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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

WORTHY OBJECTIVES FOR LIFE
By Rev. R. O. Todd

LESSON: Eccl. 1: 2, 17; 2: 1, 11, 24; 12: 1 - 8, 13, 14.

The Book of Ecclesiastes sounds as if it was written by an old man, who, having lived a long life, rich and varied in his experiences, comes to the conclusion that every road which seems to lead to happiness, is only a blind alley. The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is forever beyond one's grasp, except along one road: "Fear God, and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man". He sounds like a man who like ourselves, lived in an age of high civilization, rich in material discoveries and comforts, and in cultural beauties, but confused morally and spiritually. His comment upon it all is that oft-recurring refrain of his, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

He tries four different roads to find permanent reality and happiness in life. They represent the main quests of men down through the ages, and in our day.

1. He gained for himself all the resources of practical knowledge and wisdom. But he found this road would take him just so far and no farther. It was but " vexation of spirit" in consequence, a thing which teased him.
2. He threw himself into all sorts of pleasures and enjoyments. Everything that wealth could bring, he got. In the end, he found this to be all vanity and vexation of spirit as well. Furthermore, he found no profit in it at all.
3. His third quest was one where it would seem that men ought to find satisfaction and happiness—in work and money-making, and the laying up of riches and estates. In this he did find some satisfaction. He that it was from the hand of God that a man should eat and drink, and enjoy good in his work. These things served the needs of men, and their enjoyments, while they might be fleeting, were very real and good. But one cannot escape the conclusion

that he feels these are lesser goods with no permanence in them. For in them he found many things to cause disappointment. Man might labour hard only to have the fruits of his toil wasted by another, perhaps an heir who had no part in them. Business success was so uncertain, despite all the labour a man might put toward it. Competition and envy and many other things, all combined to make the rewards of labour and money-making a vain thing, with "no profit under the sun."

4. Finally he tried the road of fame. But he found that it too proved futile. In the end death comes, in the midst of which all men are common dust. No more tragic words were ever written than those in the last chapter of the book, (Eccles. 12: 6, 7) "Or ever the silver cord be loosened, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel be broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

In Chapter 12 in very vivid and poetical language, a Day of Judgment is pictured, when practical knowledge, pleasure, money-making, and fame, shall avail nothing. The conclusion to which he comes then, is this: "Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of men. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." One road alone, leads to the goal, and brings one out at the end of the rainbow—the quest for righteousness. Jesus expressed the gist of this whole lesson in one brief sentence: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these other things shall be added unto you."

In our days when judgment creeps on apace, slowly but surely in the long purpose of God, the Preacher's "Vanity of Vanities" hits the nail fairly upon the head. Along what road are we travelling in quest of permanence "eternal life?" All roads lead to Vanity, but one.

One cannot but help remember here the incident which took place in Norway, (I think it was in Oslo)

when the German invaders forbid the clergy who opposed their will, to hold service in their churches. The cathedral was locked and barred—a German guard stood before the doors. But the Christian people gathered in the square for service, and lifted their voices, in that grand old hymn of Martin Luther, "Ein feste Burg" — "A mighty fortress is our God."

"And though they take our life,
Goods, honour, children, wife,
Yet is their profit small;
These things shall vanish all:
The city of God remaineth."

Yes, and against that, both that City and that Faith, the gates of hell shall not prevail.

Lessons for next Quarter year: The letters of Early Church Leaders; General Epistles, Hebrews, Revelation.

BACK ON HER TOES
The problem today is to get Germany back on her toes. Her heels have already been taken care of. — Kitchener Reoru.

TWO TOUGH WEEKS
Every year there are two tough weeks on any job. They are the week just before vacation and the one just after it. — Windsor Daily Star.

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CLEARING AUCTION SALE
OF LIVESTOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY, GRAIN, HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, ETC.
The undersigned auctioneer has received instructions from GORDON COX to sell by public auction at his farm, Lot 9, situated on the Fifth Line, 1½ miles south of No. 24 Highway, Township of Erin, on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th** The following valuable property, namely:

HORSES — Dark brown gelding, 5 year old, 1400 lbs., good in all harness; Dark brown mare, 5 years old, 1400 lbs., good in all harness; Dark grey mare, 3 years old, 1300 lbs., good in all harness; Black gelding, 3 years old, good in all harness.

