SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON VI
JAMES TEACHES CONSISTENT CHRISTIAN LIVING.
THE EPISTLE OF JAMES.
PRINTED TEXT: James 1:17-22; 2:14-17; 4:13-17; 5:12.
GOLDEN TEXT: Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. James 1:27.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time: It has been generally understood that the Epistle of James was written before A.D. 51, and, possibly, as early as A.D. 45, and is thus most probably the earliest of all the writings now included in the New Testament.

Place: Probably in the city of Jerusalem.

All Christians have been brought into fellowship with Christ, and have been redeemed from the power of sin, and by their word and by their acts, in daily life, publicly and privately, should show to the world that they are now under the rule and lordship of Jesus Christ, and are not living according to the customs of the world.

James begins his Epistle with a discussion of temptation, and surely everyone who tries to live as Christ would have him live, knows what temptation is. But he says a very strange thing, that we are to rejoice when we fall into temptations, because in having victory over them, our faith will be proved genuine, and we will be learning the virtue of patience.

So many circumstances of life arise which baffle and perplex us, with the result that we do not know what to say, what to do, which way to turn, what to undertake. In this situation James says, the secret is to turn to God, who will give wisdom freely to all who call upon Him, in faith, nothing doubting.

"17. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights, with whom can be no variation, neither shadow that is cast by turning. God because He is good, could never give anything, or will anything, but good in relation to men. It is interesting to think of the gifts that come down from above. To begin with, there is the sunlight, and then the rain, then the gift of the love by angels to Moses, the gift of the Son of God who came down from glory! The gift of the Holy Spirit who was sent by the Father and by the Son. Christ Himself is surely the perfect gift from Heaven. The idea that sunlight comes from above will help us some in the interpretation for the title of God, the Father of Lights."

Be Slow to Speak

"18. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Our Lord said that we were begotten by the Holy Spirit. Here we are taught that God has begotten us by the word of truth. There is no contradiction here. The Holy Spirit only brought about a state of regeneration within us by our hearing the word of God concerning His Son, Jesus Christ.

"19. Ye know this my beloved brethren. But to speak slow to wrath: 20 for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." James here gives the excellent advice that, while man should be quick to hear, so as not to be accused of indifference or dullness of mind, he should be slow to speak, and especially slow in the manifestation of anger

"21. Wherefore putting away all filthiness and overflowing of wickedness, receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save your souls." In the place of these wicked things we are to receive into our hearts the Word of God, which is able to deliver our souls from every besetting sin. Wickedness will not be put away if we do not determine to put it away. The word of God is not only when held in the mind, but is to take root in the heart.

"22. But ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding your own selves." We are not only to believe the Word of God, but to practise it. A Christian who does not put into practice the Word of God is like a man who, after gazing at his face in the mirror (mirrors in James' day were made of brass, highly polished), and seeing some blemish on his face, puts the mirror down, goes away and has no further thought of that which he knows should be removed.

Faith With Works

"14. What doth it profit my brethren, if a man say he have faith, but have not works? Can that faith save him?

"15. If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food, 16, and one of you say unto them, go in peace, be warmed and filled; and yet give them not the things needful to the body; what doth it profit?

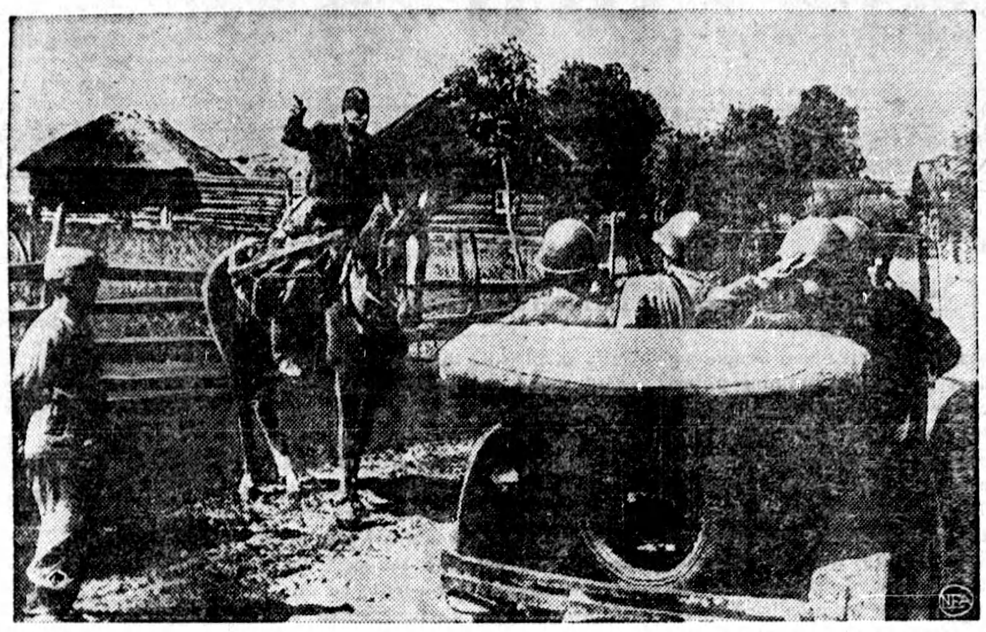
"17. Even so faith; if it have not works, is dead in itself. James emphasizes that a faith which does not result in works, that is, in a manifestation of a true Christian life, eternally and visibly, is not the kind of faith commended by God.

