Sunday School Lesson

November 9. Lesson VI.—Amos Pleads for Justice.—Amos. 5: 1, 2, 10-15, 21-24. Golden Text—Let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a might stream. —Amos 5: 24.

ANALYSIS

I. A [illegible] AND AN EXHORTATION, 5: 1-17.

II. A SECURITY WARNING, 5:18-27.

III. VISIONS OF INTERCESSION AND A PRIEST'S OPPOSITION, chap. 7.

INTRODUCTION—Like the true prophets of Israel in every age, Amos held that the mere formalities of religion served in themselves pleasing to God. He saw in Israel, at the [illegible] Bethel, multitudes who [illegible] sacrifices at the altars and paid their tithes, and who were careful to observe the ancient forms, but to him it was not worship, but rather transgression against God. He knew the lives which these people lived, their many acts of injustice, their cruel oppression toward the poor, their greed, their self-indulgence, their deeds of violence, and their disloyalty to Jehovah in the recognition and worship of other gods. He saw doom coming upon a wicked nation and declared that Jehovah would not turn it away. He reminds the people of the warnings which they have had, drought and famine, blight and locust swarm, plague and a recent earthquake, yet they have not repented. In the greater calamity that is coming upon them they will meet an offended God whose laws of justice and human kindness they have not obeyed.

And yet Amos, true prophet of a merciful God, hoping against hope that a way of deliverance may yet be found, exhorts this sinful people to repentance and intercedes for them with God that they may be forgiven.

I. A THREE-FOLD EXHORTATION, 5: 1-17.

The lamentation or dirge (v. 1) is cast in the form of a verse of poetry (vv. 2) with a peculiarly mournful rhythm, which may be indicated in English as follows:

"Fallen, no more to rise, the virgin of Israel;
Cast down upon her land, none to lift her up."

Here Amos is anticipating the calamity which he expects to fall upon Israel as a punishment for its sins, and in his prophetic vision he sees it as already present, and the land fallen in ruin and decay. The prophet's messages of warning and of exhortation were spoken as early as B.C. 750, and in 722, after a long period of civil strife, and a long siege of the capital city of Samaria by Assyrian armies, the kingdom of Israel came to an end and many of her people were carried away into captivity, see 2 Kings 15: 8-31 and 17:1-23. The prediction of Amos was fulfilled.

In v. 3 the prophet describes the condition to which the country will be reduced as the result of internal strife and invasion by foreign enemies. Only a tenth of the men able to bear arms will be left in the cities of Israel.

Nevertheless he believes in the love of God and upon repentance and the seeking of his favor, it by any means his anger against them may be appeased and he may yet deal kindly. Jehovah is to be sought, he declares, not in the gorgeous and sumptuous rites of the great sanctuaries at Bethel, Gilgal and Beersheba, but in just and upright dealing, in putting away their unfeeling oppressions and their weighty sins (v. 12), in seeking good and not evil. For Jehovah is not only the great God, the Lord, maker of the heavens and author of light and darkness, of sea and land, but he is one to read the secretest thoughts of men's hearts, and to be the leader of the skilled against the strong (v. 9, compare 4:13).

The place was ripe for the outcome to be walled out and the great square within. The latter was the market place, and the place of public concourse where the judges of the city held daily session. An upright judge who rebuked evil doers was hated. The prophet indignantly denounces the rich who oppress the poor, who lend at fearful rates of interest to widows, exacting from them gifts of the produce of their labor in return for their petty loans, who lack feelings and perverted justice, a particularly despicable kind of sinners (vv. 11-12). The day of Jehovah, and so of wail, is for such a great overthrow when there will be lamentation and mourning in the highways and streets, and wailing in farms and vineyards (vv. 16, 17).

II. A SECURITY WARNING, 5:18-27.

The prophet rebukes those who desire the day of the Lord, (vv. 18-20). There seem to have been a popular conception that in some great war Jehovah would lead the armies of Israel to victory over their enemies and to wealth and power. Amos turns this desired day into a day of judgment upon the evil nation. Jehovah will indeed come, but in wrath and not with favor, and his instruments of doom will be those very foes whom they hope to conquer. It will be a day of defeat and loss, of victory, of humiliation and not of triumph, in which there will be no safety and no escape for those who have sinned against their God.

