

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON IX.
THE PARABLES BY THE SEA.
Matthew 13; 41-54; Luke 8:1-18.

PRINTED TEXT

Mark 4:26-32; Matt. 13:44-50.
GOLDEN TEACHES—Never man
so said it. John 7:46.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—Autumn, A.D. 23.
Place.—At the Sea of Galilee.

Growth of Spirit

"Behold, I say unto you, that men should cast their nets upon the earth, 27, and should sleep and rise night and day, and the net should spring up and grow, he knoweth not 41, and 28, how many hundred fruit of harvest, from the field; then the ear, then the full grain in the ear, 29. But when the fruit is ripe, straightway he putteth forth the sickle, because the harvest is ripe." Finis. The parable tells us that there is a mystery to the growth of that which is sown. How true this is! With all of our knowledge of botany there is one thing that man does not know, and that is how a plant really grows. Secondly, there is an emphasis placed on the spiritual growth of man and the seeds of the spirit are sown and the fruits are in all normal, spiritual life.

There is an end of growing; a maturity ordained of God. The harvest of God is of God.

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We can co-operate with God, and use all those means which He has ordained to bring about that normal growth in our spiritual lives, which is according to His will.

Grains of Mustard Seed

"And he said, 'What man shall we like in the kingdom of God? or in what parable shall we set it forth?' 31. It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown upon the earth, though it be less than all the other seeds that are upon the earth, 32. Yet when it is sown, groweth up, and becometh greater than all the herbs, and putteth forth great branches; so that the birds of the heaven may lodge under the shadow thereof!" This parable may be interpreted as illustrating the phenomenal growth of the Christian church. The growth of mustard seed is the smallest of all seeds, an abnormal growth, shooting out great branches and becoming, as Job said, "a great tree." It is true that Christ did not grow out, it should be noticed that Job speaks of fowls lodging in the branches of this large tree. Fowls everywhere in Scripture have an unclean significance. They pollute a tree. They do no good to the tree itself. This is exactly what happened in the so-called "conquests" of the Roman Empire by Christ. It became so powerful that the people instead of opposing it, took shelter under it, and, therefore, brought pollution into the Church, worldliness and the things that pertain to secular government. It was the spirit of the earth finding shelter in Christianity, and giving it its spiritual approval and countenance, they did not cleave themselves to the high level of virtue and sanctified people, but they brought the Church down, toward their level of carnality and self-sacrifice.

Pearl of Great Price

"44. 'The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in the field; which a man found, and hid; and his joy he goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.' One who really understands the Gospel message will be ready to make any possible sacrifice that he himself may become an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven. He finds in the Gospel of Christ the thing which satisfies his soul."

"45. 'Again the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is a merchant, who went to a far country, and left his goods to a servant; and sent him a half hour to stand on the National Network for the Victory Loan; on Wednesday at 9:30, his regular work, to get "Patriotism and Love," and on Friday and Saturday nights at 11:15, broadcast from CKOC in Hamilton. He finds in the Gospel of Christ the thing which satisfies his soul."

"46. 'And having found one of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.'

We truly believe that the pearl of great price is the Church of Christ, and that it is found in the midst of human wreckage, gathered out of it, exalted, and made the medium through which the infinite truth of God's grace and wisdom shall be shown."

"47. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind; 48, which, when it was filled, they drew up on the beach; and they sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but the bad they cast away. 49. So shall it be in the end of the world: The angels will come forth, and sever the wicked from among the righteous, 50, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth.' This parable, addressed to the disciples, was mainly intended to exhort them to the conduct required of those who would be His followers; and impresses the necessity of moral purity as the indispensable characteristics of the true children of the Kingdom."



Edna Winstanley, volunteer worker in a British small arms factory, examines a rifle barrel.

An Interpretation Of Conscription

It is to be hoped that the following confused bit of conversation is not an example of the jargon of conscription in Canada at the present time. This conversation wellled forth a few days ago from a lady who complained that her brother was wounded in the last war.

"It was conservation that caused it," she said. "My brother was wounded in November of 1917. He sent me up into the woods to help conservation and a hunter mistook him for a deer."

Something to Remember

If every driver would use his average speed by 10 miles per hour, we could save about 6,300 extra miles out of his tires, according to a major rubber company!

Looking back over this chapter we are struck with the amazing hopefulness and confidence of Jesus. He is looking to the ultimate future, and trying to impress men that what they do now will determine how they will be judged when the day of judgment shall arrive.

RADIO REPORTER



MART KENNEY

This is Mart Kenney, Canada's outstanding modern maestro, who is really "on the air" these days in the musical world. On Monday night at 10 o'clock, he broadcasts a half hour show on the National Network for the Victory Loan; on Wednesday evenings, he broadcasts a half hour show on the National

Network for the Victory Loan;

on Thursday evenings, he broadcasts a half hour show on the National

Network for the Victory Loan;

and on Friday and Saturday evenings at 11:15, broadcast from CKOC in Hamilton. He finds in the Gospel of Christ the thing which satisfies his soul."

"150 Listening Tips:

The "Good News" program, saluting the weeklies of the Province, is now broadcast at 9:30 P.M. on Friday nights from CKOC. Thursdays at 9:30 p.m., listeners will continue to hear broadcasts originating from the Army Training School at Hamilton; show picks up a part of the entertainment from CKOC for the troops!

Two CKOC broadcasts each week, on Friday evenings and Saturday evenings at 8:15 p.m., feature Sam Smith, during their 8:15 p.m. "Toast & Marmalade" program.

The highlight of the week: from the "Swing World," That Did It Marie' by Benny Goodman!

POP So Close to Not Living



WE LIVE IN
QUEER TIMES!

YES-

KEEN BRITISH WAR WORKER

Men of Prairies Say Ottawa Treated Them Very Kindly

"How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm, now that they've seen Paree?" may well apply to the more than 400 wheat farmers from the plains of Saskatchewan who have been for a three-day sojourn in the Capital.

The business of presenting a petition to the Government urging an increase in the initial wheat payment concluded at the Union station, glowing with pride for the way they had been treated and fully convinced the delegation had established a spirit of fellowship and better understanding between the people of the east and west and that the ties of federation which some people believed to be in danger had been strengthened to a point that will materialize the furthering of our common effort.

On a considerable extent the government will meet the demands of the "on-to-Ottawa" delegation of Westerners, in view of the concessions made, will likely be linked up with a proviso that the wheat growers restrict their acreage in 1918-19 to 1917 levels.

With the dollar which may not be granted, it is probable the government will agree to pay at least 90 cents per bushel, an increase of 20 cents per bushel, as an initial payment on the new crop. But this would be an arrangement that growers re-orient their deliveries of wheat to about 225,000,000 bushels.

An alternative suggestion is if the dollar which is granted as an initial payment the deliveries be kept down to 250,000,000 bushels.

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FOOD FISH

DIALING WITH DAVE.

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Dragon Seed is a tale of war, of four long years of war in China. It is a story of the sympathy and authority of the Ling Tungs of a great peace-loving country, remaining on the lands of their fathers, suffering, resist-

ing and refusing to be eaten.

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