Sunday School Lesson

May 19. Lesson VII—Jeremiah Calls to Obedience—Jeremiah 7: 1-11; 21-23. Golden Text—Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people.—Jeremiah 7: 23.

ANALYSIS.

I. EXHORTATION AND WARNING, vs. 1-15.

II. PROTEST AGAINST IDOLATRY, vs. 16-20.

III. WHAT GOD REQUIRES, vs. 21-26.

INTRODUCTION—This speech of Jeremiah, delivered in the gate of the Lord's house, is one of the most notable and impressive of all his speeches. It is probably the same as that mentioned in Ch. 26, for which he was accused and tried before the council of the princes. In his earlier addresses he had protested chiefly against the idolatrous worship which he saw practiced everywhere, even in and about the temple itself, and which he regarded as disloyalty to Jehovah. See chs. 2 and 3. Now he declares against the social evils which are destroying all that is best in the nation's life. It was not enough that they should turn from their idols and serve Jehovah only, nor that they should abandon the corrupt local sanctuaries, and centre all worship in the temple at Jerusalem. Trust in the temple and in the forms of worship, however correct and proper those forms might be, was all in vain. Only righteousness could save the people from the terrible evils which were threatening them. In this moral emphasis Jeremiah shows himself closely akin to the great prophets of the past, from Samuel to Isaiah. See 1 Sam. 15: 22; Amos 5: 21-25; Isa. 1: 10-20; Hos. 6: 6; Micah 6: 6-8; s. 40: 6-8; 51: 16, 17.

I. EXHORTATION AND WARNING, vs. 1-15.

V. 2. The gate is, no doubt, the court (26: 2), that is the inner court which surrounded the temple and which in those days was accessible to all, and was the place of popular assembly, 1 Kings 6: 36.

Jeremiah had already warned the people of Judah and Jerusalem of the coming of a terrible enemy who would lay waste and destroy their land and carry them int ocaptivity, 1: 14-16; 5: 15-17, 19. He had exhorted them to repentance that the anger of the Lord might be turned from them, and that they might be saved, 3: 12, 13; 4: 1-4, 14. Now he pleads with them again, "Amend your ways and your doings." It is only in such amendment that deliverance and safety lies—not in pointing to the temple and false confidence in its protection. Those who would persuade them that Jehovah will surely take care of his temple, and so of his temple worshippers, speak lying words. He declares that Jehovah will abandon his temple and give it over to destruction, as he did his sanctuary at Shiloh in a time long past, if there is no repentance and turning from their evil ways, vs. 12-14. For the story of Shiloh see Josh. 18: 1; 19: 51; 21: 1, 2; 22: 12; Judges 18: 31; Sam. 1: 1-4, 22.

Justice, and not oppression, Jehovah requires, as well as turning away from other gods. How can they who steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and serve Baal and other gods formerly unknown, please God or offer him acceptable worship? Will the temple deliver them that they may continue to do all these abominations? They are making the house of God a den of robbers, v. 11. Compare Matt. 21: 13. Jehovah had warned them repeatedly and earnestly by his prophets, but they had been heedless of his warning, v. 13. The fate that had befallen Shiloh will be the fate of their temple, and the doom of the kingdom and people of Israel will be the doom of Judah.

II. PROTEST AGAINST IDOLATRY, vs. 16-20.

The words "pray not" (v. 16) cannot be understood as forbidding the prophet to intercede for this erring and foolish people. As a matter of fact he did continue to pray for them (see 14: 7-9, 19-22; and compare 11: 14 and 14: 11-12). Rather is this an emphatic way of saying that their unrepented sin is past forgiveness, that their evil stubbornness has made forgiveness impossible, and prayer on their behalf useless. But if they would repent and amend their ways, how different it would all be! Then they would know the Lord's abounding mercy.

