Sunday School Lesson

LESSON IV.
MINISTERING TO PHYSICAL NEEDS
Mark 1: 29-45
Golden Text—And he healed many that were sick—Mark 1: 34.
THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time—April and May, A.D. 28.

Place—The events recorded in the greater part of the lesson, through verse 38, occurred in Capernaum. The preaching tour, and the healing of the leper, took place in Galilee, though where we are not definitely told.

The miracles of healing which took place on this particular day in Capernaum are recorded also by Matthew (8: 14-17), and Luke (4: 38-41).

29. "And straightway, when they were come out of the synagogue." This is still the same Sabbath day during which Mark tells us, in the preceding paragraph that Jesus had taught with such astonishing power in the Capernaum synagogue and had delivered one possessed by an unclean spirit. Undoubtedly the whole city was in commotion that day because of what had taken place in this house of worship, and centainly in every home that noon the one subject of conversation was Jesus of Nazareth, his teaching, and his miracles. "They came into the house." Jesus went with them. He had come to teach men the way from the synagogue to the house. The Christ of the synagogue is the Christ of the house. "Of Simon and Andrew, with James and John." The house belonged to Simon Peter, as Matthew and Luke tell us, though possibly Andrew also was living there. James and John were simply invited to the home that day. Peter had not yet given up his home on the Sea of Galilee, though he had undoubtedly given up his fishing business.

The Touch of His Hand

30. "Now Simon's wife's mother." Peter was the only apostle whom the New Testament definitely states to have been married. "Lay sick of a fever." Fevers are common in the Orient, and they would be especially distressing in such a hot climate as prevails around the Sea of Galilee, which is five hundred feet below the level of the sea. "And straightway they tell him of her." Dr. Lenski has very sympathetically suggested that "most likely when Jesus came into the house and did not see the woman, he asked where she was, and then heard of her ailment." She was no doubt confined in an inner apartment. With Jesus, the greatest man that ever lived, it was so easy to confide anything and everything.

31. "And he came and took her by the hand." Have you ever made a careful study of the hands of Jesus, of all they did, and, finally, of their piercing on the cross, and the benediction which they symbolized as they were uplifted that day when he ascended into glory? The hand of Jesus was as warm as love could make it. It was thrilling with tenderness and vibrating with compassion. The touch upon the fevered hand of that old woman in Capernaum was as a condensation into one act of the very principle of the incarnation and of the whole power which Christ exercises upon a fevered and sick world. "And raiseil her up; and the fever left her."

The Fevers Of The Soul

"It is not illegitimate to allow our minds to pass from the fevers of the body to the fevers of the soul. Indeed, that is one of the authorized ways when we seek to interpret the miracles of the Lord. The Saviour's miracles are the outer and visible types of inner and greater wonders. They are done in the body in order that we may infer the deeper emancipations of the spirit.

32. "And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were sick, and them that were possessed with demons." 33. "And all the city was gathered together at the door." 34. "And he healed many that were sick with divers diseases, and cast out many demons; and he suffered not the demons to speak, because they knew him." "The strict laws of the Jewish Sabbath gave a few hours of rest to all, but the blast of the trumpet which announced its close was the signal for a renewal of the popular excitement, now increased by the rumor of a second miracle; 'all that had any sick, with whatever disease,' brought them to the great Healer. The whole town was in motion, and crowded before the house.

35. "And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out, and departed into a desert place, and there prayed." In the present instance, as the context indicates, it was Jesus' resolve to preach the gospel of the Kingdom all through Galilee. Jesus prayed because he was man. His prayers were communions with his Father.

36. "And Simon and they that were with him followed after him." The word here translated "followed after" means, literally, "to hunt down," and "gives the idea of hard, persistent search."

The Work of Preaching

37. "And they found him, and say unto him, All are seeking thee." No doubt these disciples who went out to search for Jesus knew why he had gone off to be by himself. Realizing that the sinless Son of God, who had power to heal all diseases, needed prayer so keenly that he had to rise early in the morning to find time for it, they should themselves have gone out to be alone with God as their Master was that morning. Instead of that they were burdened with the immediate demands of a great multitude, and they did what so many Christian workers do, they put work before prayer.

38. "And he saith unto them, Let us go elsewhere into the next towns, that I may preach there also; for to this end came I forth." By the phrase "came I forth" we believe that Christ refers definitely to his coming from the Father. Therein we discover the strength of his purpose. The strength of his service lay in the complete abandonment of the Servant to the One who commanded. He moved everywhere with the dignity of the authority under which he served. He was in the world for a purpose. In this sentence is the key-note of his confidence, the secret of his strength, the infilling of the power that made him the prevailing Servant of God.

39. "And he went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out demons."

40. "And there cometh to him a leper." Leprosy was regarded as the most loathsome and terrible of diseases. It existed in various forms, but its invariable feature was its foul uncleanness. The leper was an outcast. "Beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean."

