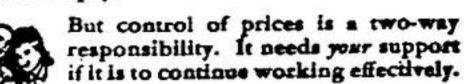


## What Does Inflation Mean to You and Me?



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#### IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL CUNDAY CHOOL LESSON

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D. Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for September 17

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THE KINGDOM STRONGLY ESTABLISHED •

LESSON TEXT-II Samuel 2:4-7; 5:1-19. GOLDEN TEXT-They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abideth forever .- Psalm 125:1.

Position and power are important to a king, but of even greater importance is the winning of the hearts of his people. Only as he has them with him can he build a great nation.

David was the Lord's anointed. The kingdom was his. But God expected him to make the necessary effort and use his own abilities to bring it into a place of honor and usefulness. God gives us all we have, but He does not shower it down on us; we must go out and

Note in the three verses that precede our lesson (vv. 1-3) that David moved forward only after prayer and divine guidance. Little wonder that he succeeded.

I. The Southern Tribes Declare Their Loyalty (2:4).

The nation was divided into two parts. Judah in the south and Israel in the north. To bring them together again called for consummate skill. David had it.

When Saul had died, David showed his respect and genuine loyalty to the king by his actions and by his song of lament which we find in II Samuel 1. Then by the Lord's leading he went to Hebron, the national capital of Judah, and there awaited the will of the people.

Their declaration for David was not long in coming. They knew and respected him. He had shown himself to be their friend (I Sam. 30:26) and now they made him king. It was the first step and a long one in the right direction.

II. The King Makes Friends by Being Friendly (2:5-7).

The men of Jabesh-gilead, hearing that the Philistines had killed Saul, went for his body and gave it suitable burial. This gave David occasion to show his fine spirit of appreciation, which naturally warmed the hearts of all those who had loved and followed Saul. It was excellent strategy, but at the same time it was the natural expression of a kind heart.

He that would have friends must show himself friendly (Prov. 18:24). And why not? The friendly and open-hearted kindness of some Christians does more to win others

to Christ than the brilliant discourses of some cold, exclusive Christian worker. Most of the Lord's work is done by ordinary people with warm hearts. Is there any reason why we cannot all be winsome and attractive in Christ?

III. The Northern Tribes Recognize Their King (5:1-5).

A period of seven years elapsed before this took place. The house of Saul was not willing to yield its supposed rights to the throne, and there was fighting and struggle. In it all David showed himself to be upright and considerate.

There is value in gradual development and in the struggle for the right. Had David found immediate success one wonders whether he would have gained the strength he needed for the future.

Then came the day when Israel, the tribes of the north country, of their own accord chose to put themselves under David. Note that it was because of their regard for him (vv. 1, 2) that they came to him (v. 3). That was great gain.

A united people! How important that is in the affairs of the nations. Nothing is more disturbing or a greater hindrance than internal friction. We ought to deal quickly and decisively with any group or force in the life of our nation which is clearly divisive or disloyal.

Think, then, how important it is, that God's people in the Christian Church stand together in undivided loyalty to Christ, our King, and in loving devotion to one another.

IV. The King Established a National Capital (5:6-10).

Jerusalem, which was to be the "city of David," and which figures so prominently not only in history but in prophecy, had to be wrested from the hands of the heathen Jebusites, and be established as the sacred city and the capital ( ' the Jewish nation.

Note that the kind and considerate king was not a weakling. He knew how to fight and to win. Verse 8 is appeared. difficult to interpret, but evidently not mean that David was saying that their blind and cripples Then they doubtless put their said to his men, "Let us take these cripples."

We see in verses 9 and 10 that David was not only a fighter, but also a builder. He began then the development of Jerusalem, the great city of which we are yet to hear wondrous things.

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THE PSYCHOLOGY OF FEAR

(By Lewis Milligan)

by worry. This set me thinking about today miserable worrying about it. the influence of mind over matter. The "Four Fears" are four worries and it seemed to confirm the theory of about what is going to happen in the Christian Science that the cause and post-war world, and we are told that the remedy for physical diseases are we can avoid these by planning the in the mind. That certain physical future in advance. conditions can be set up by a disgovery from an operation can be retarded by the same mental process, are men gang aft agley." Hitler was the recognized by most physicians.

a break in the skin. It gradually dis- cialist Party.

pose of which was the elimination of

the "Four Fears." Worry is usually a fear of the future. We are afraid of what is going I read somewhere the other day to happen to us or to some one dear that ulcers in the stomach were caused to us on the morrow, and we make

We must make plans for the immetraught and fearful mind, and that re- diate future, but it is well to remember that "the best laid schemes o'mice and greatest and most careful planner of A very prominent and practical modern times. He started by worrying doctor once told me that when he was about the future of Germany-worry engaged in his student days in post- is written on every feature of his mortem examinations, he always had a miserable face. He infected the Gerdread of blood-poisoning as the re- man people with this disease of fear sult of some slight scratch on his of imaginary enemies to such an exhands. He said that he worried so, tent that they overlooked the opportumuch about this that one day he dis- inities of the present; they were willing covered a small red spot on the back to starve themselves in order to enjoy of one of his hands, which, on exa- a big feast in the future. Germany's mination, proved to be a sort of imi- future was to be planned for the next tation scratch, as there was no sign of thousand years by the National So-

The Nazi plan, however, has gone I am not a Christian Scientist, and agley. All of Hitler's worrying and I cannot accept the theory that matter long-range scheming have brought cruel. The Jebusites taunted him by is merely a concept of mortal mind, disaster to the German people and and has no real existence That to me to the world in general. It might be could hold the wall against David's is self-contradictory. But I do not wish argued that if there had been counterto enter into a controversy on that planning by the present Allied Nations best soldiers on the wall, and David subject. I accept the theory that worry the disaster would have been avoided. can cause a lot of trouble in the body. But there was a counter plan. The and I believe that it is the cause of League of Nations was the greatest most of the troubles in the body, and plan for the preservation of world I believe that it is the cause of most peace that had ever been conceived, of the troubles of the world in general. and there is reason to believe that This was recognized in the drawing up it was directly responsible for the of the Atlantic Charter, the main pur- greatest war the world has ever (Continued on Page Six)