The false worship referred to in vs. 17, 18 was that of Ashtoreth, or Astarte, the Babylonian Ishtar, the queen of heaven. Her visible symbol was the planet Venus (compare 1 Kings 11: 5). Her worship was still persisted in by Jews who fled to Egypt after the fall of Jerusalem, taking Jeremiah with them (44: 15-28). This perverse folly brings its inevitable punishment upon themselves to the confusion of their own faces.

III. WHAT GOD REQUIRES, vs. 21-26.

The words of v. 21 are filled with scorn for the empty and insincere worship with which they seek to approach God. The law required that burnt-offerings should be all burnt upon the altar, Lev. 1: 3-9. The peace-offerings were partly burnt upon the altar and partly served up as material for a feast to be eaten by the offerer and his family, or friends, Lev. 7: 11-15. The prophet ironically calls upon these vain worshippers to eat the burnt offerings also. It will make no difference. These empty formalities of religion are not what God requires.

It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to understand the statement of v. 22 if we believe that the entire Levitical law was laid down by Moses as the command of God. For that law prescribes minutely and strictly the ritual of burnt-offerings and sacrifices. Compare with Jeremiah's statement the passages quoted above (in the introduction). The probability, amounting almost to a certainty, is that large additions were made in the Pentateuch to the original laws of Moses by the Jews of later ages, and that among them were those laws governing the offerings to be made upon the altar of sacrifice.

The Lord's supreme requirement is obedience. "Behold," said Samuel, "to obey is better than sacrifice." For he says by the prophet Hosea, "I desired mercy and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt-offerings," Hos. 6: 6.

Trade With Russia

London Daily News and Westminster (Lib.): The British Trade Delegation to Russia announces that "a satisfactory basis for trade relations between Great Britain and Russia can be found." Presumably, if the official Russian view stands, a preliminary condition must be the resumption of diplomatic relations. But it is fairly obvious that the British Government which brought about the rupture would not humiliate itself by accepting M. Piatakoff's condition. . . Until the Baldwin Administration goes west trade with Russia on a permanent basis and on a large scale must be begging.

Unemployment

Manchester Guardian (Lib.): In the last few months the country has come to understand that the situation in the mining industry is not only an economic problem but a human tragedy. The scenes at Liverpool and Bermondsey should make it plain to the most careless that that distress is not confined to the coalfields. It is nation wide. We have become so used to the fact that there are over 1,000,000 men in this country without work that the weekly figures no longer shock us as they used to do. But the problem remains as acute as ever.

"A tall man may stand on tiptoe and still not be able to reach an agreement."

At the annual meeting of the Cunard board, the chairman called it a curious fact that passages first class across the Atlantic by any line had not in ten years attained the pre-war level.

An international dictionary of words that mean slightly different things in different languages is projected by the Institute for the Scientific Study of Foreign Relations. Among such words are damages, control, trusiee, commonwealth, federal and policy.

SOME CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION LEADERS

Fully cognizant of the part they must play to maintain the record of progress of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, August 23rd to September 7th, the gentlemen pictured herewith have gone into their various tasks with characteristic enthusiasm. Agriculture and its allied industries will be strongly emphasised, as usual, and "Empire Year" unquestionably will surpass all its predecessors. The two weeks' program, quite aside from its agricultural phases, will be one of deep and diversified interest.

Popular Undies

Spring lingerie has all the verve and gayety of frocks. The newest models flaunt splashy little print designs in colors as fresh and vivid as spring itself, and the styles are delightfully frivolous. In spite of all this newness, however, this season brings no changes which might be labeled "extreme novelties," and so eliminated by the woman of good taste. Whatever is new in material or design is a contribution either to the artistic or practical aspect of feminine intimate garments, and sometimes to both.

Printed undies show a decided trend toward fulness rather than scantiness. The chemises, which are the most popular model in printed lingeries, are made with a vest top attached by a fitted abdominal band. They have a flaring bottom and generally two rows of ruffles. The shorts are not as brief as they formerly were, and the sets are much prettier and more flowerlike now, with added material and dainty rosebud trimmings on both the bandeau and the shorts.