41. "And being moved with compassion." Of the three words translated by "being compassionate" this is the strongest, for it means not only a pained feeling at sight of suffering, but, in addition, a strong desire to relieve or to remove the suffering. "He stretched forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou made clean." 'In so touching the untouchable we have a sign of fearlessness: there was no appendix of diseases called hopeless in Christ's list of ailments. We have also the sign of friendliness, the leper was a sort of human island washed by lonely seas which no friendly mariner ever crossed.

42. "And straightway the leprosy departed from him, and he was made clean." The one thing that the man needed most was the one thing he wanted most, and it is exactly the thing that Jesus gave him, i.e., a cleansing from his foul disease. So many men in suffering the consequences of sin and of disobedience to God want the consequences removed, such as poverty, suffering, social shame, loss of position, but do not ask God to remove the love for sin, nor do they ask him for cleansing and forgiveness. No man unclean in sin ever sincerely came to the Lord Jesus for cleansing but he received it immediately.

43. "And he strictly charged him, and straightway sent him out, 44. and saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go show thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing the things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them." Jesus thus orders this man to carry out in due form the ceremonial requirements "the things Moses commanded," and thus to have himself officially reinstated as clean of leprosy. Jesus has not come to detroy, but to fulfill, the law and the prophets (Matt. 5, 17); and by his orders to the leper he had healed fulfills the law of Moses in the present case. This helps to explain the final phrase, "for a testimony for them."

45. "But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to spread abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into a city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter." This verse explains the strange meaning of Jesus in the preceding verse in definitely forbidding the healed leper to tell others what had happened to him. "Our Lord enjoins silence because he did not, as yet, wish to draw on himself the public attention. When "his own" had been prepared to receive him, then, but not before, he would court the publicity from which, as yet, he shrank.

There are about 5,000 different languages in the world.

Granite is a fine-formed rock which has been exposed to great heat and pressure.

Society Glamor Girl Off on World Cruise

Gloria Baker and her mother, Mrs. Margaret Emerson, are visited in their state room aboard the Franconia by George Vanderbilt, Mrs. Emerson's son, as the couple sail fom New York on a cruise.

Farm Problems

Conducted by
PROFESSOR HENRY C. BELL
with the co-operation of the various departments of Ontario Agricultural College

1.—Q.—"I sell cream to a local creamery and am unable to understand why the test varies from time to time. On the last statement which I received, the test was 32 per cent, while the test on the previous shipment was 35 per cent. My cows are on the same feed and I do the separation myself so that the separator is turned at the same speed each time. Why should there be this difference in tests? J.S.—Oxford Co.

A.—It is to be expected that the per cent of fat in cream will vary with each shipment and with different separations. A number of factors may influence the test and it is quite impossible to control them all completely. Tests made at the Dairy Department, O.A.C., show that slight differences in the temperature of the milk, the amount of water or skimmilk used to flush the separator, variations in the amount of milk in the supply can, the speed at which the separator bowl is driven, and the per cent of fat in the milk, will all have an influence on the test of the cream. Too much emphasis should not be placed upon the variations in the per cent of fat in the cream. The important point is the pounds of fat paid for. Many times when the test is up, the weight of cream is down or vice versa.

2.—Q.—"The butter from my last two churnings has a very strong, bitter flavour. I have never had this trouble before and my customers are complaining. I take every precaution to have everything clean and the cows are fed mixed hay, corn silage, roots and oat chop."—R.T., York Co.

A.—Bitter and rancid flavours in butter are quite common at this season of the year. It is very likely that one or more of the cows in your herd are advanced in their lactation period and producing milk which contains abnormally large amounts of an enzyme known as lipase. The objectionable flavour is not noticed on the fresh milk and cream, but if it is held for a day or two it becomes very noticeable. The cows causing the trouble may be detected by holding a sample of milk from each cow for 48 hours and then examine the samples.

Cows producing defective milk should be dried off. However, if the cows in question are producing well and it is not desirable to dry them, the cream immediately after separating may be heated to 145 deg. F., and held for a churning. This pasteurizing deactivates the enzyme, thus the development of the flavour is checked.

—Dairy Department, O.A.C.

Canadian Poultry Had Bumper Year

OTTAWA.—More Canadian dressed poultry was exported in 1937 than in any other year, the department of agriculture reported with figures which showed a 79.96 per cent. rise over those of 1936.

Exports in the year just ended totalled 88,996 boxes, compared with 49,452. Weight of the 1937 shipment was more than 2,678 tons.

There was also a record export movement of live poultry from Canada to the United States in 1937. In the first 11 months of the year, American buyers took 1,157,768 live chickens and fowl, compared with 344,937 birds in 1936 and 35,547 birds in 1935. The increase in 1937 over 1936 and 1935 represents 812,-831 and 1,122,221 birds or 235.65 per cent. and 3,157.01 per cent. respectively.

College Student Awarded First Trophy in Pinehurst Golf Title

Heron Maples, left, young college student, accepts the first prize in the mid-winter golf championship at Pinehurst S.C., from Guy Pierce, as the runner-up. Maples downed Harlow in the finals.

