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Or you may consult O. T. Walker at his office in Brampton

PETER COMMENDED AND REBUKED

International Uniform Sunday School Lesson, January 8, 1938.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16: 16.

LESSON PASSAGE: Matthew 16: 13-26.

Then learn to scorn the praise of man, and learn to love with God. For Jesus won the world through shame, and beckons thee his road.

The Question, 13

The world has kept on asking the question that Jesus asked of his disciples. Who is this man who called himself the Son of man? Is he only one of many teachers? Is he only the greatest man of one race? Did he have significance for his own century or for all centuries? The disciples were hardly ready to answer their leader's pointed question. His teachings were so novel, his powers so unique that they were having difficulty in making up their own minds. Their quandary remains. Jesus may be denied but he cannot be overlooked. Each century has had to face the question anew. Did such a life as his just happen or was it the supreme achievement in the strategy of God to bring humanity into accord with his will? Art has sought to give its answer by portraying the scenes of his birth and death. Music has taken his words and fashioned them into majestic oratorios. Builders have erected cathedrals in the form of a cross, poems in stone bearing witness to Christ. Every few weeks a new Life of Jesus comes off the press. Ceaselessly men are seeking to interpret Jesus. He is a challenge to the reason. He stands out so clearly in history that he just cannot be ignored.

The Answer, 14 - 16

The disciples reported hearsay about Jesus but they were trying to unlock the present with the rusted key of the past. Peter gave the answer that has stood the test of time. He had not arrived at his conclusion by process of reason only. It came as a flash of intuitive insight. He ejaculated his conviction: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." The title Son of man was not adequate. Jesus is more than man at his best. Christ is the Son of the living God. Divine or supernatural power came into humanity through Christ. Peter felt that in Christ the Messianic hopes of the prophets had been fulfilled. The plan of God was being revealed. Instead of feeling orphaned the race could now evermore be sure of God. His was an answer that the other disciples were not yet quite ready to formulate in words. They had to grow into an appreciation of the significance of Jesus. Even Peter himself did not fully comprehend the meaning of his own confession of faith. He had much still to learn, but he used the highest description he knew. He was convinced that there was no category too high for Jesus. The creeds have endeavoured to express the truth in words but no words can capture all the truth. Hyman

BOILED KETTLE WITH OLD CRUTCHES

Once Used Them Because of Rheumatism

He was not wrong, either — this man who concluded that he would not need his crutches again. Writing of his experiences, he says:—
"For five years I suffered terribly from rheumatic pains, and I began to think my case hopeless. I also had a bad stomach, and I rarely had a meal without my food repeating 'or' me. One day an old friend told me to try Kruschen Salt. So I bought a bottle and gave it a trial.
"After some time I was able to enjoy a good meal and to walk more freely. One morning I got up and lit the fire, and my mother thought I was crazy, because I sawed my old crutches up and boiled the kettle for coffee with them. That was six years ago, and I am now back at my job as a chef."—H.A.B.
Do you realize what causes a good deal of rheumatism? Nothing but sharp-edged uric acid crystals which form in the joints, thus eliminating organs. Kruschen Salt, therefore, ways be counted upon to clear those painful crystals from the system.

have given maximum expressions to what Christ is to human hearts, but Christ is more to mankind than even the hymns have sung. Always the fact of Christ is beyond our definitions.

The Principle, 17 - 20

It is a wise interpreter who knows when to take words literally and when to spiritualize them. When Christ speaks of himself as a door or as bread we know at once that we are to take the spiritual meaning, he intended. But Christ's word to Peter about the rock and the keys have been taken literally and their larger meanings have been secured. Christ is the head of the Christian Church, not Peter. Yet Peter was the first to make the confession of what we believe to be the very heart of the gospel. Christ said that Peter's insight was in the nature of a revelation from God himself. Christ saw that the foundation of the Church was to be confessing disciples. Each convert must reach a conclusion and conviction as Peter did. Those who accept Christ as the Son of God are able to lead others to decision and are enabled to give people release from evil habit and a load of guilt. When Christ's words to Peter are interpreted in the light of present-day Christian experience they are intelligible, but if they are interpreted as a rigid ecclesiastical formula, their range is greatly limited.

The Paradox, 21 - 23

Peter had just confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the anointed one, the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Yet the one to whom such high titles had been given announced that he must suffer and die. Peter was shocked at the paradox. It baffled his logic. He may have thought of his leader as a conquering king and now he learned that Jesus was to be a suffering servant. His whole soul rebelled against the thought and he blurted out his vehement disclaimer. "Be it far from thee Lord; this shall not be unto thee." His words find an echo in our hearts. Why should the world's best man have to die young? Why should there be a cross at the heart of creation? Why cannot life be perpetual spring, laughter and gladness? Why must sorrow and sacrifice keep crowding in? Peter was learning, as we all must learn that superficial and shallow views of life do not explain the facts. There is an eternal struggle going on between good and evil, between Christ and anti-Christ. It is no sham battle. It is a fight to the death and victory is never easy. Man's nature can become so alienated from God that atonement is necessary and there is no easy way to effect reconciliation. In seeking safety and security for his leader, Peter was repenting the temptation that had been overcome in the wilderness.

The Venture, 24, 25

At long last we begin to understand the cross, but only when we make it our own. We cannot get rid of our pride without pain. We cannot get victory over our sin without surrender. We have to crucify self if Christ is to live in us. The crown of victory can only be won by the cross of self-denial and sacrifice. These are the terms on which we live and it is a great step forward when we come to terms with life on this basis. Instead of overreaching others we must accept the discipline of love. Instead of demanding our rights we offer our voluntary service. Instead of seeing how we may satisfy our acquisitive instincts, we devise means of giving. We enter into the spirit of Christ when we willingly accept the cross and translate our faith into action. It is only through action that we are finally convinced that the gospel works. As long as we are living on a safety first basis, we will have fear and worry, but once we are willing to lose our individual ambitions and personal self-seeking, we find that life becomes a glorious adventure of freedom and joy. When we are ready to take up our cross and follow Christ, we discover that he leads us home to God.

- Questions for Discussion**
1. How young may we make up our minds about Jesus?
 2. What new meanings are you discovering in Christ?
 3. Are the gates of hell prevailing against the Church in 1939?
 4. What is the offence of the cross?
 5. Am I living on the get or give basis?

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Friday and Saturday, January 13 to 14
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Saturday, January 14 to TORONTO
Also to Brantford, Chatham, Goderich, Guelph, Hamilton, London, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, St. Catharines, St. Mary's, Sarnia, Stratford, Strathroy, Woodstock.
Tickets also good in this section FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, as follows:
From St. Marys, Stratford and Georgetown—Train 20
From Stratford—Train 170.

See handbills for complete list of destinations. For fares, return limits, train information, tickets, etc, consult nearest Agent.
ATTRACTION—Toronto, Saturday, Jan. 14—National Hockey League Chicago "Black Hawks" vs. Toronto "Maple Leafs" 7:15 P.M.

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