PRINTS SUBDUED BY PLAIN GOODS

In pajama suits and nightgowns this same attention to detail is shown by the restrained way prints are used. To most women, garments made of striking modernistic prints do not appeal except for lounging. For actual wear, women prefer their silken things delicately colored and restful looking. The new pajama suits are, therefore, not as bizarre as those displayed during the winter, and although vivid prints are used, they are tempered by the judicious comgination of plain materials. An example of this was seen in one of the newest models from France. The top of the pajama suit was startling—bright yellow and pink wild roses appeared on a deep blue background—but the pajamas themselves were fashioned of plain blue crepe de chine, matching the blue of the top. The print material was repeated again in the bands hemstitched at the bottom of each leg.

Nightgowns and negligees are treated in the same way, by the combination, that is, of plain material with print; while the three-piece pajama suits are often composed of jacket and trousers in one plain material, the dash of color being supplied by the three-quarter length coat of print goods.

GLOVE-SILK.

This spring, glove-silk underwear, also, has appeared in a more attractive guise than ever before. The practicality of this lingerie is well known and now it may be had in models which are artistic enough to please women who require beneath their fluttering chiffons and laces, dainty, frilly undergarments. The glove-fitting, one-piece styles remain, of course, the favorites of the sportswoman, the business girl and of anyone, in fact, who has to think first of all about the practicality of clothes.

While selecting her spring and summer lingerie, the woman of average means will find it particularly easy this season to buy exactly what she wants for each occasion. Between each type of undergarment there are definite lines of demarcation, and the sharpest division lies in that between sports and dress underwear.

The younger girl evinces a preference for the one-piece glove-silk suit combining the brassiere top with the bloomer bottom. This model is also made of crepe de chine, trimmed with fine lace and tiny rosebuds, for the party frock of crisp taffeta.

Other varieties of the one-piece suit show the yoke fitted in a V to the shorts or attached in curving lines. Both of these styles have the flat contour so desired, and, additionally, reveal the entire absence of elastic, for even the knicker bottoms have cuffs. Another thing observed about these combinations is that they are showing the new type of shoulder strap, which is a tiny, hand-rolled seam, one-fourth as wide as the strap of other seasons. These were formerly seen only in fine handmade French lingerie. The built-up shoulder strap in certain models is attached to a knicker and petticoat bottom so no other lingerie is necessary. These are evidently made to appeal to the younger set for tennis and sports dresses with their U-shaped backs.

All these undies are definitely practical, but at the other extreme, lingerie for dress occasions is primarily æsthetic. It is flowerlike in its loveliness, for the delicate colors such as nile-green, peach, coral and rosebud pink are enhanced by quantities of filmy lace. Several materials are combined in sets of chemises, slips and nightgowns and in many combinations the two favorite materials, satin and georgette, appear together and also crepe de chine and georgette.

The sets which appeal most to women, according to a buyer of a smart apparel shop, are those which are profusely trimmed with cobwebby lace, Bandeaus, also, are seen which appear to be nothing but frivolous wisps of net and rosebuds, but which are saved from uselessness by their inner reinforcements. From each leading manufacturer models come in every conceivable style, among which are the straight type of bandeau, the cup-form brassiere, and the uplift bandeau, the last of which achieves a lifted effect by the inner packets of net. Other brassieres are made to model the upper part of the figure into the lifted bust and nipped-in waist of the Princess mode. The materials of which these brassieres are fashioned range from net, satin and crepe de chine, down through the less dainty materials to the really heavy ones.

All lingerie sets simulate the simple, athletic underwear in that they follow the contours of the figure. In spite of the elaboration of lace and the new flaring skirt of panties and chemises, the hip-line is snug-fitting and absolute flatness is achieved by relegating the fullness of the garment to the sides. A French set of white georgette and satin illustrates how a model may be intricate without being bulky. The yoke across the front of the pantie is made of white satin, perfectly flat. The flared, scalloped tiers of georgette are set in below the yoke on either side.

NOVELTIES.

