Sunday School Lesson

LESSON I
SAUL BECOMES A NEW MAN.
Acts 9:1-30.
Printed Text, Acts 9:1-12, 17-19.

Golden Text—If any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—The conversion of Saul took place in A.D. 36.

Place.—Saul was struck to the ground by a blinding light at the time of his conversion just outside of the city of Damascus, in Syria.

Saul was born in Tarsus, an intellectually and politically famous city of Cilicia (Acts 21:39; 22:3). His father's remote ancestors were Pharisees, and he became a devoted Pharisee himself (Acts 23:6). He was by birth a Roman citizen (Acts 22:28).

From Tarsus Paul went to Jerusalem to be educated as a rabbi in the school of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). We have no evidence that he ever saw Jesus in the days of his flesh. It was Saul who held the clothes of his colleagues when they stoned Stephen to death (Acts 8:1; 22:20), and no doubt what he saw in Stephen's face, and heard from his lips, as he was dying, had a tremendous influence in his own life. From this time until his conversion Saul became the leader of the persecutors of the early Christian church. It is here that our lesson begins.

1. But Saul, yet breathing threatening and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest. 2. and asked of him letters to Damascus unto the synagogues, that if he found any that were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. The phrase "the Way" is a beautiful expression of the new life which men were living in the name of Jesus Christ.

Saul's Conversion

The conversion of Paul marks not only a turning-point in his personal history, but also an important epoch in the history of the apostolic church, and consequently in the history of mankind. It was the most fruitful event since the miracle of Pentecost.

3. And as he journeyed, it came to pass that he drew night unto Damascus. The hush of noon was in the city. The sun was burning fiercely in the sky. And suddenly there shone round about him a light out of heaven.

4. And he fell upon the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5. And he said, Who art thou, Lord? We cannot exaggerate the confusion and convulsion of Paul's mind and heart at this time. To be thrown to the ground by any force is, as it were, a confession of one's own weakness, but the physical prostration was only a symbol of the greater blow under which his mind this moment was reeling.

Now Saul suddenly is made to realize that Jesus, instead of being a blasphemer, justly put to death by fellow Jews not long before this in Jerusalem, is truly the Son of God, and that he, Saul, instead of being a defender for God, had been spending his energy and influence in contending against God and his Son! And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: 6. but rise, and enter into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. 7. And the men that journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing the voice, but beholding no man. 8. And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw nothing; and they led him by the hand, and brought him unto Damascus.

The blindness was proof that something had happened to him, and that it was no hallucination that he had seen the risen Christ.

Saul In Damascus

9. And he was three days without sight, and did neither eat nor drink. During this time we cannot but think the illumination of his mind was being perfected by the Spirit.

10. Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and the Lord said unto him in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. 11. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go to the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one named Saul, a man of Tarsus; for behold, he prayeth; 12. and he hath seen a man named Ananias coming in, and laying his hands on him, that he might receive his sight. Here is a most remarkable contrast, between the miraculous and the natural. To arrest and overwhelm and convict Saul the Lord miraculously appeared to him; now, however, having a message for Saul, Christ does not continue to speak to him from heaven, but he sends a fellow Christian, a man, not an angel, living in Damascus, to inform Paul concerning the Lord's purpose for him, and to baptize him. Incidentally, it might be interesting to note that the street called Straight, on which the house of Judas was located, is still a principal street in the city of Damascus.

God's Chosen Instrument

Two things Ananias was instructed to tell Saul—that he was God's chosen instrument for bearing the name of Christ before "the Gentiles and kings, and the children of Israel." In other words, he was to be, although he did not know it then, the greatest missionary of all the Christian centuries, accomplishing more for the spread of the gospel than any other one man who has ever lived. Furthermore, Ananias was to show him how many things he must suffer for the name of the Lord Jesus.

17. And Ananias departed, and entered into the house; and laying his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, who appeared unto thee in the way which thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mayest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit. 18. And straightway there fell from his eyes as it were scales; and he received his sight; and he arose and was baptized; 19. and he took food and was strengthened. And he was certain days with the disciples that were at Damascus. Forgiven of God, and welcomed by man, Saul rose from his knees. The blindness vanished from his eyes, and a new warmth kindled in his heart. He was Saul no longer. He was a new creation.

