



Sunday School Lesson

LESSON XIII. CORRECTING WRONG IDEAS OF RELIGION—Mark 7:1-13.

Golden Text—This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Mark 7:6. THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING. Time.—A.D. 29. Place.—Capernaum.

1. And there are gathered together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, who had come from Jerusalem. The reason Mark does not say "certain of the Pharisees and of the scribes," but only "certain of the scribes," is most probably because these scribes were especially selected for their learning to match that of Jesus. The Pharisees formed the Jewish sect or party which laid utmost stress on the strictest outward observance of the law. They were utterly self-righteous, and cultivated a hollow formalism that was ostentatious to a degree, especially in observing ceremonies, fastings, etc. Jesus exposes them as arrant hypocrites. The scribes were the professional students of the law (Old Testament).

The present delegation was sent up from the capital to spy upon Jesus, to discredit him with the people, and to find cause for legal action against him.

Ceremonial Cleanliness

2. And had seen that some of his disciples ate their bread with defiled, that is, unwashed hands. It will be noticed that in the margin of the Revised Version the word here translated "defiled" is there translated "common." The Pharisees did not seek by these washings to remove dirt, but the defilement by contact with profane things.

3. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands diligently, eat not.) Washings are frequently referred to in the Old Testament, especially in the regulations regarding ceremonial cleanliness. Holding the tradition of the elders. The elders were the leading Jewish teachers who expounded the law and applied its precepts to actual life. According to their views, the law of Moses was a system of precepts which surrounded the whole of man's life and enveloped each part of human existence in its embrace. Every action was thus looked on as legal or illegal.

4. And when they come from the marketplace, except they bathe themselves, they eat not. Because Jews would necessarily have to mingle with Gentiles in such public places as the markets. And many other things there are, which they have received to hold, washings of cups, and pots, and brazen vessels).

5. And the Pharisees and the scribes ask him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with defiled hands? These men leave the disciples alone; they hold Jesus responsible, hence "thy disciples," they who follow thy teaching and thy spirit. These men are keen, they see that this one act of the disciples really sets aside the entire tradition of the elders.

Hypocrisy Exposed

6. And he said unto them, Hardly anywhere else in the Gospels is the absolute pre-eminence of the Lord Jesus Christ as a teacher so clearly revealed as here. In the few short sentences which now drop from his lips our Lord pierces the shell of all this outer formalism, and reveals a deadening hypocrisy in the depths of the Jewish heart. Our Lord here smashes to pieces forever the whole humanly constructed system of the wooden traditions of men, giving back to true, living, deep, religious life the pre-eminent place originally given to it by God. Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites. All of us have to watch ourselves continually, as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, that by words or gifts or actions we do not become ourselves guilty of hypocrisy.

As it is written, This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. 7. But in vain do they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men. 8. Ye leave the commandment of God, and hold fast the tradition of men. Such an indictment as this can be applied only to religious people. The Jews were religious. By teaching and preaching, by saying prayers out loud in the synagogues, by joining in the songs to Jehovah, they were pretending to honor God with their lips. While they worshipped God, they did not obey the law of God.

9. And he said unto them, Full well do ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your tradition. Directly a precept made for an occasion becomes a binding tradition to be subsequently obeyed, it is evil. The first movement toward the mastery of the soul by tradition is the movement of that soul away from immediate, direct, first-hand fellowship with God.

We should apply this teaching of our Lord to our present day, and before condemning these Pharisees too severely we should be sure that we ourselves are not somewhat guilty of the some blind worship of human tradition. How many things today in our churches are not commanded by the word of God? What our Lord was getting at was that the Pharisees made these more or less artificial rules to be absolutely authoritative, and gave them an importance greater than the importance of the word of God. Now there may be many things in our churches today which the word of God does not command.

The Lord now proceeds to give these men a powerful illustration of what he is talking about, showing them how, from their own mean tricks, they are guilty of dishonoring the law of God, pretending to be true to the tradition of the elders.

10. For Moses said, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, He that speaketh evil of father or mother, let him die the death. Of course the reference here is first to the Fifth Commandment.

