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**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

INTERNATIONAL LESSON,  
 MAY 28.

Lesson IX.—Micah's picture of  
 universal peace, Mic. 4. 1-8.  
 Golden Text, Mic. 4. 3.

Verses 1-4. The future of Zion as the religious metropolis of the world. The passage has an almost exact parallel in Isa. 2. 2-4. The best opinion seems to be that both Isaiah and Micah must have taken the prophecy from some older source, the provision of a time of universal peace being a popular idea, of which this passage is the finest expression.

1. The latter days—A vague expression, denoting a rather remote future.

The mountain of Jehovah's house—The mount upon which is situated the Temple of the Lord. It is to be the seat of dominion of the Messiah. Its exaltation above other mountains and hills means its spiritual and temporal supremacy. Politically and religiously, Zion is to tower above all the governments of the earth. No topographical elevation is meant.

2. Many nations shall go—The heathen nations are to flow (1) toward Zion in a steady stream, in order to be taught by the prophets like Micah and Isaiah, the ways and paths of the God of Jacob; that is, the revealed laws and maxims of the kingdom of God, whose religion has now come to be recognized as universal. All this is to come about, not by force of arms, but as a great moral conquest. The nations therefore retain their political independence.

3. He will judge—Jehovah is to be the final arbiter, to whom are submitted all disputes for his just and impartial judgment, and his decisions are to be accepted as irrevocable. The result will be the cessation of war among the nations, a blessing of the Messianic era which is often dwelt upon by the prophets. The transformation of swords and spears into agricultural implements shows how real this period of universal peace is to be. The people of the country, whose spokesmen Micah is for the time being, are to pursue their accustomed labors unmolested. When the true religion fills their hearts, they will not think it necessary to preserve peace by the construction of costly battle-ships and menacing fortifications. The arsenals and navy-yards will be silent, and the mechanics will have gone back to the cultivation of the soil.

4. Every man under his vine—A picture of rural felicity. Wars and rumors of wars do not break in to disturb this satisfying quiet.

5. All the peoples walk—That is, at the present time, in contrast to the future just depicted. But, however other men walk, let the people of Jehovah continue in his name for ever and ever.

6-8. The day of peace is far off. Meanwhile there await afflictions for Zion, and exile. But God will restore them, and out of the righteous remnant make a mighty kingdom.

6. I will gather that which is driven away—By the Assyrians the people of God are to be taken away in captivity. And yet, lame and afflicted as they shall be, there will be a remnant (7) of so much worth because of their fidelity to Jehovah, that he will be able out of them to make a strong nation. The tree will be cut down, but life will still exist in the vital stump.

8. Tower of the flock—Jerusalem. The glory of these prophets is, that their faith is superior to earthly afflictions of the most stupendous kind. Purified of her sins by manifold trials, Zion is to arise greater than ever, with all the former glory of the days of David and Solomon. This is the single limitation of the prophecy by which it comes short of the most modern hope of universal peace. We cherish no thought

of Zion as the center of Jehovah's sovereignty, except as "Zion" is to us a metaphorical way of speaking of that very sovereignty of Jehovah; and this spiritual sense the Old Testament prophet did not, of course, entertain. He thought of Zion as the literal center of the reign of Jehovah in the new era.

**MOUNDS MARK BOUNDARIES**

**HOW COUNTRIES MARK AND GUARD THEIR FRONTIERS.**

**Canada and United States Boundary is Delimited By Posts and Stone Cairns.**

Happy is the country which possesses natural boundaries. We are better off in this respect than almost any other nation, for the whole of our 2,755 miles of frontier is guarded by the sea. Next comes Italy with 2,472 miles of coast-line, and the Alps like a wall across her northern boundary, says Pearson's Weekly.

Contrast these cases with those of Germany and Austria. The latter country has a frontier line of about 3,800 miles, of which 2,996 is land, every mile of which must be guarded against the encroachments of her neighbors. Germany is almost equally badly off, for her sea coast line is only 744 miles, while 2,255 miles of land frontier border upon Russia, Austria, Switzerland, France, Holland, and Belgium, and far the larger portion of this great distance is not protected by mountains, rivers, or any other natural boundary.

The Germans guard their frontiers with unceasing vigilance, especially that which faces France along the southern border of Elsass-Lothringen, and France is by no means behind in her precautions.

