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OLD CHUM

The Tobacco of Quality
1/2 LB. TINS—and in p'kgs.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

MAY 28

Jeremiah Speaks Boldly For God, Jer. 26: 8-16. Golden Text—Amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord.—Jer. 26: 13.

Lesson Foreword—Jeremiah began his ministry in the thirteenth year of Josiah's reign (1: 1), and continued to prophesy for the forty troublous years before the exile. The political events during this period were significant. Palestine was a buffer state between the rival empires of Assyria and Egypt and was invaded first by one and then by the other. Josiah was killed at the battle of Megiddo while fighting against the Egyptians (2 Kings 23: 29) and his kingdom passed under Egyptian control. The Egyptians set up Jehoiakim, his son, as king of Judah. It was at the beginning of his reign that the events narrated in our lesson occurred.

I. The Threat Against the Prophet, 8, 9.

V. 8. Jeremiah had spoken from a conspicuous place in the temple court, probably at a festival when the temple was thronged with worshippers from the country as well as from Jerusalem. The priests; were the officials of the temple and naturally resented his prediction that the temple would be destroyed. Jeremiah himself belonged to a priestly family, ch. 1: 1. The prophets; were false prophets who delivered messages that pleased the people. Thou shalt surely die. The officials doubtless thought that Jeremiah's pronouncement would shake the national confidence at a critical period, and therefore he was a menace to the state. All through his career Jeremiah had to face scorn and hatred; he was the most pathetic and the loneliest of all the prophets. He loved his people deeply and it almost broke his heart to denounce them.

V. 9. Like Shiloh. The important temple at Shiloh which contained the ark had been destroyed during the Philistine wars, Cam. ch. 1-4. Even though it was the temple of God it was destroyed and Jeremiah pointed out that a similar fate awaited the temple in Jerusalem. The people regarded the Jerusalem temple as a sort of fetish; as long as it stood they were safe, regardless of their mode of life. Jeremiah's prophecy against it was considered blasphemy. All the people, etc. "Apparently the priests and prophets seized Jeremiah at the close of his address and then the people crowded round the prophet and his accusers" (Peake).

II. The Charge Against the Prophet, 10, 11.

V. 10. The princes; the nobility, including perhaps the civil and military rulers. The king's house; was situated just across from the temple. Being so close at hand the princes could hear the uproar in the temple or a messenger may have informed them of it. So they went up to the temple to quell the disturbance. The new gate; probably the "upper gate" built by Jotham (see Kings 15: 35). The princes opened an informal law-court by the gate to decide Jeremiah's case. The courts of law were usually held by a gate. (See Deut. 21: 19; 22: 15; Amos 5: 15; Ruth 4: 1.)

V. 11. The religious authorities had previously held a court in which it was decided that Jeremiah was guilty of blasphemy (vs. 8, 9). While they were competent to declare what constituted blasphemy, they had no authority to affix the sentence. That was a matter for the civil authorities, the princes.

III. The Defence of the Prophet, 12-16.

V. 12. Jeremiah was allowed to speak in his own defence. Notice how calm his bearing was although confronted with the possibility of death he did not shrink. The Lord sent me. This was the warrant for his confidence. God had commanded him "to diminish not a word," v. 2. He had either to obey God or to please the people and he chose God's service. By nature he was as timid as a child (ch. 1: 6) but at his call God assured him that he, having appointed his com-

mission, was responsible for his security, ch. 1: 7.

V. 13. Amend your ways. Instead of continuing in defence Jeremiah renews his exhortation to repentance. It was an excellent opportunity for preaching; the crowd was standing by and listening.

V. 14. I am in your hand. Jeremiah recognized that the tribunal before which he stood had the legal right to judge him. Do with me, etc. His mission had become so absorbing that all thought of self had vanished.

V. 15. Little as Jeremiah thought of his own personal safety it was only just for him to remind his judges that it would be a serious matter for them to condemn one whose only fault had been that he had been faithful to the commission which God had given him. Innocent blood. When innocent blood was shed it cried out for vengeance. (See Gen. 4: 10; Rev. 6: 9.) The nearest of kin was required to avenge the murdered man, but since Jeremiah's kinsmen had deserted him, God Himself would avenge His prophet. Upon yourselves, and upon this city; because they would be responsible if they put God's prophet to death.

V. 16. Not worthy to die. The princes were more impartial and unprejudiced as judges than the priests and prophets. They acquitted Jeremiah on the ground that he had spoken in the name of Jehovah. They were swayed by the impression made on them by the man himself and by the reflection that a prophet who proclaims an unpopular message at the risk of his life gives thereby ample security for his sincerity.

Application.
The prophet's task is seldom a safe or easy one, for wrong must be publicly rebuked. The Bible gives some striking illustrations of those in high positions being condemned as a patriot with soul on fire for righteousness. Moses risked the wrath of Pharaoh in his desire for the liberation of his people. Nathan had to say boldly to David, "Thou art the man." Repeatedly Elijah had to condemn Ahab. Amos could not keep silence in the presence of the courtiers guilty of indulgence and injustice. John the Baptist did not lack courage to tell Herod that his conduct was not lawful. In like manner it was the unpleasant task of Jeremiah to stand in the court of the Lord's house and speak stern words of reproof to the people.

