The Sunday School Lesson

A SUNDAY-JULY 25

SACRIFICIAL FRIENDSHIP

Golden Text. A friend loveth at all times. Prov 17:17.

Exposition — I. Friendship of Jonathan and David, 8:1-4.

There is something singularly beautiful in the mutual love of Jonathan and David. The wordly interests of the two were opposed. Jonathan was heir-apparent to the throne of Israel; David, the divinely chosen king. Yet each quite lost sight of selfish ambition, and even personal self-interest, in his love for the other. Jonathan loved David as his own soul (vs. 1, 17; ch. 18:3), and at the peril of his life, protected him from the wild anger of Saul (vs. 32, 33). In doing this, he voluntarily renounced his own aspirations to the throne. David, on his part, bitterly lamented the death of Jonathan, although the death cleared his way to the throne (2 Sam 1: 17-27). In studying this lesson, the whole of ch. 20 may be considered with profit. David had been perfectly safe in Naioth. Saul had sent three companies to take him, but the Spirit of God had come upon them, and hindered them from carrying out Saul's bloodthirsty designs. Then Saul himself had been humbled (ch. 19:-20-21). There seems to have been little need for David's fleeing from the wrath of Saul, from a place of security such as he had in Naioth (ch. 20:1; cf. Ps. 91:1). Jonathan, it is true, was a true and powerful friend, but it had been better for David, had he leaned on the arm of God, than on any arm of flesh.

Jonathan covenanted to find out for David just what his father's attitude toward him might be. He was to tell him the exact facts whether they were good or evil. How often we see moral or spiritual peril confronting those to whom we profess to be friends, and yet do not warn them. At first, Jonathan had been very confident that his father plotted no evil (v. 2), but David had shown him that he might be mistaken. Evidently Jonathan's confidence in his father was not very deep. It is an appalling thing when a father's characteer is such that even his own son, a son of so trustful a nature as Jonathan, is forced to distrust him.

II. Saul's Envy and Hatred of David, 19:1-3

David's great achievement raised him at once to a high position in the estimation of Saul and in the army (ch. 18:2), but it did not turn David's head, he acted with remarkable modesty (18:18, 23). He conducted himself with great wisdom and perfectly obeyed all Saul's orders, though he knew that he had been himself definitely appointed to the chief leadership of Israel (18:5). He waited God's time. Though Saul was at first disposed to put David forward, his envy was soon aroused (18:6-8). The instance recorded here was not the first time that Saul sought to kill David (18:10-12, 17, 25, 29). Saul had been the idol of the people (11:11, 12) and it is hard to give up such a place to another without a pang of jealousy. Even among Christians, jealousy is not altogther unknown, but it is a noxious and rank-growing weed and should be torn up at its first appearance. The small man canpot forgive the great man for being great.

Saul whimpered like a small child, he had not even sense enough to keep his chagrin to himself (18:8). God had told him that He has chosen a better man than himself to be king in his place (15:28; 13:14). His jealous heart jumped at once to the conclusion that David was this better man of whom God had spoken (20:31). He was filled with rage to see the kingdom slipping from his hands. In the better days he had not desired the kingdom for himself (10:21, 22); now he would not give it up. In the history of Saul we see the tragedy of a soul; the same story in all its essential features has been repeated again and again. From the day that Saul heard the women extolling David above himself, there was no peace nor joy for Saul, he never looked at David without a feeling of envy and hate. There is something marvelously beautiful in Jonathan's unselfish love for David. He knew that David's success meant his loss of throne, but none the less he "delighted much in David," and sought to save David's life. Jonathan's unselfish love looks all the more beautiful over against the background of Saul's persistent envy and hatred.

III. Saul Hearkened Unto the Voice of Jonathan, 4-6.

It took courage as well as self-sacrifice on Jonathan's part to speak good of David unto his father (ch. 20:32-33). The envious heart counts every one an enemy that speaks well of the object of its hate. But in this case, Jonathan's argument for David was unanswerable and his words toward Saul had been "very good."

It was not really David, but Jehovah who had brought the great victory for all Israel (v. 5). Jonathan was a man of genuine piety as well as noble generosity. Indeed, his generosity toward and love for David sprang out of his piety toward God. Jonathan recalled to his father his own joy at seeing Jehovah's victory through David. For the time being, Saul was persuaded (v. 6), but the persuasion did not last. His envy and hatred were too deep to be permanently overcome by reason.

WHEAT FIELDS

How wide these fields that lie beneath the sky,
The rich-brown loam where germinates the grain
Is patterned with the countless circling lines
Where man has groved the earth, his tracks have swept
From slope to slope and spiraled round the knolls
Without beginning, so it seems, or end.
The shifting clouds cast shadows as they pass,
Changing the colours of this tapestry;
The warmth of brown turns purple in the shade,
And gold is gray, then turns to gold again;
With here and there a little patch of green,
So faint, and yet it's promise breathes the hope
Of mighty harvesting to feed a world
That lifts expectant eyes toward these hills.

Gwen Castle in CS Monitor

Notice to Creditors

In the Estate of William McArthur, late of the Township of Erin, in the County of Wellington, farmer deceased.

The creditors of William McArthur, late of the Township of Erin in the County of Wellington, Farmer, Deceased, who died on or about the 4th day of May 1948 and all others having claims against his estate are hereby notified to send by post, prepaid or otherwise to deliver to Messrs. Langdon and Aylsworth, Georgetown, Ontario, Solicitors for the undersigned Executors of the Estate of the said William McArthur, Farmer, deceased, on or before the first day of September, 1948, their names, addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their claims and the nature of the securities, if any, held by them and that immediately after the first day of September 1948, the Executors will proceed to distribute the estate of the said deceased amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which the Executors shall then have notice.

