Sunday School Lesson

LESSON VI

RUTH: Adventurous Faith — The Book of Ruth

Printed Text, Ruth 1:6-18

Golden Text: "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.' Ruth 1:16.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time — The date for the events recorded in this book cannot be definitely determined; they took place probably during the thirteenth century B.C., i.e. between 1300 B.C. and 1200 B.C.

Place — Moab is the large district across the Jordan River, and immediately east of the Dead Sea, Gentile territory. Bethlehem is the famous Old and New Testament city, located five miles south of Jerusalem.

The book of Ruth was described by Goethe as "the loveliest little idyl that tradition has transmitted to us." We do not know who wrote the book, nor for that matter, when the book was written.

The name "Ruth" means "comrade" or "companion," and certainly her whole history, as it is here so exquisitely recorded, is the fulfillment of her name.

"Ruth's beautiful devotion to her mother-in-law, Naomi, Ruth 1:6-18. "Then she arose with her daughters-in-law, that she might return from the country of Moab; for she had heard in the country of Moab how that Jehovah had visited his people in giving them bread. And she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah."

The aliens, we may believe, were kind to her, but in the night of sorrow there are no friends like home friends, especially those of our own kindred. A famine in the fields of Bethlehem took her to Moab, but now a famine in the heart made her hunger for Bethlehem.

Twofold Blessing

"And Naomi said unto her two daughters-in-law, Go, return each of you to her mother's house." And although Ruth's father was alive the natural place for the female members of the family would be their mother's tent or house (Gen. 24:28) "Jehovah deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead and with me. 9. Jehovah grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voice and wept."

10. And they said unto her, Nay, but we will return with thee unto thy people. 11. And Noami said, Turn again, my daughters; why will ye go with me? have I yet sons in my womb; for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should even have a husband to-night, and should also bear sons; 13. would ye therefore tarry till they were grown? would ye therefore stay from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes, for the hand of Jehovah is gone forth against me. "The times were rude and wild. A woman could be safe and respected only under the protection of a husband. There was no place for them in the social life."

14. And they lifted up their voice and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clave unto her. It is not said that Orpah actually departed and returned to Moab; but, as the story unfolds and Orpah is not heard of again, we rightly assume that she did not accompany Naomi and Ruth to Naomi's lovely birthplace.

Religion Through Love

15. And she said, Behold thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people, and unto her god; return thou after thy sister-in-law. 16 And Ruth said, entreat me not to leave thee, and to return from following after thee; for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; 17. where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: Jehovah do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me. 18. And when she saw that she was steadfastly minded to go with her, she left off speaking unto her. Nowhere in the whole of the Old Testament are there words more beautiful in their simple pathos or more eloquent in their unconscious poetry. Such moments come to us all. And there are at least three big choices which meet most men in life — the choice of work, the choice of love, and the choice of God — and each of these is mirrored in some measure in the choice of Ruth.

Loving relationships afford a sphere in which to do religious work. Naomi, whose character was rooted in religion, did effective work for God. She brought Ruth into the covenant of salvation.

The return of Naomi to her birthplace must have been for her a very bitter and humiliating experience.

"In Bethlehem Naomi found the half ruined cottage, belonging to her, and there she and Ruth took up their abode. But for a living what was to be done? The answer came in the proposal of Ruth to go into the fields where the barley harvest was proceeding and glean after the reapers. (See for the law of gleaning Lev. 19:9, 10; 23:22; Deut. 24:19) By great diligence she might gather enough day by day for the bare sustenance that contents a Syrian peasant, and afterwards some other means of providing for herself and Naomi might be found. Loath as she was to expose Ruth to the trials of the harvest-field, Naomi had to let her go. It was into the field of Boaz that Ruth finally came, a wealthy man of the family of Elimelech, who was related to Naomi's deceased husband, though how closely related we do not even know. Boaz from the very beginning appears to be an unusual character, a man of a large heart, a generous disposition, of delicate sensibilities, of keen perception. Seeing Ruth in the fields and being struck at once with her beauty and grace, upon inquiry he discovered who the stranger was, and gave out word to his harvest hands that they should not only allow her to glean the stalks that were missed in the harvesting, but they actually were to let fall some of the bundles of grain that she might obtain, with the least amount of labor, an abundant supply of grain to carry home. The words of Boaz to Ruth are exceedingly beautiful, especially the blessing which he pronounces upon her. Here we find a true spirit of piety in the heart of this rich man, and also a spirit of genuine humility. Boaz is the perfect gentleman.

Ancestry of David

There is no doubt about it that Boaz, a man of the highest character fell deeply in love with Ruth. Everything here is honorable and beautiful, and, we might say, wonderfuly romantic. Ruth had come to Bethlehem a stranger, a Gentile, poor, unknown, a widow. She was now to be married to one of Bethlehem's greatest citizens, to have a home of her own. Of this marriage a son was born, to whom was given the name Obed, which means "a serving one." Of Obed was born Jesse, who was the father of the great King David.

