

# INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER BIBLE STUDY CLUB

THE GAZETTE'S BRANCH.

## Prizes for Answers.

The Gazette has secured the right to publish the International Sunday School Lesson questions by the Rev. Dr. Linscott, which have aroused so much interest elsewhere, and they will appear weekly. One of these questions each week is to be answered in writing, and upon these answers prizes will be awarded. This paper is also authorized to form a Local Newspaper Bible Study Club for its readers, and guarantees to all who join and fulfil the conditions, that everything herein promised shall be faithfully carried out.

Persons may join the club at any time during the year, but must, of course, answer the 52 questions hereinafter explained, to qualify for the prizes. It is, however, desirable that the questions be answered as the lessons are studied.

The International Newspaper Bible Study Club, which had its origin last year at Brantford, Ont., is for the purpose of promoting, in an unfettered way among the masses, a wider study of the Bible, the basic truths of Christianity, and the problems which enter into every man's life. It is composed of all those who join a local club and take up the simple course outlined herein, barring only ordained clergymen. We have the sympathetic co-operation of the latter, but it is not considered fair to have them compete for the prizes. Sunday School teachers, Bible class scholars, and churchgoers generally may belong to this newspaper club, also non-churchgoers of all shades of opinion. All such are warmly invited to join and compete for the prizes.

### CONDITIONS OF THE CONTEST.

1. Each contestant, or his or her family, must be a paid-up subscriber to this paper during the continuance of the contest in order to qualify for membership in the International Newspaper Bible Study Club and this Local Club.

2. Each contestant in this Local Club must answer each of the written questions for 52 consecutive weeks, commencing for Sunday, July 23th, and the answers must all be in the possession of this paper within two weeks after the close of the contest.

3. Each question must be answered separately, and the paper written on one side only. No answer must exceed 200 words, and may be less. If possible, write on letter paper, size about 8 1/2 by 11 inches.

4. Each answer must have the name and address of the writer at the bottom of the answer, so it can be identified, given a number, registered, and then the name of the examiner may know it by number only.

5. Students should be careful to understand the question before answering. To do this the lesson text must be read, and especially the verse or verses upon which the question is based.

6. The answers for this local club must be delivered at this office, and they will be collated at the close of the contest and forwarded to head quarters for independent examination by competent examiners. The prizes will then be awarded according to the highest number of marks won by members of the International Newspaper Bible Study Club, and prizes which may be awarded to members of this Local Club will be given out from this office.

### THE PRIZES.

First Series.—A gold medal to each of the first five contestants.

Second Series.—A silver medal to each of the next five contestants.

Third Series.—A teacher's Bible, price \$5.50, to each of the next five contestants.

Fourth Series.—The book, "The Heart of Christianity," price \$1.50, to each of the next thirty-five contestants.

Fifth Series.—A developed mind, an expanded imagination, a richer experience and a more profound knowledge of the Bible and of life, to all who take this course, whether winning any other prize or not.

Each medal will be suitably engraved, giving the name of the winner and for what it is awarded, and in like manner each bible and book will be inscribed.

All who can write, and have ideas, are urged to take up these studies regardless of the degree of their education, as the papers are not valued from an educational or literary standpoint, but from the point of view of the cogency of their reasoned ideas.

Rev. Dr. Linscott's Suggestive Questions on the Sunday School Lesson for Dec. 20th, 1908.

Solomon's Downfall—1 Kings xi: 4-13. Golden Text.—Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.—Ex. xx: 3.

Verses 4-5.—Should a Christian man ever marry a worldly woman?

If a Christian marries a worldly woman and really loves and respects her, delighting in her company, is it possible for him to be a holy man.

AS A MATTER OF FACT, IS IT POSSIBLE FOR TWO TO BE UNITED INTO ONE, AS MARRIAGE CONTEMPLATES, IF THEY ARE NOT ONE IN GOD?

(This question must be answered in writing by members of the club.)

Suppose Solomon had selected a worldly woman for his wives, what would have been the result upon his religious life?

Did Solomon sin in marrying more than one wife?

In what sense did David's heart re-

main true to God, seeing that he, too, had a number of wives?

If a strong man can keep from undue love of women, to what extent is that a guarantee of the favor of God, with health, long life and prosperity thrown in?

Why is one man for one wife, God's ideal for the marriage relation?

Verses 6-8.—Apart from his polygamy, in what other respects did Solomon so signally sin against God?

Why is it that a man's loyalty to the true God, is such a factor in his happiness and to the continuity of his worldly success?

Hundreds of strong, brainy men are serving long terms in penitentiaries; what proportion of them would be there if they had been true to the Christian's God.

The chief sin with which Solomon is charged here is not so much his polygamy, as that he allowed his heathen wives to turn his heart from the true God; now is it true, that disloyalty to God is the very worst of moral crimes, as it the foundation of every crime?

Is polygamy a social crime because the Bible says so, or does the Bible say so because it is so; that is, is it a crime in the nature of things?

A devout Mohammedan is necessarily a polygamist; now would you say that all such are under the ban of God?

Verses 9-10.—Can anything happen to disturb the natural complacency of the eternal God?

What is that operation in God, or in the law of God, which answers to anger in man?

How do you account for Solomon's apostasy, in view of God's marvellous appearances to him, and of God's wondrous dealings with him, giving him wisdom and riches and vast influence?

Verses 11-13.—On what conditions did God promise Solomon and his sons prosperity, and the establishment of his throne forever?

In how many respects did Solomon break his part in the covenant?

What is the only condition of every man's continuous prosperity?

Lesson for Sunday, December 27, 1908.—Review.

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