"13. Come now, ye that say: Today or tomorrow we will go into this city, and spend a year here, and trade and get gain. 14. Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. What is your life? For ye are a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15. For that ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall both live, and do this or that. 16. But now ye glory in your vauntings; all such glory is evil." We are not to plan our lives as though we had control of our lives ourselves, but always with the thought in mind that we will do things if it is the will of God.

"17. To him therefore that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Generally, we count that a sin which is a deliberate doing of what we ought not to do. Here James gives the reverse side of a definition of sin—not doing that which we know we ought to do.

"12. But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by the heaven, nor by the earth, nor by any other oath; but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay; that ye fall not under judgment." In a Christian society where men are truly brethren in Christian affection, there should be no need of oaths in the daily intercourse of social life.

DOWN THAT WAY, COMRADE: GERMANS



A Red army scout on horseback reports to his superiors riding in a car somewhere along the battlefront, according to Soviet caption radioed from Moscow with this picture.

SCOUTING . . .

Twenty-eight Halifax Scouts, of a class of seventy, who hope some day to be airmen, have earned their "Red Wings," the junior airmanship badge of the Boy Scouts Association. Hundreds of Scouts across Canada are studying the fundamental principles of airmanship. When they have won their "Silver Wings," they will have mastered the theoretical principles of flying, of air navigation, aero engines and much aircraftsman's ground work, plus advanced first aid, signalling and other standard qualifications of a First Class Scout. Their instructors were officers of the R.C.A.F., and those first earning their "wings" received these at the hands of Squadron Leader C. E. Creighton.

The good work of the 70 Wolf Cubs and Boy Scouts of Newmarket, Ont., in the local salvage campaign was rewarded in a surprise party. The Pack and Troop were called together and marched to the salvage warehouse. Expecting work to be done, they found a fire blazing merrily and the inviting odour of hot dogs announcing a feast.

A former Boy Scout leader of the 1st Whitton Scout Group, England, Leslie F. Hughes, now a member of the local police force, was the tenth Scout or Scouter to be awarded the George Medal for gallant rescue work during Nazi air attacks on Britain. Hughes saved a number of persons by crawling under the debris of fallen houses, regardless of the risk to himself. "He burrowed like a rat to rescue the trapped people," was one description of his work, "and tore his clothing to shreds. In fact, he had to return home for a complete change, including underwear."

V for Victory

V stands for Victory in English. To the French it stands for Victoire (Victory). To the Dutch for Vryjheid (Freedom), to the Czechs for Vitezto! (Victory), to the Serbs for Vitestoo (Freedom).

V stands for a campaign for Victory, started in England by Col. Britton, a mystery speaker of the British Broadcasting Corporation who, in half a dozen languages, sends messages of encouragement to the people of Germany and Nazi occupied countries. He tells them to spread the V for Victory signs throughout the land.

Mr. J. B. Priestley, recently broadcasting from England, said that the V for Victory campaign is designed to stir hope among the Nazi dominated peoples and to impress upon the Nazis that their doom is on the way. The Germans, he said, are being haunted by a war of nerves.

V Audible and Visual

Reports from England say that V signs are seen and heard in all parts of Europe. V's are chalked on walls, cut out of paper, drawn on dusty automobiles.

The symbol is doubly good because it is audible as well as visual. In the Morse code V is three dots and a dash. Drummers beat it on their drums, diners in restaurants beat it on their glasses to call a waiter, motorists toot it on their horns. People are heard whistling the dot, dot, dot, dash rhythm of the opening bars of Beethoven's fifth symphony, which according to the composer, symbolizes "fate knocking at the door."

Counter Propaganda

The Germans, recognizing this powerful weapon, hope to turn the campaign against Britain by adopting it for themselves. Recently a German broadcasting station opened the broadcast with the dot, dot, dot, dash signal and the listeners were told that the signal was V for Viktoria (Victory) which Germany is winning on all battlefronts. Although Viktoria means Victory, Sieg is the word that is customarily used.