CATTLE — Holstein cow, 5 years old, in full flow, bred July 16; Grey cow, 4 years old, in full flow, bred July 19; Black cow, 5 years old, milking well, bred June 27; Roan cow, 5 years old, milking well, bred June 29; red and white heifer, fresh, with calf at foot; Dual-purpose bull, 23 months old; 4 year calves, ready for market.

SWINE — York sow, first litter due October 13; 6 fat pigs, about 180 lbs.; 4 thrifty chucks, about 125 lbs.; 2 Feeders.

POULTRY — 25 Barred Rock hens, laying well.

HARNESSES — Set of double back-band harness, new this year; 4 horse collars; 4 bridles; set of double harness, nearly new; set of horse blankets.

IMPLEMENTS, ETC. — Massey-Harris binder, 6 ft. cut, new in 1945; Massey-Harris mower, 1945; Massey-Harris dump rake, 1947; scuffer; cutter; Massey-Harris riding moulder, 1945; Fleury walking plow, 1945; pulper, rubber tired farm wagon, with flat hay rack; All-steel 17-tooth cultivator; scythe; Maxwell hay loader, 500 lb. capacity; 4-section harrows, nearly new; flat rack; single-furrowed riding plow; axes; two-furrowed riding plow; pulleys; sleighs, as good as new; hay fork; watering trough; logging chains; 180 ft. of hay fork rope; whiffletrees; wheelbarrow; grain bags; large iron kettle; doubletrees; neckyokes; Swede saw, wedges; crosscut saw; piny bar; crow bar; fence wire; barbed wire; and all farm tools.

HAY AND GRAIN — 35 tons of choice mixed hay; 1,000 bushels of heavy mixed grain; 5 bushels of barley; 1½ bus mixed alfalfa. Timothy, Alsike, ½ acre of turnips, will be sold in field, 2½ acres of Buckwheat, will be sold in field.

LUMBER — 400 ft. of 2x4 Hemlock scantling; 2 planks, 14 ft by 8x2½ inches; a quantity of Hemlock 1 inch lumber; 25 cedar posts; 40 cord of dry elm wood.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS and AUTO-MOBILE — Finlay cooking range; box stove; stove pipes; six chairs; odd chairs; extension table; gasoline lantern; Marconi battery radio, in good working order; couch; wood bedstead; washstand; spring and mattress; Aladdin lamp; DeLaval cream separator, new this year, with stainless steel disc; lanterns, lamps; milk pail; all dishes and cooking utensils; 1932 Ford roadster, model B, a good car in first class condition.

There will be no reserve, as the Farm has been sold and the owner is giving up farming.

Sale will be held at 1.00 o'clock P.M. sharp.

TERMS: CASH — Nothing to be removed until settled for day of sale.

WM. A. GIBSON, auctioneer
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Fred McInery, clerk.

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Science in Canada before the war had already to its credit several achievements of world significance—among them, Rutherford's original work on radio-activity, Saunders' development of Marquis wheat, Banting's discovery of insulin.

Organization of graduate schools by Canadian universities in the early years of this century marked the first important advance of research in Canada. The National Research Council was established in 1916 for the encouragement of scientific endeavour on a national basis.

In 1939 began a cooperation in research never before attained in Canada. The contributions of Canadian scientists in such fields as atomic energy, radar, aircraft design and the development of super-explosives, won world recognition.

"OPPORTUNITIES TODAY... GREATER THAN EVER"

ALEX FORST with his brother Edward took over their father's modest little hardware shop in Vancouver 17 years ago. The early years were difficult, but, profiting from their errors, maintaining sound policies and always hard-working, they slowly expanded the business. New lines were regularly added until today they operate the biggest retail independent house furnishings organization in Western Canada.

MR. FORST says: "Our early faith in Canada as the country in which to build a business has been confirmed and strengthened. Just as Canada is a much greater country than when we started out, so the Canadian opportunities today are much greater than ever for those now commencing their careers."

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