The feast days, solemn assemblies, and offerings are not acceptable, because they have in them no content of true worship. For the same high emphasis upon righteousness and justice, and upon pure worship, see Isa. 1:10-17; Jer. 7:1-15; Hos. 6:6; Micah 6:6-8. The question of verse 25 seems to imply that such forms of worship were not used in the wilderness period, but that is quite inconceivable. The intention seems to be to introduce a comparison between the simpler and purer worship of that period, and the orgiastic and idolatrous rites of Amos' time (compare Jer. 7:21-24).

III. VISIONS OF INTERCESSION AND A PRIEST'S OPPOSITION, chap 7.

In a series of dream visions Amos prays for the people of Israel, beseeching the mercy of God upon this little nation of Israel. In the third of these he predicts the fall of the royal house of Israel. The king mentioned in Jeroboam II a short account of whose reign will be found in 2 Kings 14:23-29. This declaration made at Bethel, a sanctuary under royal patronage, aroused the wrath of the chief priest, who ordered Amos to return at once to his own country of Judah. The prophet's simple defence of his divine commission and statement of his call to the prophetic office (vs. 14-15), is very impressive.

Fashion

A DAINTY NIGHTGOWN.

The woman who delights in making dainty garments will find this attractive nightgown quite simple to fashion. The sides of the front and back are slightly gathered and joined to a scalloped yoke effect which also forms short sleeves. No. 1676 is in sizes 34 to 44 inches bust. Any size requires 2¾ yards 36 or 39-inch material. Price 20c the pattern.

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Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number and address your order to Pattern Dept., Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Patterns sent by return mail.

Fashion Notes

It is very important to own a number of sweaters if you have any feeling on the subject of being well dressed. If, on the other hand, clothes bore you, it is wise to own sweaters, as they are the simplest and most comfortable things in the world to wear. You can wear them so many more places than you used to be able to. They may be worn for school or in an office. They are the smartest possible things for football games and for the country and for all kinds of sports. And they are correct in town for shopping and luncheon. The smartest way to wear them is with the new tweed suits with matching skirts, but they are also worn with tailored suits and separate skirts under fur coats.

The pull-over sweater may be bought in solid colors or in an infinite variety of stripes and patterns. Fine natural cashmere is very smart in a plain sweater.

Many of the large stores have these cashmere shirts without a neck line cut, so that you can cut and bind them as you wish. Another sweater is horizontally striped. This is a good sweater to wear with a plain cardigan the color of one of the stripes. Some of them combine two or three contrasting colors, as a beige sweater patterned in black and bright firemen's red. Some of them are in various shades of one color.

There are a number of new sweaters that are cut and made from the Rodier knitted woolens. In this way you can have a sweater that will fit as precisely as a blouse that is tailored to your measure. They come in different patterns, some of them woven with metal threads. A popular pattern is striped narrowly with beige, light brown and rust.

The cardigan sweater is always worn with a slip over underneath it. It is generally plain and matches one of the colors in the slip. Very occasionally the cardigan is striped or patterned in some way and the slip-over is plain.

The New Skirts.

The skirts worn with the smart sweaters are always related to them. Sometimes they, too, are knitted, and then they match exactly. When they are fabric they are tweed or a fine homespun, kasha, wool crepe or jersey. Or they may be heavy crepe de chine. In the latter case they will be finely pleated all the way round. In woolens the familiar wraparound is still popular.

There are so many sorts of pleated skirts, from narrow box pleats an inch wide to box pleats five or six inches wide. There are accordion and knife pleated skirts or skirts, with merely one or two inverted pleats in the front. A small number of very smart new skirts have circular fullness in front or just at one side.