No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong, gentle, pure and good without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness.—Phillips Brooks.

* * *

The best use we can make of good fortune is to share it with our fellows.—Julian Hawthorne.

Watching Birds Restores Calm

To Songsters, World Is Place Of Harmony, Not Chaos

"If more people would go to the park now and then and watch the birds, they would get out of themselves, restore their perspective, and come home calmed and refrshed," Mrs. Raymond V. Ingersoll says, in the Christian Science Monitor. She's been studying birds — not as an expert, but just in the casual yet interested way that is open to anyone —for years Indeed she has traveled with a friend as far as British Guiana and Trinidad to study birds. And all she'se seen and though about the matter has led her to the above conclusion. "To the birds the world is not a place of chaos, but of harmony, and industry and song. There's a lesson in that for our human consumption if we will perceive it."

"Any back yard that has a few shrubs growing in it can be a field for the observation of birds," she says.

Smart Animals

In the zoological gardens near Brussels, a few minutes before the recent earthquake began, some animals showed signs of restlessness. The lions roared abnormally; bisons, antelopes, and deer turned round in circles and charged the bars of their sages, as if trying to get out. Immediately after the shock the maddened beasts became calm again.

Britain now has 1,400,000 domestic servants.

Retires

Dr. George Hilton, veterinary director-general, Dominion department of agriculture, has retired from his post after 33 years of distinguished service to Canada. Dr. Hilton has been directly responsible for the splendid healthful condition of Canadian livestock and it is a tribute to him and his predecessors that there has never been an outbreak of the dreaded foot and mouth disease in Canada.

Concert Pianist

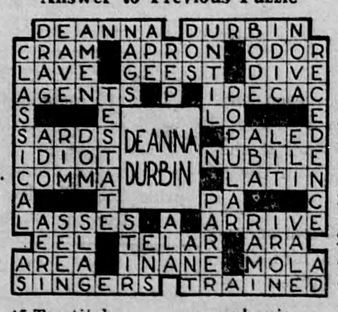
HORIZONTAL

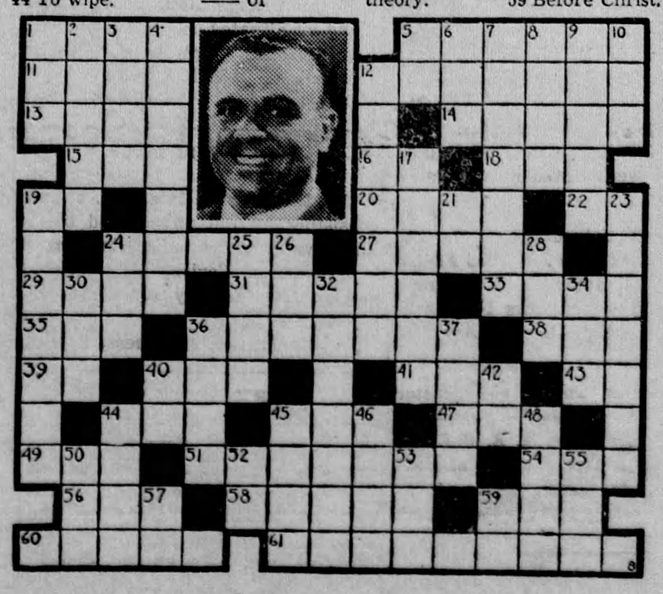
1, 5 Famous modern pianist.
11 Monkeys.
12 Stoning devices.
13 Encircled.
14 Courtesy title.
15 Born.
16 Above.
18 Tumor.
19 Southeast.
20 Tissue.
22 Spain.
24 To daub.
27 Lacerates.
29 Dregs.
31 Less common.
33 Narrative poem.
35 Unit.
36 Adheres.
38 Social insect.
39 Exists.
40 Ribbon ornament.
41 Drone bee.
43 Chaos.
44 To wipe.
45 To stitch.
47 To drink dog-fashion.
49 Three.
51 Boxed with fists.
54 Sheltered place.
56 Wine vessel.
58 Ascended.
59 Marsh.
60 His native land.
61 He is also a —— of symphonies.

VERTICAL

1 To notch.
2 To think.
3 Withered.
4 Respects.
5 Neuter pronoun.
6 Male cat.
7 Inattentive.
8 Proverb.
9 Boils bran.
10 Distinctive theory.
12 To splutter.
17 Peeped.
19 He is a favorite concert ——.
21 Musical note.
23 He plays in talking ——s.
24 To observe.
25 In line.
26 Hurrah!
28 Mineral spring
30 Being.
32 Left-hand page.
34 Wayside hotel.
36 Sea gulls.
37 Vended.
40 Bushel.
42 Sun god.
44 Fissure.
45 Ketch.
46 Small bird.
48 Scheme.
50 Knock.
52 Pair.
53 Finish.
55 Self.
57 Sloth.
59 Before Christ.