Would Abolish T.B. Inside Ten Years

Encouraging Results Are Noted —Control Of The Disease In Canada — Scheme To Stamp It Out Is Advanced.

Encouraging results in the abolition of clinical tuberculosis by anticipation and control are reported in the March issue of the Canadian Medical Association Journal by Dr. William Ogden in collaboration with members of the staff of Toronto Western Hospital chest clinic.

The report, based on work at the clinic for 15 years, says that in an observed and largely controlled series of 1,300 contacts, the incidence of tuberculous disease was four per cent. compared with the usual 20 per cent. in uncontrolled series.

To Keep Thorough History

The scheme by which it is hoped to abolish the disease consists of a thorough history with particular reference to contact, physical examination, tuberculin test, serological test, and X-ray where indicated. A simple scheme of semi-annual testings of the population with tuberculin and serological tests is presented.

Dr. Ogden in the article asks: "Would it be too optimistic to believe that in ten years' time we might visualize the vanishing point of tuberculosis in Ontario."

Animals Suffer From Arthritis

This Painful Disease Seems To Be More Frequent With Them Than Among Humans.

Wild animals have arthritis in much the same form as human beings and this painful and deforming disease seems to be much more frequent in the animal population. An investigation made by Dr. Herbert Fox, professor of comparative pathology, University of Pennsylvania, reported in a monograph published by the American Philosophical Society, shows that out of 1,749 wild animals on which autopsies have been performed seventy-seven presented clear-cut evidence in their deformed bones that they had suffered from chronic arthritis. One animal out of about twenty has the disease. Dr. Fox has observed that the smaller animals seem to be free of the complaint.

Reflecting increased activity in gold mining, receipts of gold at the Royal Canadian Mint during January were greater than in any other month in history.

Will His Country Be Hitler's Next Conquest?

Wearing service uniform and steel helmet, King Carol of Roumania, RIGHT, and General Samsanovici study a map during war games of Roumanian army at Suceava. Defying German demands for economic control of the country, Carol will not let his kingdom, rich in oil, wheat and iron, fall under the Swastika without a terriffic struggle.

Dominion Has Ten Baronets

All But One Have Heirs—One Earl Resides In Canada

Nine of Canada's ten baronets have living heirs who are in line the title. Joseph Ellsworth Flavelle now inherits his father's baronetcy.

Sir Hugh Edward Poynter, baronet, of Albert Gate, whose address is given as Sydney, Australia, is listed in the Canadian Almanac as a Canadian baronet. He alone of the list of ten has no present heir. He was married in 1933.

Canada has one earl, Frederick George Moore Percival, Earl of Egmont, Calgary, whose son, Viscount Percival, will become earl if he survives his father. The viscount, Thomas Frederick Gerald Percival, is only five years old.

Another Viscount

Canada has another viscount listed in the Canadian Almanac, Viscount Greenwood of Holborne, Hamar Greenwood, of London, England. His son, born in 1914, the Hon. David Henry Hamar Greenwood, is the heir.

Baron de Longueuil holds the only hereditary Canadian title conferred originally by Louis XIV when Canada still belonged to France. The present baron is John Moore de Bienville Charles Grant, the ninth baron. His son, Ronald Charles Grant, is heir.

Canada's Racial Trouble Soluble

Distinguished French-Canadian Editor Believes Economic Ills Cause Dissension.

Canada's racial difficulties will disappear when her economic problems have been solved, Jean Charles Harvey, editor of Le Jour, declared last week to a McGill University audience.

Too Few People

Separatism, Mr. Harvey said, did not flourish in prosperous times. Quebec was not the only threat to Canada's unity. The Maritime Provinces did not see eye to eye with Central Canada, Ontario and Manitoba were divided, not only in interests but by natural geophysical barriers, and the Prairie Provinces had different views from the rest of Canada. British Columbia had no common interests with the Prairie Provinces. One of the fundamental difficulties, Mr. Harvey stated, was too small a population in too great an area. He pointed out that the United States had more than ten times the population in an area somewhat less than Canada's.