British To Investigate African Federation

London.—The Government commission to investigate the possibility of confederating the British East and Central African territories including Kenya, Uganda, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland has now been appointed. Sir Hilton Young, financial expert will preside with Sir Reginald Maut, ex-India administrator, Sir George Schuster, financial secretary of the Sudan and Joseph H. Oldham, secretary of the International Missionary Council as members, and Harold F. Downie of the Colonial Office as secretary.

The commission is to leave for Africa on December 22. The territories concerned contain 1000 square miles and 12,000,000 inhabitants.

Fall Colds

Chickens With Feathers Get Them As Well As Those Without

Fall colds are quite common in poultry flocks at this period of the year, the inspectors reporting that approximately one-third of the flocks they are inspecting are infected to a greater or lesser degree with fall colds.

Colds in poultry are somewhat similar to colds in higher animals and are not fully understood. It is commonly accepted that they are caused by a disease organism which as yet has not been isolated. They can be detected in the flock by the watery discharge from the nostrils of the affected birds, a rattling in the throat, and in severe cases, a swelling of the eye. The nasal discharge has a very disagreeable odor. The nasal passages oftentimes become covered with straw, dust, etc., making it impossible for the nasal discharges to escape, causing a backing up of the discharge through the tear duct, and the swelling up of this material in the duct just underneath and at the front of the bird's eye, which sets up an irritation and the accumulation eventually develops into a mass of yellow, cheesy material, bringing about the condition which is commonly known as roup.

Any condition which may pull down or reduce the vitality and disease resistance of the birds, makes it more susceptible to fall colds, as well as to other ailments. Improper or insufficient feeding, roosting in trees, or in draughty hen houses, housing in damp unsanitary buildings, or any like condition, may reduce the bird's vitality to a point where it becomes readily susceptible to colds.

Ordinarily, if proper feeding is continued and the housing conditions improved, the affected birds wil recover without treatment; however, in very severe cases the disease may cause the loss of a number of birds, and the loss of egg production over a considerable period of time.

Treatment.

Which colds are prevalent, the first effort should be directed towards finding out the faulty condition, bringing about the disturbance. The walls of the building should be made tight, the ventilating system put into order, the dry litter placed in the house, and the general housing condition made as comfortable as possible.

Every effort should be made to increase the consumption of the birds. In most cases, the birds eat very little in which case, a wet mash should be fed, daily, about all that they will consume, and any other foods available, should be given in an effort to increase the food consumption.

Potassium permanganate, or a similar disinfectant, may be profitably kept in the drinking water while the flock is suffering from colds, in an effort to prevent dissemination of the disease through the drinking water.

When individual treatment is desired, nostrils should be cleaned as thoroughly as possible. Following this a solution of two drops of oil of eucalyptus to one ounce of mineral oil should be injected into each nostril, mouth. In the case of particularly valuable birds a twenty per cent. solution of argyrol can be injected into underneath the eye with the swelling. In severe cases of roup, good results. A twenty per cent. solution of argyrol is effective, and two or three applications will usually completely remove the canker. J. A. Hannah.

A little girl was travelling in a tramcar with her mother, a woman of very slight build. Presently an extremely stout woman boarded the car, and sat down opposite the little girl. The train started off with a jerk, and the child complated the woman opposite her for some minutes, then, turning to her mother, inquired in a loud voice. Mother, is that all one lady?"

Three Literary Giants

BIG IN BODY AS WELL AS MIND

"Big Wigs" of letters fall to agree. "Do We Agree?" was the somewhat inappropriate title of a debate between George Bernard Shaw (left) and Gilbert K. Chesterton (right), which took place in London the other night. Hilaire Belloc (centre) acted as chairman.

British Favor Increases in China's Tariffs

Merchants Also Ask Government to Resume Control of Hankow Concession

London.—A plea that the British Government should resume its control of the Hankow concession handed over by the Chinese Nationalists last February under the Chen-O'Malley agreement was made in a letter to The Times, signed by the representatives of all the chief British business organizations trading in China.

The signatories also express the opinion that "until Chinese Nationalism is able to furnish more evidence of constructive and administrative capacity than it has so far given, the safeguards under which British trade hitherto has been conducted ought not to be further weakened." The safeguards represented by concessions "ought, for the time being, to be maintained."

