of the Manitoba Legislature charged that a huge sum was improperly spent in the Gimli by-elections.

Feb. 9—The Redistribution Bill was introduced in the House of Commons.

Feb. 10—The parcel post system was inaugurated in Canada.

Feb. 11—The Asquith Government was sustained by a majority of 78 on the first division on the Home Rule Bill.

Feb. 12—Messrs. Bernard, Bergevin and Mousseau, the three members of the Quebec Legislature accused of taking bribe money were pronounced guilty by the investigating committee.

Feb. 16—A Unionist tariff reform amendment advocating Imperial preference was defeated in the British House of Commons.

Feb. 22—Joseph Eels, philanthropist and single tax advocate, died in Philadelphia.

Feb. 23—Sir Edward Grey announced in the British House of Commons that Great Britain would not interfere in Mexican affairs.

Feb. 25—A sensation was caused in the Ontario Legislature by the reading of a letter showing that Mr. Gustave Evanturel had attempted to become the paid agent of the liquor interests.

Feb. 26—Dr. Douglas Mawson's Antarctic expedition returned to Adelaide, Australia.

MARCH.

March 1—Lord Minto died at Hawick, Scotland.

March 3—Hon. F. D. Monck resigned his seat in the House of Commons.

March 5—The Home Rule bill was read a first time in the British House of Commons.

March 7—Sir George W. Ross died at Toronto.

March 9—Premier Asquith announced his "six year exclusion" concession to Ulster.

March 10—Gaston Calmette, editor of Figaro, was shot and killed by Mme. Caillaux.

March 18—Hon. Wm. Paterson, former Minister of Customs, died at Picton.

March 19—Hon. Hewitt Bostock was chosen as Liberal leader of the senate.

March 20—British troops were sent from Dublin to Ulster.

March 21—Seventy army officers serving in Ireland resigned.

March 23—Premier Asquith and Col. Seely explained to the House of Commons the misunderstanding which led to the resignations of army officers in Ireland, most of whom returned to their regiments.

March 27—Field Marshal Sir John French and Gen. Sir John S. Ewart resigned from the Army Council.

March 27—A new army order was issued by the British Cabinet requiring obedience from all ranks.

March 30—Premier Asquith announced his intention of assuming the duties of Secretary of State for War, and resigned his seat to face re-election.

APRIL.

April 2—More than 150 men of the Newfoundland sealing fleet perished in a blizzard.

April 6—The Home Rule bill passed its second reading with a majority of eighty.

April 17—An attempt was made to kill Mayor Mitchell, of New York.

April 22—American marines landed at Vera Cruz, four of them being killed in the fighting.

April 25—Huge quantities of rifles and cartridges were landed and distributed in Ulster in spite of the Government's prohibition.

April 25—The United States and Mexico accepted the offer of mediation by Argentina, Brazil and Chile.

April 26—The steamer Benjamin Noble was wrecked in Lake Superior with a loss of nineteen lives.

April 28—Huerta promised to cease hostilities against the United States pending the outcome of peace negotiations.

MAY.

May 2—The Duke of Argyll died at Cowes, Isle of Wight.

May 6—The House of Lords threw out the Woman Suffrage Bill.

May 7—The announcement was made that Prince Alexander of Teck would succeed the Duke of Connaught as Governor-General.

May 10—Mme. Lillian Nordica, the singer, died at Batavia, Java.

May 19—The Welsh Disestablishment Bill passed its third reading in the British House of Commons.

May 20—The Peace Conference opened at Niagara Falls.

May 25—The Home Rule Bill passed its third reading in the British House of Commons.

May 29—The Empress of Ireland was rammed and sunk near Father Point, with a loss of over 1,000 lives.

JUNE.

June 3—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church met at Woodstock.

June 10—The Redistribution Bill was introduced in the House of Commons.

June 12—The Dominion Parliament was prorogued.

June 16—The Empress of Ireland enquiry was begun.

June 19—Nearly 200 miners were killed by an explosion at Hillcrest, Alberta.

June 21—Premier R. L. Horden and Messrs. Boucher, Bock, Aitkins and Dr. Roddick were knighted.

June 22—Hon. S. H. Blake died at Toronto.

June 23—The Home Rule amending bill was introduced in the House of Lords.

June 25—Salem, Mass., was almost wiped out by fire.

June 28—Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, Bosnia.

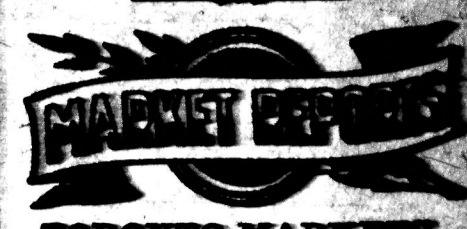
June 29—The Conservative party was returned to office in Ontario.

June 30—The Mexican Peace Conference at Niagara Falls ended.

JULY.

July 3—Joseph Chamberlain died at London.

July 6—The Court of Appeal decided that the mounds on the Komagata maru could not enter Canada.



TORONTO MARKETS.

Table with columns for FARMERS' MARKET and WHOLESALE MEATS, listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for SUGAR MARKET and LIVE STOCK, listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET and DULUTH GRAIN MARKET, listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for CHICAGO LIVE STOCK and BUFFALO LIVE STOCK, listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for MONTREAL MARKETS and LIVERPOOL PRODUCE, listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for ALLIES' TURN FIRST, listing various goods and their prices.

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Why should you buy from us? So far nobody has made war except Germany—so far the others have merely opposed encroachments. The allies will in their turn make war for a while before peace can be discussed.