The prophet spoke unpleasant words not through spite or personal pique, but because he saw the inevitable working of moral law. He had a higher conception of patriotism than that which seeks popularity in the present at the cost of national welfare in the future. On the surface it appeared disloyal to assert the futility of resistance to Babylon, but Jeremiah knew that Israel had a divine mission and their spiritual faith was more than their political liberty. The true patriot is he who seeks the highest welfare of his country, and who holds that the real welfare of his country is glory, dignity, and interest of the nation, but so far as they are consistent with justice and honor.

This higher conception of patriotism has given a noble honor roll of martyrs. The early Christians were subjected to pagan persecutions and in later times the Albigensians and Waldensians were brought before the Inquisition and tortured.

The monument for Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary is a huge stone sphere on which the continents of the earth are outlined. At the North Pole is set a bronze star, symbol both of his discovery and, as some one has suggested, of "the star of unconquered will." His epitaph is his own favorite quotation from the Latin—I will find a way or make one.

MINING IN THE ATMOSPHERE

If scientific discoveries go on at their present rate we may soon find that the things we now hold most cheaply are those of the greatest value!

Who, for instance, would have thought that the air we breathe holds a store of elements which realize many millions of dollars annually? It is a fact, amazing as it may seem; and as a result a new industry is springing up in connection with this mining of the air.

The atmosphere consists, roughly speaking, of a mixture of the gases nitrogen and oxygen, as well as quantities of argon and neon, among other things.

Since the discovery of a method of liquefying air by extreme cold, it had been found possible to separate these constituents in the same way. And all these elements have now assumed a great commercial importance.

As everyone knows, oxygen is often used to maintain life in invalids, yet the amount consumed in hospitals and laboratories is a very small portion of the total output. In the United States alone it is estimated that the annual output of oxygen is a thousand million cubic feet. The present value of that is nearly fifteen million dollars.

Oxygen is used in many different ways in the engineering world. It is combined with acetylene to make the intensely hot flame which cuts through steel rails with the greatest of ease. Workmen are often to be seen in the streets using the flame in repairing tramway tracks. The oxy-acetylene process is one of the most important labor-saving devices ever invented, and it was them ining of the air that made it possible.

The oxygen is market in steel cylinders, which may often be seen loaded on motor-lorries in any bid town.

Once the oxygen has been removed from the air, attention is turned to nitrogen, which is trapped from the air for the manufacture of fertilizers.—an industry carried on in Norway on an enormous scale. It is used also for the manufacture of explosives, for the filling of so-called nitrogen lamps, while it is sometimes employed for the putting out of oil fires.

Nitrogen is obtained by driving the air over an intensely hot electric arc flame, six feet in diameter, known as the "electric sun." The nitrogen is trapped as nitre oxide, from which the nitrogen itself is ultimately combined to form nitro compounds.

Two of the remaining gases in the air are argon and neon, recently looked upon as rare and costly, but now sold at a dollar or two a cubic foot.

Both these gases are used for filling incandescent electric lamps, while small glass tubes of neon are used for testing sparking plugs in motors.

Electric lamps are often rendered useless by something going wrong with their fragile tungsten filaments, but neon has now made filamentless lamps possible. An intense pink glow is produced between two neat metal surfaces in an atmosphere of neon.

With all these uses for the gases from the atmosphere, it will be seen that the air is providing a new and valuable industry. The raw material is costless and boundless. It is there for everyone and anyone to use. There are thirteen trillion tons of it available, and the supply is inexhaustible, for it is constantly being replenished.

How insignificant, both in size and value, our great collieries appear when compared with this vast new "mine" which abounds all around us!

Described as the most valuable in the world and the only specimen in existence, the one-cent British Guinea stamp of 1856 was recently offered for sale in Paris.

Germs Pass Through Walls.

Five hundred monkeys have been used in the last three years in experiments by which the vaccine now in use against pneumonia has been developed.

This has been part of national research work on the subject of influenza and pneumonia, which, according to Dr. W. H. Park, of the New York Health Department, has proved, amongst other things, that the invisible, unidentified organism that causes influenza can pass through a stone wall.

For three years the Department has kept under observation 6,000 vaccinated and 8,000 unvaccinated persons. There have been two cases of pneumonia amongst the vaccinated, and twelve amongst the unvaccinated.

The monkeys have been brought in as they were needed from South America and Africa, and the experiments have been carried out in Washington and New York.

Dr. W. H. Park states that two substances were used hypodermically in the treatment of pneumonia, one being the vaccine and the other the serum taken from a horse that had been inoculated with pneumonia.

The serum was generally admitted to be a useful aid in the treatment of pneumonia, but there was some difference of opinion regarding the vaccine.