The Dominion, according to Mr. Harvey, had specific racial problems, but "these are not insurmountable provided we cease to be English, French, Scottish or Jewish and become Canadians, and think of ourselves as such and North Americans."

More Education For Quebec

French-Canadians, the speaker concluded, will be able to play their proper role in industry, trade and commerce as soon as they have an educational system which is up to date. The present system, Mr. Harvey added, was now at a high level from certain points of view but it had to be adapted to the present time and the conditions of the Dominion.

Uniformity In Daylight Time

Throughout Canada Is Sought By The Railway Association Which Has Issued Appeals To 87 Municipalities.

The Railway Association of Canada has requested that watches and clocks in Toronto and the 86 other Canadian municipalities, which have adopted daylight saving, be moved an hour ahead at midnight, Saturday, April 29, and that they will stay that way until Sunday, Sept. 24. The result is expected to be a lessening of the confusion which each year accompanies the time change, various municipalities fall in line at various dates. Last year, for instance, ten Ontario municipalities switched on April 23, while eight others followed suit on dates ranging all the way from April 24 to June 11.

Many Deviations From Rule

Authorities were not prepared to say how many municipalities in Ontario would act on the Railway Association's recommendation, but the belief was expressed that the change would be more uniform than in the past. Nevertheless the confusion element has not been entirely eliminated.

Most towns and cities immediately adjacent to Toronto will join the daylight saving brigade, but in Western Ontario there will be many deviations from the rule, with Guelph and Hamilton the only cities expected to depart from standard time.

The Government of India has reduced the amount of household goods carried free as baggage by the railways.

Bible Outsells "Mein Kampf"

The Bible is still the best seller in Germany, having outsold Chancellor Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" by about 200,000 copies yearly in the six years since the Nazis' assumption of power in 1933, according to the Prussian Bible Society.

An annual average of 950,000 Bibles is sold in Germany. Since "Mein Kampf" was first published in 1925, 5,000,000 German copies have been sold, 4,400,000 since 1933.

How Can I?

BY ANNE ASHLEY

Q.—How can I roll dough more efficiently?

A.—Fasten a piece of muslin smoothly and tightly around the rolling pin, and the dough can be rolled just as thin as desired.

Q.—How can I remove grease from the back of a leather chair that has been caused by the tonic or dressing on a person's hair?

A.—Spread over it a paste of fuller's earth and water. Let this dry, and then brush off.

Q.—How can I make candles burn more evenly?

A.—Candles will burn more evenly and slowly if they are placed in the refrigerator for several hours before lighting them.

Q.—How can I improve the flavor of tea?

A.—The flavor of tea will be greatly improved by thoroughly drying the peel of an orange or a lemon, and placing this peel in the tea container.

Q.—How can I clean knife handles of ivory, bone, and pearl?

A.—Ivory handles, that are discolored, can be cleaned with lemon juice and salt. Bone handles should be sandpapered and then polished. Pearl handles can be cleaned with fine salt. Wipe them off thoroughly with a chamois to restore their luster.

Q.—How can I utilize left-over cereals?

A.—Try using them with cooked tomatoes or creamed vegetables. Cover with grated cheese and bake.

Adult Schools Lift Standard Of Community

Col. Wilfrid Bovey Says Adult Education Raises Economic And Social Level of a Municipality

Wherever a well-organized plan of adult education has been put into operation, the whole economic as well as the social level of the community has been raised, declared Col. Wilfrid Bovey, director of extra-mural relations at McGill University, Montreal, at a luncheon of the Ottawa Canadian Club. "I assure you," he told the gathering, "that any municipality which invests something in this way will get some astonishing results."

Based On Three Principles

The speaker proposed the formation of a National Education Committee which would consist of provincial officials and other educationists and which might advise not only provinces but the Federal Government, and would come in time to be a non-provincial non-Federal but, nevertheless, Canadian authority.