The signatories also name certain other safeguards which ought not, in their opinion, to be abandoned yet, namely, "extra-territoriality, foreign administration of customs and rights, and facilities hitherto recognized in respect of the sale and purchase of goods in the interior, and of the river, rail and coastal carrying trade. The abandonment of these safeguards and rights would be more dangerous to British trade than the boycott."

On the other hand, they favor increases in import tariffs, provided they apply all round and not only to British goods. They also support the recommendations of the extraterritoriality commission presided over by Silas Strawb, and Shanghai Chinese share in foreign administrative responsibilities "as the municipal council of the international settlement has already done."

A representative of The Christian Science Monitor understands that Whitehall's opinion is definitely against the merchants proposal to take back the Hankow concession a move which, it considers, would be both undesirable and impracticable.

No landing of British marines at Hankow occurred during the week-end as far as is known here. But should such a temporary measure become necessary they would be withdrawn, it is learned, as the Chinese restored order.

Two actors who were very jealous of each other met in a hostelry. They exchanged frigid nods. "How are you getting along?" asked one, presently. "Pretty well," replied the other. "Still keeping alive." The first man eyed his rival steadily for a second and then asked, casually, "What's your motive?"

Germany Ignores Armistice Silence

Looks to Future and Would Willingly Bury Bygones

Berlin.—There was no rejoicing in Germany in memory of Armistice Day; in fact, the anniversary as a fete day was left severely alone.

News of celebrations in other countries was published in fairly complete detail, but without comment by papers of either the Left or the Right.

Even the man in the street declined to take notice of the ninth anniversary of the war's ending, the general attitude being, as one individual replied to a query, "It is best to bury bygones. The future is serious enough for all concerned."

"You've paid a fitting tribute when you get a receipt from your tailor."

The uncovering in Mexico by archeologists of instruments made from the horns of animals and resembling the modern saxophone may indicate that one of the first things man learned to do was to blow his own horn.

Looking from her drawing-room window, a lady saw, as she thought, a poor wretch of a man shivering under a lamp-post. In a moment of pity she sent him a ten-shilling note wrapped in paper, on which she wrote the words, "Never say die!" The next night there came a knock at her door. The man who knocked was the one she had seen under the lamp-post, and in handing five pounds ten shillings to the lady he remarked, "Here's your money, lady. Never Say Die won at ten to one, and you were the only one who backed it. Happy to oblige any time, remember!"

New Wheat Area To Be Opened in Australia

Railway Scheme for West Australia Will Develop Virgin Land

Perth, W. Australia.—According to John Gunn, who is a member of the Empire Migration and Development Commission, Western Australia in the course of a few years will be easily the largest wheat producer in the whole commonwealth. The Commissioner has recently made an extensive tour of this spacious State, with Leopold Amery, the British Government representative, and that is his considered opinion.

The Commission visited Western Australia to make inquiries into proposals to build further railways to open up a considerable area of new country for wheat production. Mr. Gunn inspected extensive areas of virgin country, mostly good wheat land, and all within the line of agricultural rainfall. An outstanding fact for which impressed him was the immense areas as yet undeveloped. Western Australia can still talk of her millions of acres of fertile crown lands in millions of acres, which want only railways, roads, and water conservation to make them productive.

The country under review is between the area now served by the railway system, and the line running from Kalgoorlie to Esperance Bay. That area contains millions of acres not yet surveyed, but upon which the Government is now concentrating. On both the eastern side of the railway system and on the line to Esperance Bay wheat is being grown in large quantities, and it is quite probable that the same class of country exists between those two points with the same variations of soil. Another area which was examined in detail was east of the line running from Northam to Mullewa, and it is proposed to build a railway going north parallel to the existing line. That will also bring into cultivation another large area of mostly virgin country.

"When one considers the advance made in wheat production in the last 15 or 20 years in Western Australia," added Mr. Gunn, "reaching last year in a 30,000,000 bushel crop, and the huge areas yet undeveloped, one is compelled to believe that in the course of a few years Western Australia will rival even the largest State in wheat production.

