SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON XII
MALACHI DEMANDS HONESTY TOWARD GOD — Malachi
Printed Text, Mal. 3.7-18

Golden Text — "Bring ye the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith Jehovah of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." — Mal. 3:10.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time — The exact date of Malchi's ministry is not known, but most scholars place it between 430 and 425 B.C.

Place — Jerusalem.

We find in this lesson many passages revealing the truth which is so often forgotten, that the knowledge which we hold as Christians concerning God and salvation has tremendous practical implications, and that we cannot say that a part of our life is dominated by spiritual truths, and then shut the law of God out of other parts of our lives; thus such matters as honesty, purity, the question of divorce, the question of separation, all must be determined by what God says about these things; "in thy light shall we see light." If we are really sincere about following the Lord, we must let his law penetrate every part of our life.

THE PROPHET MALACHI

The word Malachi means literally "my messenger." Of the prophet himself we know absolutely nothing. But we feel sure that in the time of Nehemiah, Malachi was acting as the prophet of God, co-operating with the civil authority in bringing about the moral reformation of the people. By his writing, Malachi is known as the Hebrew Socrates.

The book of Malachi begins with an exposure of the corrupt practices of the priesthood of the day; and then the prophet turns to the people of Israel as a whole, pointing out in striking language one sin after another of which they were guilty. Malachi's primary charge against Israel was in regard to marriages — marriages with heathen wives, and frequent divorces. The prophet again bases his reproof on the relation of Israel to God.

HIS ACCUSATIONS

Tragically, these terribly guilty Israelites were blind not only to their own sin, but to the judgment which was soon to fall upon them. Malachi implies that the nation was not prepared for the reception of the Lord, and therefore had not ground for murmuring at the delay of the manifestation of divine glory.

3:7. From the days of your fathers ye have turned aside from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith Jehovah of hosts. But ye say, Wherein shall we return? 8.Will a man rob God? yet ye rob me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9. Ye are cursed with the curse; for ye rob me, even this entire nation.

THE TITHE

God demanded the tithe only as a minimum, and they had carelessly given him what he claimed — the minimum — in tithes and offerings. They had robbed God in that they had not responded to the divine claim in the spirit in which it was made, but had offered that which was allowed by measurement and rule rather than in the spirit of love. A tithe is all right if it is something you feel. If it is something which puts you in danger of being dishonest, it is wrong; and if it is out of harmony with your own success in life, it is absolutely wrong.

10. Bring ye the whole tithe into the store-house, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith Jehovah of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

11. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field, saith Jehovah of hosts.

12. And all nations shall call you happy; for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith Jehovah of hosts.

Do not imagine because we are living in a spiritual dispensation we are no longer bound in the matter of material giving.

13. Your words have been stout against me, saith Jehovah. Yet ye say, What have we spoken against thee? 14. Ye have said, It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his charge, and that we have walked mournfully before Jehovah of hosts? 15. and now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are all built up; yea, they tempt God, and escape. The people who returned from Babylon seemed to have a knowledge of God, and to observe the law, and to understand their sin, and to offer sacrifices for sin; to pay tithes, to observe the Sabbath and the rest, commanded in the law of God, and seeing all the nations around them abounding in all things, and that they themselves were in penury, hunger, misery, and were scandalized and said, "what does it benefit me that I worship the one true God, abominate idols, and, pricked with the consciousness of sin, walk mournfully before God?

SOME CONCLUDING PROMISES

16. Then they that feared Jehovah spake one with another; and Jehovah hearkened, and heard, and a book of remembrance was written before him, for them that feared Jehovah, and that thought upon his name. 17. And they shall be all mine, saith Jehovah of hosts, even mine own possession, in the day that I make; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him not.

The second precious promise at the close of Malachi's book for those that fear the Lord is the assurance of victory over all evil, victory that will be consummated in the day of the Lord, a victory that in its perfect form is still to take place in the future, at the end of this age, when the Lord Jesus Christ himself shall come back again to complete his redemptive work among the nations of the earth. The whole chapter is a future prophecy.

In the movie-houses of the U. S. A., the biggest audiences go to the Sunday performances.

Britain's Children On The Move Again

During the long period of inactivity on the western front, many of the children who had been evacuated from English cities returned home. Now they are being evacuated again. These children were photographed at Southend on their way to a safer refuge. Some British children may come to Canada.

They Must Work Hard For Glamor

Why Movie Stars and Photographers' Models Always Do Look Their Best

No woman needs to waste time and conversatioon envying motion picture stars and glamorous magazine models their good figures, and smart clothes and nice complexions because any girl who is determined to improve her own appearance can follow their example — that is, if she is determined enough.