When a person suffering from pneumonia is inoculated with the vaccine, a chill is produced which sometimes throws off the disease.

The experiments on monkeys showed that when the animals were vaccinated they did not get pneumonia, even though they might be inoculated with the germ.

If they were not vaccinated they did get the disease when inoculated, and usually died, but that did not mean, said Dr. Park, that experiments on human beings would show the same results.

RHEUMATIC TREATMENT

This Trouble Can Only be Got Rid of by Enriching the Blood.

In no disease does the blood become thin so rapidly as in rheumatism. Not only does it become thin, but it is loaded with rheumatic poisons. Without proper treatment these poisons increase, the general health is undermined, the inflamed joints swell, and are very painful, and often the sufferer becomes crippled.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills build up the blood and enable it to cast out the rheumatic poisons with the natural secretions of the body, thus driving out the pains and benefitting the general health. Sound proof of these statements is offered by Mrs. George Stanley, Sparta, Ont.; who says:—"For a number of years I was troubled with rheumatism, which at times was very painful. My general health was also affected, and I could scarcely drag myself around. I had been doctoring a good deal, but did not get any better, until one day my daughter brought me a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. By the time these were used I could notice a slight improvement and I continued taking the pills until I had used about a dozen boxes, by which time I felt like a new person—and looked like one. I could do my work with ease, and have since enjoyed the best of health. I have since recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to several others who received the same benefit as myself."

The best time to begin taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the moment you feel the least bit out of sorts. The sooner you do so the sooner you will regain your old time energy. You can get these pills through any medicine dealer or by mail post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Your clothes if hung up carefully will wear much better than if flung upon the chair.

THE STERLING BANK OF CANADA

Annual Report

Year Ending, April 29th, 1922

GENERAL STATEMENT.

LIABILITIES	
Notes of the Bank in Circulation	\$1,121,528.50
Deposits not bearing interest	3,322,408.43
Deposits bearing interest (including interest accrued to date of statement)	13,530,589.45
Due to Dominion Government	17,333,097.83
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	3,000,000.00
Acceptances under Letters of Credit	157,211.47
	15,447.00
Total Liabilities to the Public	\$21,647,284.55
Capital Stock paid up	\$1,232,900.00
Reserve Fund	500,000.00
Dividends unpaid	1,349.40
Dividend No. 61, payable 15th May	24,658.00
Balances of Profit and Loss Account carried forward	38,034.74
	1,796,942.14
	\$23,444,226.69
ASSETS	
Current Coin held by the Bank	75,212.61
Dominion Notes held	2,089,363.75
Deposit with the Minister for the purpose of the Circulation Fund	68,000.00
Notes of other Banks	175,509.56
Cheques on other Banks	764,461.60
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	5,000.00
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada	327,666.75
	\$3,503,218.30
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities not exceeding market value	10,413,247.98
Canada Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian	1,384,992.50
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks not exceeding market value	303,423.38
Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans in Canada on Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	55,565.63
	\$15,660,448.79
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest)	\$7,053,385.75
Overdue Debts (estimated loss provided for)	19,880.25
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	2,732.85
Bank Premises, at not more than cost, less amounts written off	575,108.35
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit, as per contra	15,447.00
Other Assets not included in the foregoing	117,213.70
	7,783,777.90
	\$23,444,226.69

G. T. SOMERS, President.
Toronto, April 29th, 1922.

A. H. WALKER,
General Manager.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

This statement has been duly vouched by comparing all entries with the books at the Chief Office and certified Returns from the Branches, and in my opinion is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a correct view of the condition of the Bank.

Cash and Securities have been checked at the Chief Office at 29th April, 1922, as well as at another time during the year, as required by section 56 of the Bank Act.

I have obtained all the information and explanations required, and am of the opinion that the transactions of the Bank, which have come under my notice have been within the powers of the Bank.

J. J. ROBSON, C.A., Auditor.

The President in his address, said in part, "The earnings reached the sum of \$260,634.22, an increase of about \$5,000 over last year, a substantial return on our average paid-up capital; so that after paying a dividend of 8% amounting to \$98,613 it leaves us with a substantial amount with which to follow out our usual policy of writing down our assets in a conservative way."

Some of the salient features of this Report may be summarized to express more clearly the development made by the Bank during the year:

Earnings show an increase.
Assets, despite deflated conditions, remain practically unchanged.
Current loans show an increase.

Our total assets now reach the sum of \$23,444,226.69. You will note that we hold \$10,413,247.98 in Dominion and Provincial Government Securities and \$1,384,992.50 in Municipal Bonds. I need not point out to you the stability of this class of security, but it must be a source of considerable comfort to you to know that our assets consist of such investments. Our total readily available assets are \$15,660,448.79, or 66% of our deposits from the public and 72% of our total liability to the public. The proportion of our readily available assets to our total liabilities, including Capital and Reserve, is 66%. This shows an exceptionally strong position, and I need hardly say that it is in this strength and stability that lies the source of our development and increasing success.