As soon as the war of 1871 was over France began to build a huge chain of fortresses all the way from Belfort to Longwy. The steep Vosges mountains guard a portion of this frontier, but the rest is flat country, and the boundary line runs through

**FORESTS AND FIELDS.**

Where the line runs through woods a broad belt has been cleared, and is kept free of all undergrowth. Along the centre, at distances of about a quarter of a mile, are erected stone posts very like our ordinary mile stones. Whenever a road runs along the frontier it is marked by tall wooden posts painted on one side with the French and upon the other with the German colors. Custom houses stand not only on the railways, but upon all the main lines of traffic, and are well guarded by police and troops.

Rows are of constant occurrence. Quite recently an Alsatian, who as a boy of eighteen had fought in the war of 1870, and had subsequently settled on the French side of the border, was drinking at an inn on the German side when a German frontier guard saw him and chased him.

The Alsatian, although nearly sixty years old, won the race, but when he got about a hundred yards across the line the German fired at him twice. Out swarmed the French guards, and if an officer had not luckily been at hand a fight would have been the result.

**A FRENCHMAN SHOT.**

Some years ago a tragic incident occurred not far from Belfort. A French officer hunting a deer, in the excitement of the chase, galloped across the frontier. A German challenged, and, as the Frenchman did not stop, fired, and killed him on the spot. The French Government sent a pretty sharp note to Berlin, and we believe that compensation was paid by the German Government.

The Russo-German frontier is marked in a similar fashion, and here troubles are of frequent occurrence, for the hungry, ill-paid Cossacks are constantly raiding over the border in search of poultry and pigs.

The oldest frontier line in Europe is that which marks the boundary between Hanover and Holland, where it crosses the line. A row of pontoons lies all across the river, chained bow and stern, the eastern halves of the boats are painted in German colors, and the western in Dutch. The result is, to say the least of it, striking.

While the boundary between the United States and Canada follows for many hundreds of miles the River St. Lawrence and the great lakes, there is a vast distance of prairie land beyond with no natural demarcation. This is artificially delimited by

**PILLARS OF IRON AND WOOD**

placed a mile apart. These are supplied alternately by the Canadian and United States Governments, and run from Lake of the Woods to the Red River Valley. Beyond, mounds of earth and cairns of stone are used as marks.

The pillars are hollow castings, eight feet high, eight inches square at the base, four at the top. Inside are well seasoned cedar posts. Each pillar is inscribed in raised letters on the north, "Convention of London," on the south, "Oct. 20th, 1818." The stone cairns are seven feet high, eight feet at the base, and shaped like a pyramid. Earth is used where stone is not available.

The most famous of all boundary marks in song and story is the "Pillar of Farewell," which marks the line between Russia and Siberia. It stands between Ekaterinburg in Russia and Tiumen in Siberia, and is on the main road along which tens of thousands of exiles have passed. It is an obelisk of brick about sixteen feet in height. On the west side it bears in Russian characters the word "Europe," and on the other "Asia."

**INDIGESTION RIGHTLY CURED STAYS CURED**

Not by Treating the Symptoms  
 but by Toning up the Stomach  
 to do Nature's Work

Indigestion should not be neglected, for by depriving the body of its proper nourishment it grows steadily worse. Neither stimulating medicines, which ruin the already weak stomach by making it work beyond its strength, should be used, nor predigested foods, which do not excite a flow of the digestive fluids, and by disuse cause the stomach to grow weaker. Nowhere is the tonic treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills more clearly useful. Its principle is to enable the stomach to do its own work by building up the blood and giving tone to the nerves. When these are once more restored to their normal health indigestion disappears and the cure is permanent. In proof of these statements we give the experience of Mrs. Paul Gannon, Star City, Sask., who says: "For more than a year I suffered with all the terrible pains of indigestion, and my life was one of the greatest misery. It did not seem to make any difference whether I ate or not, the pains were always there, often accompanied by a severe bloating and a belching of wind. I did not even get relief at night, and sometimes hardly got a bit of sleep in my misery. I tried many remedies said to cure indigestion, but they did me not one particle of good and I fully expected that I would always be afflicted in this way. At this time my brother came home on a visit and he urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and got six boxes for me. By the time I had taken four boxes I began to improve and could eat with some relish. I was greatly cheered, and continued taking the Pills until all traces of the trouble had disappeared and I could once more eat all kinds of food without the smallest inconvenience. We have since used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in our family for other troubles. I am so firmly convinced of their virtue as a family medicine that I have no hesitation in recommending them to all weak, ailing people."

Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

**OLD CENSUS TAKING.**

There is a record of a census in China as far back as the year 2042 B.C., and of one in Japan in the last century before Christ. Under the constitution of Solon, the citizens of Athens were divided and registered in four classes, according to the amount of their taxable property.

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**LYE**

**CONCRETE ON THE FARM.**

Its Uses Have Been Largely Extended by a Series of Experiments

It is only a few years since concrete was generally accepted as a reliable building material, yet the difference which this convenient and economical form of construction has made in the outlook of the farmer in these few years, has done much to revolutionize things on the farm.

The growing scarcity of lumber and its consequent rise in price, has gradually caused that commodity to assume the general aspect of a luxury. So much lumber is used on the farm for buildings and fences that its extremely high price has made it almost prohibitive to the average farmer unless he has an extra large sum of money to spend on outlay. Wire fencing partially solved the problem, but real relief did not come until concrete was proven by actual tests to be not only practicable, but to possess many advantages over wood as a building material.

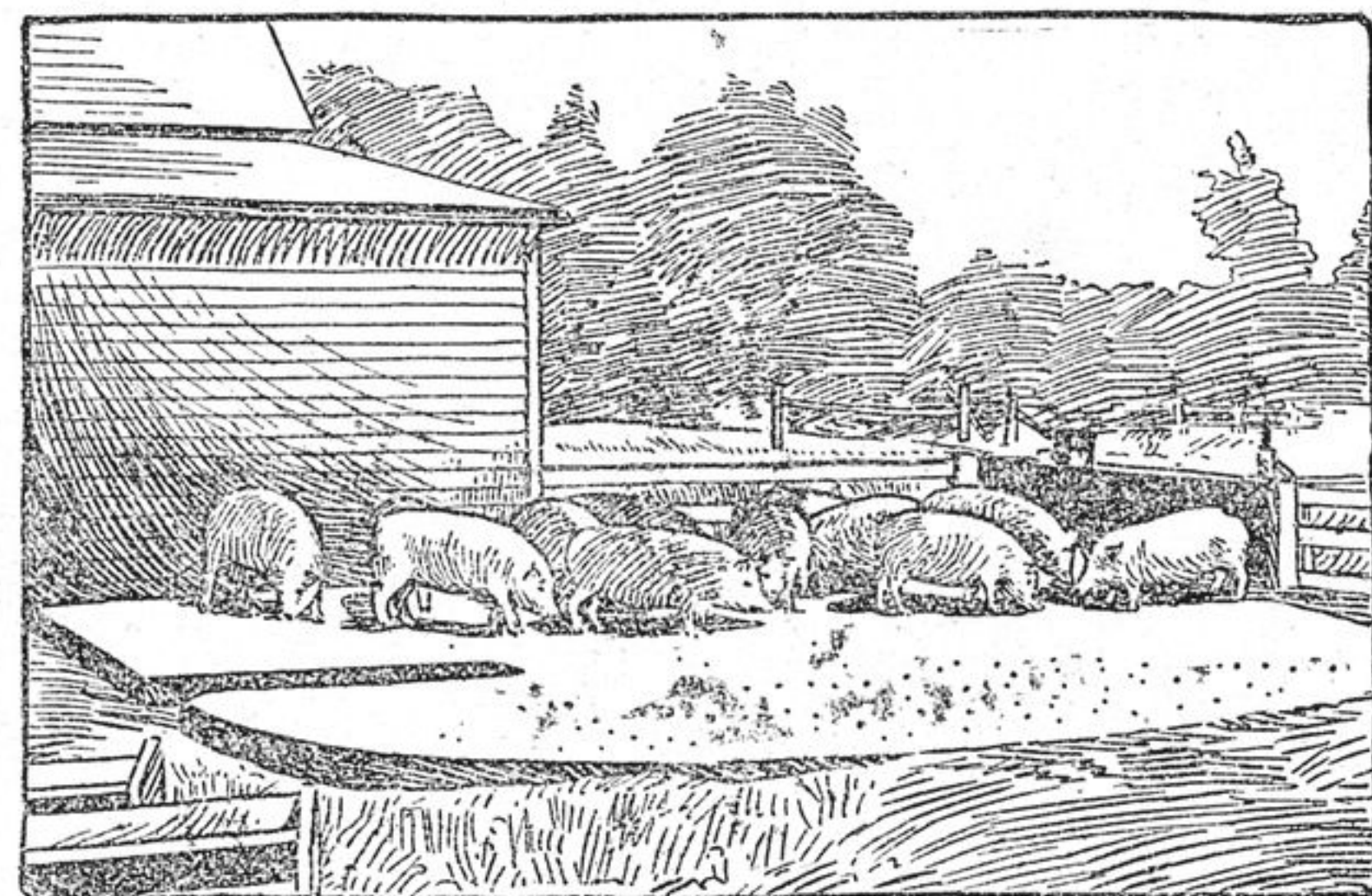
The uses to which concrete can be put are practically without limit, more particularly on the farm. Al-