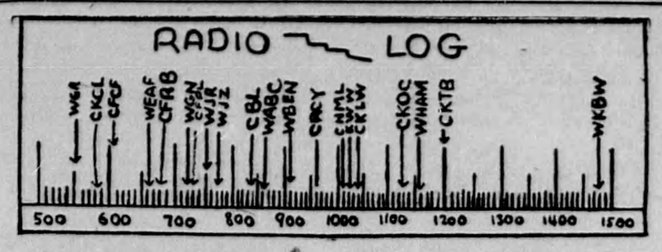
Answer to Previous Puzzle





Are You Listening?

By FREDDIE TEE



The "Century Fight" Broadcast

This program broadcast every Monday night (8.00 to 8.30 p.m. E.D.S.T.) announced by Gordon Shaw, over WLW the Crosley station at Cincinnati, gives married folk a chance to have friendly

Gordon Shaw

disagreements without quarreling.

So gather round folks and perhaps you will get some pointers. Don't forget—8.00 to 8.30 p.m. E.D.S.T. every Monday night over station WLW.

CBC Will Broadcast official Opening New Thousand Islands Bridge

BROCKVILLE, July 25. — The opening ceremonies in connection with the formal dedication of the Thousand Islands International Bridge, which will join Canada and the United States across the St. Lawrence River at Ivy Lea, Ontario, will be broadcast over the coast-to-coast network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Thursday, August 18, 2.45 to 4.00 p.m. E.D.S.T.

Detailed plans regarding the arrival of the distinguished guests who will participate in the day's exercises have been announced and the Canadian and American parties who will meet at the exact boundary, on Wellesley Island, include President Roosevelt, Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, Lady Tweedsmuir, Prime Minister Mackenzie King, and Governor Herbert H. Lehman, of New York.

The Governor-General and Lady Tweedsmuir and their entourage, will travel from Quebec in a special railroad car, arriving at Brockville in time to board the private yacht, "Moby Dick," owned by George T. Fulford, former M.P.P. and wealthy manufacturer, which will carry them down the St. Lawrence to the scene of the ceremonies. Canada's Prime Minister will be aboard with the vice-regal party, sailing under the Canadian channel-crossing of the new five span bridge.

Plans call for the arrival of President Roosevelt at Wellesley Island at 3.00 p.m. near the 90-foot span crossing the U. S.-Canadian boundary, where the actual dedication will take place. With a twenty-one gun salute as the signal, the King's representative in Canada and other Canadian officials will proceed to the centre of the bridge under military escort.

Important Canadian and U. S. church dignitaries will deliver the invocation and benediction and martial music will be played by military bands of both countries. The broadcast will commence with descriptive commentary at 2.45 p.m. and conclude at 4.00 p.m. E.D.S.T.

The bridge, linking New York State and the Province of Ontario, extends from Collins Landing, near Alexandria Bay, in New York State, to Ivy Lea, near Gananoque, in Ontario.

JEAN DE RIMANOCZY

Famous Hungarian violinist, who is featured over the CBC national network Sundays, 7.45 to 8.00 p.m. E.D.S.T. from the Vancouver studios.

CBC Artist Joins Ben Bernie

Ben Bernie, United States dance band leader, is another famous radio personality who realizes the wealth of talent existing in Canada.

Last week, from the ranks of hundreds of aspirants from many party of the United States, he selected a young Canadian girl as featured vocalist for his orchestra. She was Lila Deans, of Montreal, who for some time was a member of "These Four," a quartet of singers presented from CBM over the national network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Bernie's representative, a visitor to Montreal, heard Miss Deane singing from the local CBC station while driving in his automobile. Following the broadcast he suggested that she leave for New York, there to take part in auditions. When Bernie heard her sing he dismissed the other aspirants and offered her an attractive contract. She had the particular style and personality for which he was seeking.

Edgar Stone Honored

A signal tribute to his reputation as a stage and radio producer was paid recently to Edgar Stone, chief producer of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation commercial department. Mr. Stone, who has directed many outstanding presentations in Canada, was elected a governor of the Dominion Drama Festival during its annual meeting held at Winnipeg.

Gives Violin to Mathe

Mute since the death of its owner 15 months ago, a 250-year-old violin will play again. It will be heard by listeners across Canada on CBC networks. Mrs. Olive Stansfield of Sudbury recently presented her dead husband's violin to Blain Mathe, a member of the Corporation's "Happy Gang." Six months ago she heard Mathe play one of her husband's favorite numbers. She decided she would give him her husband's violin. She could have sold the instrument for a considerable sum, for it is a Paolo Grancino, and was sold to Stansfield by Mary Hall, concert violinist of 25 years ago.