"This year approximately 500,000 additional acres are under cultivation, and after the recent abundant rains the prospects for a record harvest are indeed bright. From experience, it appears that the wheat areas of Western Australia are less susceptible to drought than other parts of Australia."

London's Gossip

The Prince of Wales is well known as a devotee of sport and outdoor exercise, but few know how conscientiously he maintains his schedule. Practically every morning when in London he starts his early day by running twice around Buckingham Palace Gardens. Clad in a white sweater and shorts, his only companion is his small Cairn terrier, and the two return to the Prince's apartments in St. James's Palace before most Londoners are awake.

A reader, looking over a file of the Monthly Review for February, 1751 came across the following review: "An Elegy Wrote in a Country Church-yard. 4to. Dodsley. 6d. Seven pages. The excellence of this little piece amply compensates for its want of quantity." Gray's little poem went through four editions in two months and it is a short time. The publication of the "Elegy" was mainly due to Horace Walpole, who was Gray's most intimate friend. Gray sent it to Walpole in June, 1750, and despite his realization of its outstanding excellence its publication came about [illegible]

England has book lovers and book collectors of all ranks, but few [illegible] can have been more fascinating than former King Manoel of Portugal who sought sanctuary here in 1910 and has made the country his permanent home. He is now preparing a catalogue of 2000 pages of his collection of early Portuguese books, many dating 1489-1500, generally [illegible] to be the finest in the world.

Piccadilly, London's most famous boulevard, is itself again. For three months it was closed for road repairs to the extraordinary dislocation of business in that quarter. Vehicles had to make a long detour past Buckingham Palace, and the distance from Bond Street to Hyde Park Corner by any public street conveyance was almost trebled. Stores lost very many in dealings temporarily removed to their rough temporary premises [illegible] showered on the engineers who managed to finish the repairs in [illegible] days less than the contract time.

So successful has [illegible] Cecil House for the accommodation of London women [illegible] that premises [illegible] been secured [illegible] first one, named [illegible] Mrs. Cecil [illegible] the Lord Mayor [illegible] Devonshire Street, off [illegible] Holborn. It provides [illegible] homeless at a charge of [illegible] night.

A new and shortened [illegible] East and West London to [illegible] Strand and Fleet Street [illegible] plated by the London [illegible] as part of the scheme [illegible] method for reaching the [illegible] south Lambeth bridge [illegible] Thames near the [illegible] into a spacious [illegible] Percy Symmons [illegible] Piazza Washington [illegible] approaches, and [illegible] tive route between [illegible] of Victoria and [illegible] route, by [illegible] and avoids [illegible] and [illegible] traffic.

Closing Out Days

In the twilight [illegible] shrinking, and the great [illegible] are rising, so that [illegible] is nearly past [illegible] on all that [illegible] over Asia, only [illegible] is the year's high [illegible]

A few remnants [illegible] and [illegible] softened and mellowed [illegible] wide haze of Indian summer [illegible] across a march [illegible] wasted grasses, or grey [illegible] of seeded goldenrod and [illegible] soft, distant pale [illegible] gone to sleep as [illegible] world go this or that [illegible] In no need to care if the [illegible] hidden by the fallen maple [illegible] the day of the [illegible] until All Saints' Summer.