In the meantime he urged support for the development of the system of adult education now active in Canada. It was based on three principles, he pointed out. First, that no one had enough education; second, that anyone could learn; and third, that voluntary effort was essential.

Getting The Bird

A fashionable hat, made entirely of feathers, worn by a young woman at the Derby meeting, Melbourne, Australia, attracted much attention when a bird, which had been nestling among the feathers, suddenly took wing.

Divorce Rise Helps Sleuth

With so many divorces coming before London (Ont.) courts, between 60 and 100 a year, James (Dick) Saunders, a former member of the London police department, has opened a private detective agency in London, and will specialize in divorce investigations.

While denying any connection with London's leading divorce attorney, Mr. Saunders has established his office across the hall from Major G. N. Weekes, who is campaigning for easier divorces, and a Canadian divorce law modelled on the English law.

National Insignia

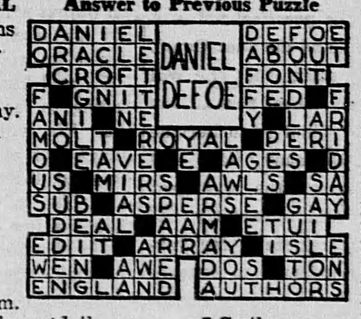
HORIZONTAL

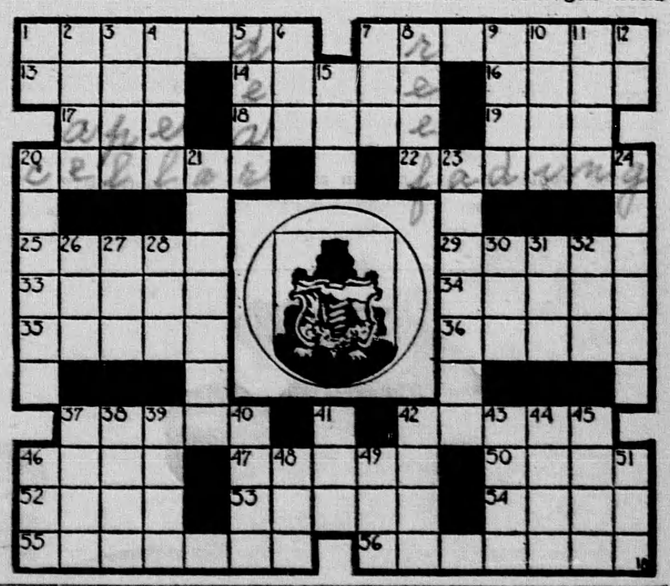
1 Coat of arms of —— pictured here.
7 It is a —— island colony.
13 Assam silkworm.
14 To follow.
16 Sheaf.
17 Monkey.
18 To love.
19 To imitate.
20 Basement.
22 Growing dim.
25 Back of necks cloth.
29 To speak.
33 Swarming.
34 Enticed.
35 Dating device
36 Nimble.
37 Tiny broom.
42 Takes notice of.
46 Needy.
47 Solitary.
50 To shift.
52 Measures of
53 Stratum.
54 Wren.
55 Boat.
56 It is a famous ——, resort.

VERTICAL

1 To exist.
2 Gaelic.
3 French coin.
4 Correspondence.
5 Costly.
6 Conjunction.
7 Prickly nut covering.
8 Chain of rocks in water.
9 Grown-up tadpole.
10 Kafir warriors
11 Observed.
12 Hour.
15 Drunkard.
20 —— and the U. S. A. supply it with food.
21 Maintains.
23 To flatter.
24 It is a perennial —— spot
26 Wing.
27 Cavity.
28 Night before.
30 To pull along.
31 Three.
32 Snaky fish.
37 Strong pin.
38 Drama part.
39 Bear constellation.
40 Healthy.
41 Demure.
42 Valiant man.
43 Always.
44 Half.
45 Looks.
46 Footlike part.
48 Gibbon.
49 Mesh of lace.
51 Wagon track.

Answer to Previous Puzzle





REG'LAR FELLERS—Worse'n Red Flannels **By GENE BYRNES**