Most of them get more exercise and more sleep than you and you. They realize that sleep is the great cure-all for fine lines around the eyes, downward sloping lines from nose to corners of the mouth. It puts a sparkle in the eyes and it gives the complexion a youthful gleam.

They know, too, that no woman looks younger than her walk, her posture. Lack of exercise causes the knee joints to stiffen, thigh muscles to become tense and stiff.

To keep from gaining too much weight, the average model or picture star eats foods that are low in caloric content. Vegetables, salads and fruits rather than rich pastries, heavy gravies and such.

Canadian Airmen Grimly Resolute On Arrival In London

There is determination stamped on the faces of these Canadian airmen who are pictured as they recently arrived in London. Air Minister Power has announced from Ottawa that Canada is rushing all available aircraft and pilots to the assistance of the mother country.

Farm Notes . . .

EXPORT WHITE CHEESE

The Dominion Dairy Products Board announced, following its first meeting held in Ottawa on May 27th, that all cheese manufactured in Canada after the 31st of May, 1940, to be acceptable for export to the United Kingdom, must be white and unwaxed.

Under a recent agreement the British Ministry of Food will buy up to November 30, 1940, a total of 78,400,000 lb. of Canadian cheese at a price of 14 cents per lb. for first grade cheese f.o.b. steamship at Montreal during the season of navigation and 14 cents f.o.b. rail Montreal during the winter months. The export will be arranged by the Dairy Products Board.

POINTS ON HOGS

Attention must be paid to at least four important points before our bacon will sell in the top price brackets. They are continued improvement in type and breeding; marketing at proper weights; finishing to No. 1 selection rather than to No. 2 and No. 3 standards; and production of such hogs at not more than six months of age. Each point is very important, and together they constitute an interesting challenge to all Canadian hog producers

School Boys' Tour To Pacific Coast

An all-expense-included tour across Canada for school boys, under the personal direction of Harold Bott of the Montreal High School, will be available this summer to all boys who desire to join the party, according to C. K. Howard, manager of the Tourist and Convention Bureau, Canadian National Railways. This tour, including the highlights of travel over both railways and across the Great Lakes, side trips by bus, steamer trips between Vancouver, Victoria and Prince Rupert, B.C., a total of 38 nights in hotels and outdoor camps in the west, are part of the plan to make the journey a most memorable outing, stated Mr. Howard.

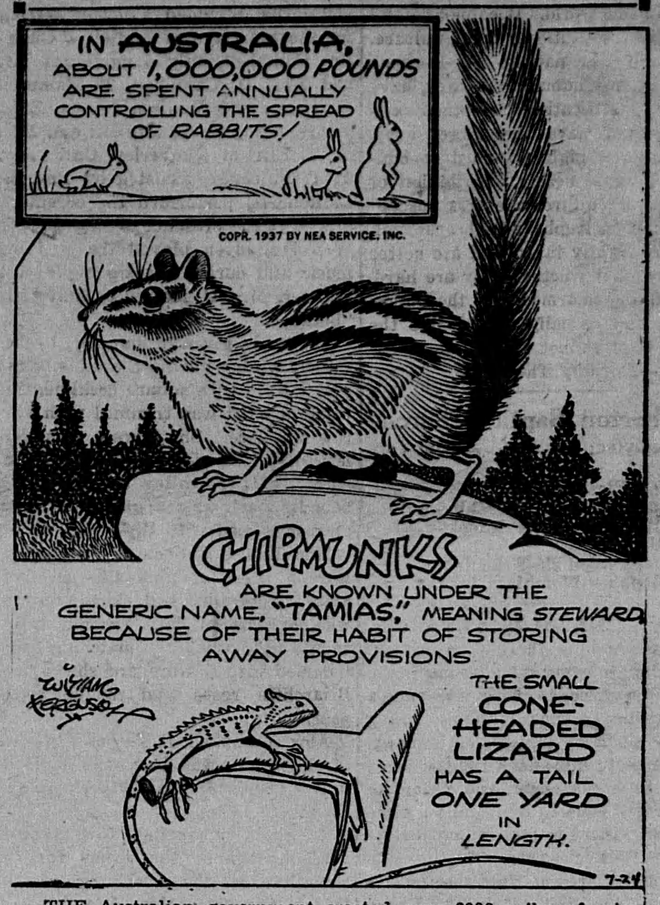
Round Trip, 51 Days

The round-trip tour will take 51 days from Montreal back to Montreal, and will commence with the departure of The Continental Limited train of the Canadian National Railways from Bonaventure station, Montreal, on Friday, June 28 for Winnipeg, where a change-over will be made to a Canadian Pacific train for the remainder of the trip westward to Vancouver and by boat to Victoria, B. C. and return to the coast. This trip westward includes overnight stops at Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, Alta., Vancuover and 13 nights at Glintz Lake Camp on Vancouver Island, most of which will be at the Y. M. C. A.