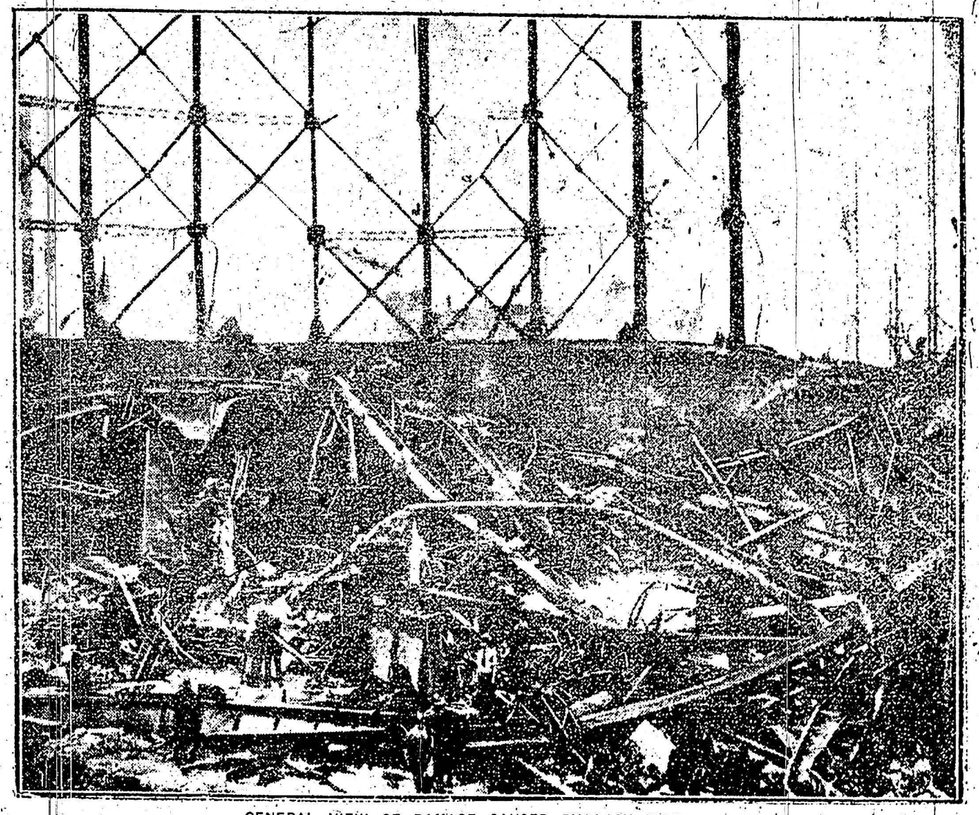
It is in November [illegible] our joy in the [illegible] evergreens. When [illegible] were unfolding [illegible] the pines were [illegible] delicate needles, and [illegible] absorbed in the [illegible] boughs we did not [illegible] the hemlocks [illegible] friends welcomed back.

And these are the days [illegible] of the [illegible] birds. Who knows, [illegible] the maple bough [illegible] nest of the [illegible] hung in the elm [illegible] his tossing cradle. A walk [illegible] lawn will convince one that he is [illegible] only cygnet, but have the [illegible] lodging or the numbers [illegible]

Over certain [illegible] is tossing [illegible] asters, and over [illegible] cause [illegible] still [illegible] Now is the [illegible] son between the [illegible] are they caused [illegible] are also the [illegible] forward [illegible] along the [illegible] it is [illegible] to be [illegible] perfectly after [illegible] been touched by the [illegible] little bushes [illegible] crimson [illegible] such [illegible] long, still, dizzy [illegible] and the frost were [illegible] for some unseen [illegible]

A day when on in November, when the garden is again the haunt of perfect loveliness. There are yellow flowers, great, soft yellows, of the color of other flower ensembles, and a bitter pungency all its own. There are pinks, soft, dull pinks with white or grey in their high lights and copper-red in their shadows. There are browns which are orange also, and whites which are greys, and greens and yellows as well. Ah what color! What fragrance! And what abundance!—Sarah Andrew Shafer, in "A White-Paper Garden."

Big Pittsburg Area Rocked by Blast



GENERAL VIEW OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY LAST WEEK'S EXPLOSION

Finding of two more bodies in the flooded cellar of the Pittsburg Clay Pot Company factory, one of the 30 plants wrecked or damaged when the 5,000,000 cubic foot gas tank blew up on Monday, Nov. 14, increases the total of known dead to 25. It is feared, however, that many more bodies may be found in the cellar as 32 of the 117 men employed there are still missing. The photo shows the extent of the havoc caused by the terrific explosion. Whole blocks were practically demolished. The entire city felt the force of the concussion.