Other novelties in spring lingerie are the various slips with U and V-shaped backs. These, no doubt, will flare into prominence for everyday wear this summer since sports and evening dresses will display both necks.

A new development also is the featuring of foundation garments of the soft type which appear nothing more than tailored crepe de chine lingerie. The restraining features are effectually concealed. Some of these garments combine a brassiere with a bloomer or pantie, and a light girdle. Others, fashioned like the athletic, one-piece suit, have light boning across the diaphragm.

In the Australian Bush

We reached Hollymount, the homestead on the cattle station, by moonlight, and made a camp beneath a tall blue-gum, the wind-stirred leaves of which seemed to whisper a friendly greeting. The rustling of the trees and the crackling of the sticks as they burned with bright red flames which licked the smoke-blacked billy stirred me deeply. The faint, clean, penetrating smell of the scorching eucalyptus leaves awakened memories of early years when as a boy I roamed the pen paddocks on a sheep station. I realized then that in spite of all attractions and pleasures experienced in other lands there is that about the Australian bush which calls one home.

The country was, at the time of my visit, in the grip of drought. The tall gum-trees and the dry red dust beneath them called for moisture, but moving above were the leaves still bravely green. The roots of the trees are deep down, and with a firm, tight hold they live on and defy the drought conditions. When I see the stout-hearted settler holding grimly on while the grass gets dry and withers, and the stock get thin . . . I cannot help but think that he must gain some courage and sympathy from these green-leaved trees. . .

After the seasonal rains there came a transformation of the country that was startling in its rapidity. . . . Buds shot forth and flowers formed and bloomed with such rapidity that it looked as if the whole of nature were running a race with time. Following the bursting of the blossoms came the hatching of gaudy caterpillars and soon thousands of brilliant butterflies, intoxicated with the subtle scent of flowers, flirted in the sunbeams that peeped through the loose-leaved foliage.—Capt. Sir G. H. Wilkins, M.C., in "Undiscovered Australia."

Every knock one man gives another is intended for a boost to himself.

NEW ELEGANCE.

A simple dress of printed silk crepe for the youthfully smart woman, in combination with plain silk crepe with swather girdle and flaring godet, caught at waistline with ornament of brilliants. The shoulder bow, with long loose end at back, adds individual smartness. Experience isn't at all necessary to make it, for it is merely a two-piece skirt attached to two-piece waist with tucks at each shoulder at front. The godet, a separate piece of material, shaped to give dipping flared effect, is shirred at top and stitched to dress. It is irresistible in new shade of red dull flat silk crepe, prune shade sheer velvet, black crepe satin, claret-red canton-faille crepe or navy blue wool crepe. Style No. 303 can be had in sizes 16, 18, 20 years, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. for the 36-inch size, 2⅞ yards of 40-inch material with 1¼ yards of 40-inch contrasting is sufficient to make it, as pictured, or 3⅝ yards of one material. Price 20c in stamps or coin (coin is preferred.) Wrap coin carefully.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Patterns sent by an early mail.

Quack Medicines

Edinburgh Weekly Scotsman (Con.) Mr. Lloyd George's panacea for unemployment is no cure at all. Even his henchman, Sir Herbert Samuel, agrees with Mr. Runciman that a permanent cure for unemployment can only be found in a revival of trade. How Mr. Lloyd George's scheme is going to revive trade passes the comprehension of anyone who gives a moment's thought to the subject, and 10,000 windy orations will not convince a single shrewd worker that the way to end a period of difficulty is to go in for unlimited borrowing.

Golfers who wear bifocal glasses, half the lens for near and the other half for far vision, are said to have general advantage over the other players; they seldom top the ball.

Tom Cheek of Virginia, who lately died in the stall of his favorite horse in Havana when the horse lost a race, was supposedly aged 104 and had been a jockey before the Mexican war.

On the stock farm of John E. Madden in Kentucky, none of the help is ever permitted to raise his voice to a thoroughbred horse—much less his hand.

MUTT AND JEFF— —By Bud Fisher.

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