The return journey will commence from Vancouver on July 24 by a trip on the Canadian National Steamships boat up to Prince Rupert, B.C. and thence eastward over Canadian National lines to Port Arthur, Ont., including 14 nights at the Lake Edith Camp of the Y. M. C. A. near the town of Jasper in Jasper National Park, Alberta, and hotel accommodation at Edmonton and Winnipeg. From Port Arthur the journey is resumed on the S. S. Noronic to Sarnia, Ont., and thence to Hamilton, Niagara Falls, by boat to Toronto.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



THE Australian government erected over 6000 miles of wire fencing in its efforts to control its rabbit population, but with little success. The millions of rabbits now inhabiting three-fourths of the country are descendants of two dozen wild rabbits brought in about one hundred years ago.

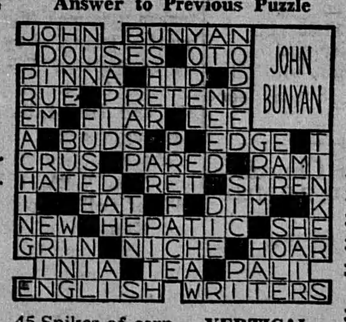
NEXT: To whom do meteorites belong?

COMMON RODENT

HORIZONTAL

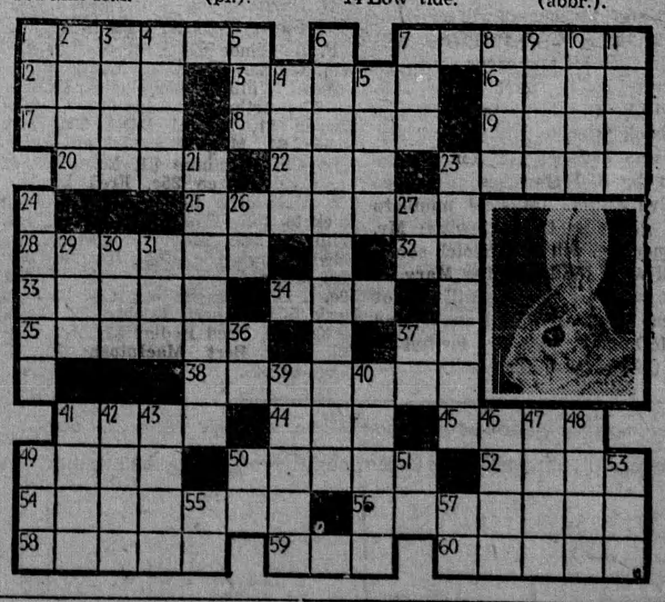
1 Pictured rodent.
7 It is —— of southern Europe.
12 Egg-shaped.
13 Positive electric terminal.
16 Poems.
17 To delete.
18 Rhythm.
19 Dregs.
20 Plants.
22 Devoured.
23 A spreading outward.
25 To commission.
28 Talisman.
32 North Africa.
33 Stormed.
34 Pig pen.
35 Related through the mother.
37 Jumbled type.
38 Merely named
41 Sound of large bell.
44 Palm leaf.
45 Spikes of corn
49 To reduce.
50 Indistinct.
52 Shrewd.
54 Rubber pencil ends.
56 Russian measure of length.
58 Its —— is used for coats (pl.).
59 Sesame.
60 It is considered a —— in Australia (pl.).

Answer to Previous Puzzle



VERTICAL

1 Scepter.
2 Class of birds.
3 Bundle.
4 To decay
5 Beret.
6 A variety of this animal (pl.).
7 Born.
8 Tax.
9 Mental image.
10 To shift.
11 Existence.
14 Low tide.
15 Sketched
21 Sowing.
23 Brittle.
24 It belongs to the family of ——.
26 Mountain.
27 Half an em.
29 Male.
30 Pulpy fruit.
31 To rent.
36 Company (abbr.)
37 Papa
39 Damp
40 Native.
41 Challenge.
42 Verbal.
43 Birds' retreat.
46 Pain.
47 Feels regret.
48 Let it stand.
49 Energy.
50 Mister (abbr.
51 Year (abbr.)
53 Being.
55 Electric term.
57 Spanish (abbr.).



POP—In Search of Recognition

By J. MILLAR WATT