by a medical health officer, with the result that it is traced back to its cause and this cause removed.

The farmer must be his own medical health officer. He must look to the causes to be found on his own farm. A great deal is now being done along these lines, and in many places, particularly in the West, it has been found that a number of the causes of sickness can be avoided by the use of concrete.

A common sense view of the situation shows that this simply-handled material is peculiarly well adapted to measures of sanitation and in preventing germs from spreading.

Possibly the place visited more often than any other by the farmer is his well. If it is so situated that unhealthful ground streams can leak into the drinking water, there is every possibility of this unhealthfulness being communicated to the farmer and his family by the most direct route. Concrete has done much to remedy this. If a well is built of concrete—a solid cylinder set into the ground—it is impossible for such leakage to occur. In the same way a concrete dairy provides but slim accommodation for disease



**HOGS EATING FROM A CONCRETE FEEDING FLOOR.**

ready the list includes forms of construction ranging from the large hip-roofed barn down to a nest-egg that deceives the wisest old lawyer in the brood. These uses have been extended largely, by a series of extensive experiments.

Already much has been accomplished on the farm by the use of concrete. Perhaps the greatest argument in its favor, and one which has developed only since concrete has actually been put into general use, is its health-promoting properties.

If sickness occurs in a city to any great extent, a searching investigation usually follows, conducted

**TE FEEDING FLOOR.**

germs. These two simple precautions are a long stride in the direction of good health, as water and milk, the latter even more than the former, are the commonest of the germ-distributing agencies and both are used frequently by the farmer and his family.

Not only has the modern farmer studied out a method of guarding against sickness from sources which, might, in the case of water and milk, be termed, internal. He has gone a step further and has decided that the barnyard must also be subjected to some changes if doctors' pills and doctors' bills are to be dodged.

**NEGROES' PROGRESS.**

Remarkable Change in Their Condition Since They Were Freed.

Forty-eight years ago President Lincoln signed a document which liberated 3,500,000 black slaves in the Southern States. These negroes and their ancestors had been kept in slavery during 244 years. At the liberation the negroes were without money, without an inch of land, without knowledge of any kind, and without any moral or religious education.

A remarkable change has taken place during these forty-eight years. Without the assistance of immigration, they have increased considerably. The knowledge of reading and writing has increased to 55 per cent. Three hundred universities, colleges, academies, high schools, and seminaries are possessed by the negroes. They possess, and manage, forty-eight banks of a total capital of \$2,500,000. They control 700,000 farms, and possess 230,000. They pay taxes on property valued at \$975,000,000. More than 236,000 negroes are teachers in public and private schools, and 800,000 children in the schools are black. The negroes have erected 25,000 churches, and there are 35,000 negro priests and bishops. Two hundred thousand neg-

roes are medical doctors, 3,000 are lawyers, and 80,000 tradesmen.

**THE ONLY MEDICINE FOR THE BABY**

The only medicine a mother should give her little ones is one she can give and feel absolutely safe that not the slightest harm will result—a medicine that is guaranteed strictly free from injurious drugs. Such a medicine is Baby's Own Tablets—every box is sold under such a guarantee and the mother may feel perfectly safe in giving them to even the new-born babe. Concerning them Mrs. Albert E. Wood, London, Ont., says: "I have found Baby's Own Tablets, all that is claimed for them. My baby has had them from birth and will take them eagerly. I am sure there is no better medicine for little ones." The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Assistant—"Mrs. Jones complains that her photographs don't look like her." Photographer—"Complains! She ought to be grateful!"