Dated this 7th day of July, 1948.

Neil McArthur
Hector McArthur
Executors
By Langdon and Aylsworth,
Their Solicitors
Georgetown, Ontario.

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NEWS and VIEWS

Of Halton Farm Interest

The harvest of the winter wheat crop is now in full swing. In general the crop is heavy and some excellent yields are anticipated. The scoring of the sixteen fields entered in the Halton 50 Bus. Winter Wheat Club sponsored by the Halton Crop Improvement Ass'n. was completed last week by Ray Abrogast of Perth County. The awards for the top eight contestants as released by Mr. Abrogast are as follows: 1st, W. E. Breckon, Variety Cornell 595 score 90; 2nd Wm. Lucas, Freeman, Variety D. G.C. score 89¼; 3rd, M. T. Watson, Freeman, Variety DGC score 89; 4th Wm. G. Booth, Milton, Variety Cornell 595 score 88¼; 5th, A. M. Sherwood, Freeman, Cornell 595 score 87; 6th V. J. Lawrence, Oakville, Variety D. G. C. score 85¼; 7th, Ross Segsworth, Freeman, Variety D.G.C. score 85; 8th, J. H. Willmott, Milton, Variety D.G.C. score 84¼.

The cutting of plots in each of the sixteen fields was completed by Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitelock this week. The threshing of the samples and computation of the yields per acre will be made by the Field Husbandry Department at the O. A. C. The three high competitors on the combined score for field and yield will represent Halton in the inter-county competition sponsored by the Maple Leaf Milling Company at the Royal Winter Fair.

Plans to organize a simlar 50 bu. Winter Wheat Club in Halton for the 1948-49 season are now under way. In order to be eligible, competitors must sow a minimum of five acres and the seed must be in the case of Dawson's Golden Chaff either registered No. 1 or first crop seed grown from registered No. 1 or Commercial No. 1 Cornell 595. In explanation for the difference in standard demanded between the two varieties, we would point out that there is as yet no registered or certified Cornell 595 available in Canada. The variety is however, being carefully selected and purified at the present time at the Ontario Agricultural College and in the course of a year or two it is anticipated that both elite and registered seed of this variety will be available.

The variety Cornell 595 is very popular with growers and millers alike. From a milling standpoint it is a soft white wheat with the necesary qualities which go towards the manufacture of good pastry flour. From a growers viewpoint it is reported to be at least the equal in yield to the old standby, Dawson's Golden Chaff—equally as strong in the straw and more resistant to loose smut.

Incidentally, Halton growers interested in the 50 Bus. Winter Wheat Competition for the coming year, should contact the Agricultural Office at Milton for further details.

Price of Winter Wheat Rises

In our column of two weeks ago it was suggested that $1.75 was likely to be the price for winter wheat at local mills. Since that time the price has moved up to the $2.00 mark, which will be cheering news to those with wheat as a cash crop. While no definite price had been established for seed wheat at the time this column was being prepared, we anticipate that Commercial No. 1 Dawsons will sell at 50c over the milling price for registered No. 1 Dawsons and Commercial No. 1 Cornell 595. It should be borne in mind by those who are planning to sell seed wheat that in order to command the suggested premiums over milling price, a one pound sample should be forwarded to the Plant Products Division, 86 Collier Street, Toronto, in order to secure a grade and germination test. This service costs 75c which should accompany the sample.

Crop Improvement Association To Stage Field Meeting

Halton farmers will be interested in the replicated variety test with 18 varieties of oats and barley laid down by Douglas Currie on the Currie home farm, two miles North of Hornby, on the 7th Line of Esquesing. In order to provide an opportunity for those interested to see the plots the Halton Crop Improvement Association has arranged for an evening field meeting to be held on the Currie farm, on Monday, July 26th, at 7:30 p.m. It is anticipated that Dr. G. P. McIlrattie, Head of the Field Husbandry Department at the O. A. C., will be in attendance to lead in the discussion on the 18 varieties of oats and barley which number includes all of the newer promising varieties, as well as some of the tried and proven old reliables.

At the same time a visit will be made to the W. D. Cowan farm (formerly Chas. Austin) Lot 8, 6th Line of Esquesing, where a test with 2-4 D on weeds in corn was recently made. Similar tests with 2-4D in corn fields have also been made on the farms of Harvey Nurse, Ashgrove; E. F. Ford of Hornby; and W. E. Breckon of Freeman.

The program will also include motion pictures of agricultural interest which will be screened through the courtesy of R. S. Heatherington, National Film Bd. Operator for Halton.

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MILTON

Falling under a barrage of hitting, Milton used four hurlers in an attempt to halt the Georgetown Intermediates when they handed the locals a 17 to 2 drubbing, during a seven inning affair up at the Paportown last Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Michie and Joan were guests at the wedding of Mrs. Michie's granddaughter on June 26th at the Caroline Street Mission, Hamilton, when Shirley Isobel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Booth became the bride of Mr. Robert Ferrier Morrison son of Mrs. Morrison and the late Mr. Duncan Morrison of Millgrove.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Coulson of Lowville, reached Juneau, capital city of Alaska on June 6th, enroute for White Horse, Yukon Territory and report fine sunny weather throughout the trip.

Further work in connection with remodelling of the Milton Arena got under way yesterday. Contractor C. G. Riddell is removing considerable earth lowering the surface inside the building. Canadian Champion.

Skinny men, women gain 5, 10, 15 lbs.

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