Mr. Priestley said, "Don't make the mistake of thinking this is a childish thing. It is supremely important. This is not only a war of machines; it is a war of morale and propaganda."

Experiments are being made with a charcoal-burning automobile in Quebec while motor fuel is to be made from surplus wheat in Australia. If it keeps on, a fellow won't know whether he's driving his car by the cord or the bushel.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson

A PINT OF WATER AND A PINT OF GRAIN ALCOHOL DO NOT MEASURE ONE QUART WHEN ADDED TOGETHER

The HIGH MARK FOR MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ATTENDANCE WAS THE YEAR 1930, WHEN 10,186,000 PERSONS PAID ADMISSION.

MAJOR LEAGUE baseball attendance for 1937 was approximately 9,447,497, an increase of 10 per cent over 1936. The American League drew about a half-million more fans than the National. More than one million persons paid their way into the home grounds of the Detroit Tigers.

NEXT: Bees that pull each other's hair.

RADIO REPORTER
By DAVE ROBBINS

"V" PROPAGANDA

Well, radio's in the news more than ever these days, and it looks as if the democracies have really learned the lesson of Propaganda PLUS. Taking a great big page —if not the whole book from Herr Goebbels, Great Britain has launched its "V" for Victory campaign. It's got everyone thinking and liking the idea—more than that, it's got the Huns humming and hawing and what's more important, worrying. The theme of "V" for Victory as we all know by now, is carried effectively in the opening notes of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony — in the three dots and the dash in Morse Code. Stations everywhere, starting with the BBC, are using these two forms and variations of them, in some form of program or station identification. CKOC in Hamilton is using the morse signal at all station breaks before station announcement. Dr. Salmon's widely listened to commentary of the day's news is preceded by the Victory Music theme. So it's catching on everywhere, and the campaign is only a little more than a week old. Let's watch it grow!

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THE AMERICAS

Good-neighbourliness is more than just a phrase to which we pay lip-service. Broadcasters, particularly, are doing everything possible to really create a feeling of mutual friendliness between the North and South Americas. And one of the best ambassadors we have, musically, is Xavier Cugat, whose authentic treatment of the dances of our South American friends, has won him fame on two continents. Catch Cugat with the Cugat Rhumba Revue on the NBC Red network, Thursday evenings at 7.30 E.D.S.T. And you'll hear Cugat quite a lot too from many of your local stations — featuring various pop and Latin American rhythms. If you've record playing facilities at home, you'll get some of Cugat's best on wax at your neighbourhood record counter.

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"PRESCOTT PRESENTS"

Allen Prescott's sheltered days are over. For nearly nine years the glib champion of U.S. Radio's "Kitchen Captives," has been dispensing helpful household hints to harried housewives. His only companion on the "Wife Saver" series has been a pianist. But that's all over now. The powers-that-be have decided that no man should live alone and like it, and have starred Prescott in a new morning variety show, "Prescott Presents." With him to make things clubby for the experiment, is Irving Miller's orchestra, NBC song stylist Diane Ortney; Joan Brooks of the Four Belles Quartet (they're plenty good all by themselves), and to top it off, a mixed quartet. Prescott continues his "Wife Saver" mission on the new show and has inaugurated a new feature, the "Things-to-talk-about-Section." "Prescott Presents" may be heard 10.45 to 11.00 a.m. E.D.S.T. on CBL and CBY only—and from 11.00 to 11.15 a.m., E.D.S.T. on CBO and network of the C.B.C.

Skeletons Reveal Prehistoric Toothache

The belief that prehistoric man had teeth superior was exploded when excavators near Homer, Neb., uncovered skeletons of a prehistoric tribe which was supposed to have roamed the prairies long before the present-day Indian appeared.

Prof. John Champ of University of Nebraska anthropology department, who examined the skeletons, reported that virtually all of them had large cavities in their teeth.