Around The Dial

RADIO HEADLINERS OF THE WEEK

By FRANK DENNIS

A new fifteen-minute radio program, called "Hollywood Spotlight Review," presents an all-star review, featuring such favorite Hollywood entertainers as Phil Harris and his orchestra; Bob Burns, the Arkansas traveller; Larry Burke, the Hollywood troubadour; and a different guest star every broadcast. It took the air over stations CFRB, Toronto; CFPL, London CFCH, North Bay; CKGB, Timmins; and CJKL, Kirkland Lake; everp Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 7.45 to 8 p.m. commencing Monday, January 10th.

"Hour of Charm"

Phil Spitalny and his popular all-girl orchestra featured on the "Hour of Charm" program over an NBC network including CBL, Toronto, and CBM, Montreal, are now heard every Monday night at 9:30. Mr. Spitalny and his orchestra are illustrated above, while the inset shows Miss Arlene Francis, dramatic star of radio and stage, who is Mistress of Ceremonies on the "Hour of Charm."

"Cats", the term describing people who follow the swing style of popular music, will certainly enjoy listening to the guest band on the program "Styled Music," heard e Sunday from 5:15 to 5:30 ove CL. The regular band on th gram is that of Eddie Duchin the guest band selected by th questa sent in. If you want to your favourite orchestra, just drop a note to "Styled Music," care of CKCL, and we understand the boys will be only too glad to play all requests.

Amateur Auditions

Another new show started last Friday, featuring amateur and semi-professional talent, over CFRB. The sponsors are asking for applications for auditions to appear on this program. Each act chosen will receive regular professional fees for the engagement. We understand that regular vaudeville units will be formed, and will be sent on a coast-to-coast circuit. Jack Murray, producer of the show, informs us that all who wish auditions will be given them, the age limit starting at fifteen pears. Of course, there will be one or two very exceptional circumstances where the age will be less, but from what we have seen of the program, they would have to be very exceptional indeed. The program is heard over CFRB from 8:30 to 9:00.

It gives us pleasure indeed to say a few good words for Bob Kestan, who does the "Early Bird" program every morning from 7:45 to 8:45, over CK CL. Gags galore and music that will really wake you up and have you on the tips of your toes by the time you reach your place of work, is the sort of business that comes out during the program. It really was quite surprising to us to learn that a Canadian announcer can do such. If you have any numbers you would like to request, and we don't mean "Asleep in the Deep," just send them along to Bob, and he shall be most happy to play them.

Heard Over Canadian Network

Stars of the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York will be heard over the Canadian network on Saturday, January 22nd, from 2:00 to 4:45 p.m. as an NBC-CBC international exchange feature. The performers will be presented in their regular Saturday afternoon performance direct from the stage of the famous Opera House.

Arturo Toscanini and his NBC Symphony Orchestra will be a feature presentation on Saturday, January 22nd, from 10.30 to 11.30 p.m. The 91-piece orchestra will play the works of outstanding composers on this date.

Jap Home Minister

Admiral Nobumasa Suetsugu has been appointed to succeed Dr Euchi Baba as the Home Minister for Japan

Is This Your Birthday?

By A. R. WEIR

WHAT THE STARS FORETELL FOR THOSE BORN ON JANUARY 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 26 and 27

★★★

If the date of your birth is listed above you were born in the eleventh sign of the Zodiac which is Aquarius. This gives you a nature unobtrusive, faithful and patient. You are of a serious turn of mind and the refined and intellectual side of life will greatly appeal to you.

YOUR OWN BIRTH DATE:

JANUARY 21—You are a loyal and steadfast friend. Be careful to avoid being selfish. Take every care and precaution this year and you will be successful even though the year is not without its difficulties. Much happiness is shown in love.

JANUARY 22—You have a great liking for solitude. Beware lest this desire should make you unthoughful and at times selfish. We must give happiness to reap happiness. An influential woman will greatly help you financially though the pear is not entirely satisfactory for social matters.

JANUARY 23—You are naturally artistic. Develop this bent to the utmost of your ability. You will derive pleasure from it and, in turn, give pleasure. An important change in your business affairs is indicated as the result of some important negotiations.

JANUARY 24—You are fond of short journeys and a number are indicated for the coming year. You should stay out in the open as much as possible. A considerable improvement is shown in your financial position and you will gain as the result of some new work you will undertake.

JANUARY 25—You do not desire wealth and honors although you're a hard and studious worker. You should experience real development in your busines affairs, probably an increase in salary or promotion. The outlook is not so bright socially though we should not expect to have everything and take everything with a philosophical attitude.

JANUARY 26—It is not likely that you will marry early in life though much happiness is in store for those in love and born on this date. Financially you will not set the world on fire this year but there should be a slow, steady improvement and all is favorable socially.

JANUARY 27—Success will come to you only through your own efforts—do not spare effort, only industry will bring you your heart's desire. Your brightest outlook this year may be within the social sphere. Your financial advancement depends entirely upon your own ambition.

If you birth date is not listed above and you would like a horoscope for any birth date in the year, or if you would like a complete personal horoscope for any date listed above, send 10c to A. R. Weir, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto. Please print your name, address and birth date plainly.