WILLIAM MORTON

"Music For You"

Virginia Woods, Dorothy Alt, and William Morton, singing stars of the CBC's national network programme, "Music For You," to be broadcast Sunday, August 14, 9.00 to 9.30 p.m. E.D.S.T., will offer some of the most popular romantic songs of past decades, including compositions of Romberg, Lehar, Kern, Gershwin, Seitz, and Ayer. "Music For You," produced in the Toronto studios, is under the direction of Geoffrey Waddington.

Edvard Grieg's "To Spring" will be the orchestra's initial number, to be followed by Virginia Woods, soprano, singing Romberg's "Romance," from the "Desert Song," first produced in 1926. Her other numbers wil linclude "The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise," and,

GEOFFREY WADDINGTON

in duet with Wiliam Morton, tenor, the Nat Ayer hit-song of 1925, "If You Were the Only Girl In the World," afterwards introduced in the film, "The Vagabond Lover." Franz Lehar's "Only a Song," will be the tenor's other contribution to the programme, while Dorothy Alt, popular singer, will present "Summertime" from George Gershwin's folk-opera, "Porgy and Bess." The weekly violin solo will be Jerome Kern's "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," his 1933 hit-song from "Roberta".

The orchestra's second selection will be Franz Lehar's "Gold and Silver," one of the most popular of all waltzes, and the third, and last, will be "Guitarre," by Maurice Moszkowsky.

The Programme:

To Spring (Orchestra) Edvard Grieg.

Romance, from Desert Song (Virginia Woods, soprano) Sigmund Romberg.

Gold and Silver Waltz (Orchestra) Franz Lehar.

Only My Song (William Morton, tenor) Franz Lehar.

Smoke Gets In Your Eyes "Roberta" (violin solo) Jerome Kern

Summertime, from "Porgy and Bess" (Dorothy Alt, vocalist) — George Gershwin.

Guitarre (Orchestra) Maurice Moszkowsky.

The World is Waiting for the Sunrise (Virginia Woods, soprano) Ernest Seitz.

If You Were the Only Girl In the World (Duet: Virginia Woods and William Morton) Nat D. Ayer.

Ruby Is Prized Above All Gems

July Birthstone Said to Bring Health, Wealth, Wisdom

If you were born in July, the ruby, "gem of gems," is your birthstone. That is the name given to the ruby by the Hindus, who prize it above all other precious stones. It is said to bring to its wearer health, wealth, wisdom and happiness, and is the emblem of true love. It has been said that he who possesses a flawless ruby dwells without fear in the midst of his enemies. The ruby is spoken of in the "Lapidaire en Vers," where it is called the most precious of the 12 stones God created, when He created all creatures; "the ruby, called the lord of gems, the highly prized, the dearly loved ruby, so fair with its gay color." By the Lord's command, the ruby was placed on Aaron's neck.

Virtues As Talisman

The many talismanic virtues of the ruby are noted in the 14th century treatise on gems attributed to Sir John Manderville. Here the fortunate owner of a brilliant ruby is assured that he will live in peace and concord with all men, that neither his land nor his rank will be taken from him, and that he will be preserved from all perils.

Perhaps the most remarkable virtue ascribed to the ruby by the ancients was the property of being self-luminous. An old Indian legend says that the abode of the gods is lighted by massive glowing rubies.

Claims Schools Like Factories

Prof. E. W. Robinson, principal of Horton Academy and professor of education at Acadia University, N.S., blames mothers for the fact "there are many boys in our colleges who should have been stopped before they reached high school."

In an address before the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations last week, he said, "We are educating a crowd of people to be kept by the rest of us, simply because mother wanted her boy to have a white collar. Some day we in this province will wake up and find that someone has got to go to work.

Look Forward To Work

"People cannot eat bonds and stock certificates. We have to look forward to work, and we have to face it. Why spoil a good mechanic to make a poor preacher? There may be a lot pounding the anvil who should be pounding the pulpit but there are many, too, of which the opposite is the case."

He charged schools were operated on the "factory system" because of grading. "It was a sad day for public schools in Canada when the grading system came into being."

They Just Don't Like Our Lumber

Irish Importer Says Quality and Price of Canadian Timber Both Inferior

Canadian lumber compares unfavourably in some respects to the Finnish and Russian lumber, according to C. L. Brookes, Dublin lumber importer who arrived on our shores last week, with a party of British lumbermen.

At the moment, Brookes told reporters, he imports no Canadian timber "because the Canadian price is about three pounds ($15) dearer a standard of 2,000 board feet than Finnish or Russian lumber. Then if you add the freight," he continued, "there is still another pound. So the Russian and Finnish lumber is about four pounds cheaper laid down in Dublin."

The seven British lumbermen will tour lumber mills and paper plants in Eastern Canada.