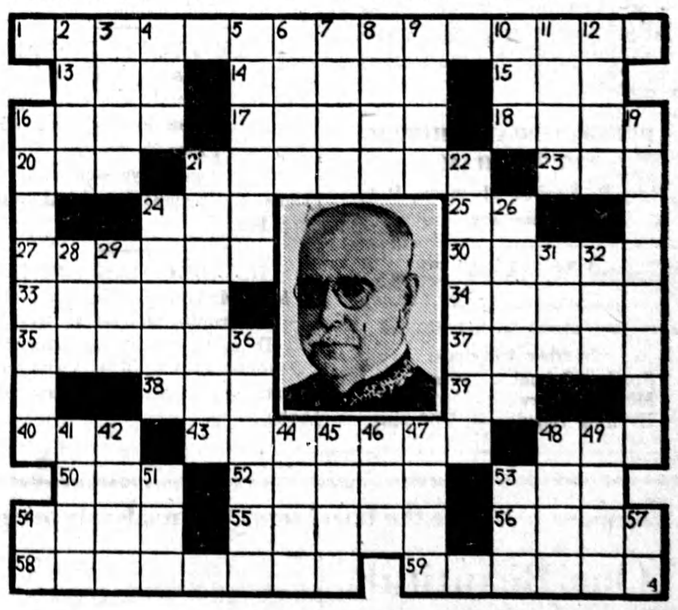
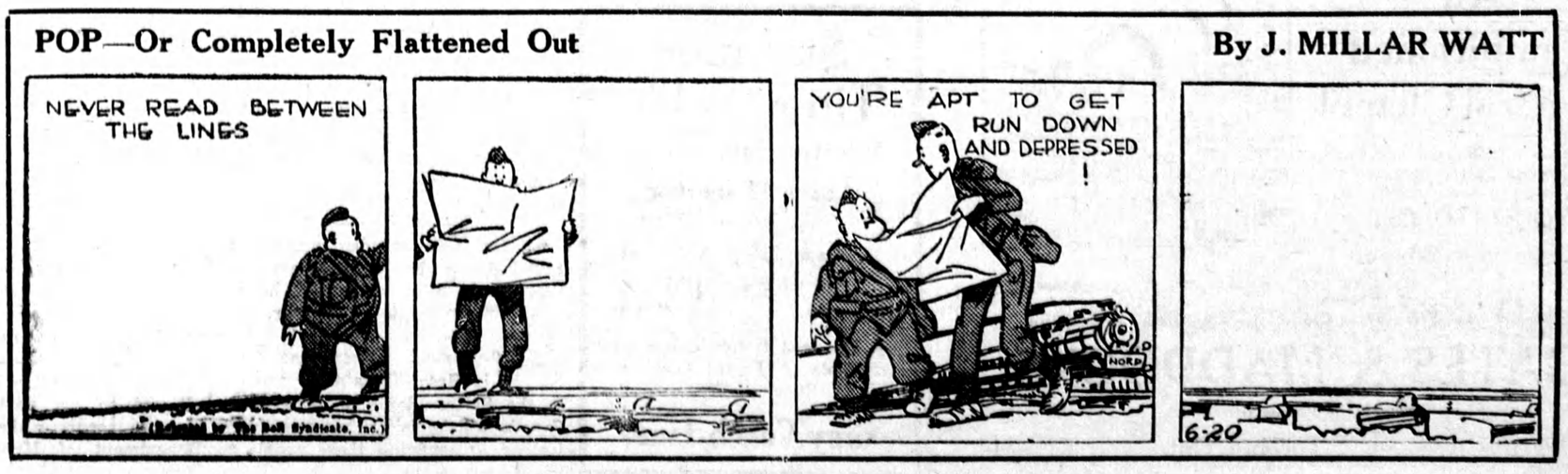
MARCH KING

HORIZONTAL
1 Pictured American musician.
13 Tiny.
14 To make amends.
15 To mimic.
16 To liquefy.
17 Egyptian coin.
18 Projecting parts.
20 Distinctive theory.
21 Disperses.
23 Iniquity.
24 Pronoun.
25 Father.
27 To stud with stars.
30 To worship.
33 Insulated.
34 An outlaw.
35 Fungus.
37 To give medical care.
38 Ever (contr.).
39 Form of "a."
40 To yelp.
43 Baking dish
48 Thick shrub.
50 Aperture.
52 Fearful.
53 Forcible restraint of speech.
54 Liver secretion.
55 Select part.
56 Subtle emanation.
58 He won fame as a —— of marches.
59 He was a band leader or ——.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CINDERELLA — CINDER-ELLA

VERTICAL
2 Is indebted.
3 Tiller.
4 Fishing bag.
5 Packing basket.
6 Passage.
7 Mineral fissure.
8 Cetacean.
9 Undecided.
10 Rowing implement.
11 Arrow poison.
12 Half.
16 He was head of U. S. A. —— bands.
19 He —— a musical instrument.
21 Giving more shade.
22 Undaunted.
24 Cubic meter.
26 To ornament.
28 Scold.
29 Mineral spring.
31 Single thing.
32 Inlet.
36 Boxes.
41 Money changing.
42 Part of hand.
44 5,280 feet.
45 Arabian commander.
46 Tool bag.
47 The same.
48 Tight.
49 Monster.
51 Energy.
53 Aeriform fuel.
54 Before Christ (abbr.).
57 Measure of area.



POP—Or Completely Flattened Out
By J. MILLAR WATT