11. But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or his mother, That wherewith thou mightest have been profited by me is Corban, that is to say, Given to God; 12. Ye no longer suffer him to do ought for his father or his mother. 13. Making void the word of God by your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things ye do. The word "Corban" is a Hebrew word, which means, fundamentally, "dedicated," i.e., "dedicated to God." When once a Jew had dedicated any possession of his, any piece of property or any money to God, calling out the word "Corban" over this particular object, that money or property or object could never be used except in some religious way; the vow of dedication could never be broken. What our Lord is saying here is that some Jews would be so mean that when a hour came when their parents were in need, and they had the means to help their parents, rather than give them out of their sufficiency, they would pronounce "Corban" over these very things which they could have used to help their parents. That the case with the Fifth Commandment is only a single illustration, Jesus declares by adding that the Pharisees keep doing many things that rob the divine word of its authority for the conscience. Thus these men, who imagined they had a case against Jesus, not only have their answer, a complete vindication of Jesus and his disciples, but have an indictment launched against themselves, one fortified by absolute proof against which no defense is possible on their part.

Tower of Profit

There's a strong rumour in Paris that the famous Eiffel Tower, probably the world's best-known landmark, is to be demolished. But nobody in France believes it. They've heard the same thing before.

Actually, the Eiffel Tower makes a large annual profit. It was first erected forty-nine years ago, and took exactly two years to complete. Within the first year it had more than paid for itself.

During 1937, the last year for which figures are available, it was visited by more than three-quarters of a million people, and the receipts totalled \$300,000.

For a number of years the tower was used at night as the biggest illuminated advertisement in the world. It advertised a make of motor-car.

Thirty boys and girls from Japan will visit Germany this spring and on their return home they will be accompanied by 30 members of the Hitler Youths and the Hitler Maidens.

Drivers of all public vehicles and motor trucks in France must submit to a physical examination.

IS THIS YOUR BIRTHDAY?

By A. R. WEIR

What the Stars Foretell for Those Born on March 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31.

Those born on the above dates come under the Zodiac sign ARIES. This sign expresses itself through the head—giving you great mental energy and an enthusiastic but rather headstrong temperament. You have a strong constitution but overwork is your problem. You must avoid worry also. A journey is indicated and some benefit is indicated through elderly people. Your lucky color is red.

For complete birthday horoscope for any birthdate in the year, send 10c to A. R. Weir, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto. Please print your name and address plainly.

Why College Students Break Grammar Rules

Ready to Risk Purity of Speech Rather Than Be Considered Affected, Survey by Specialist Reveals—Avoid Sissy Terms.

American college students will break the rules of grammar any day rather than risk being considered affected because they use too precise speech, according to a survey of students' vocabularies made public last week in "American Speech," a Columbia University press quarterly, says the Montreal Star.

The survey was compiled by J. M. Steadman, Jr., of Emory University, of Atlanta. He found that men students in particular shied from words which they regarded as unmanly. Although he did not list the words men like, he discovered that "euphemisms for unpleasant words, words associated with death or sex for instance, are used far less frequently than most discussions would lead one to think."

"There is a horrible fear of using effeminate words," wrote Mr. Steadman, "but no taboos on masculine words."

Among words that he said were detested by men on the ground that they sound "effeminate" Mr. Steadman listed the following: Abhor, adorable, adore, beau, charming, chic, cunning, cute, dainty, darling, darned, dear, delicious, delightful, divine, dolly, dreadful, ducky, enhanced, exquisite, giggle, glorious, gobs, goody, gorgeous, gracious, grand, heavenly, heavens! for heaven's sake, limb, love, lovely, luncheon, marvelous, naughty, oodles, precious, shampoo, simply, stunning, sweet, tea-dance or dinner party, and thrilling.

Mr. Steadman pointed out that the American speech seemed rich in words connoting contempt for culture, such as "highbrow, ritzy, swanky and highhat." Conversely, he found that "unpleasant suggestions" were associated with such words as "exquisite, sensibility, refinement, taste, culture and fastidious."

Gets Money Back By Stomach Pump

Dog Who Swallowed Five-Dollar Bill Is Persuaded to Give It Up

The current issue of the Royal Bank Magazine contains this story told by E. S. Highstead:

"The first teller at Stratford, Ont., was faced with a very grave situation on the morning of January 4th (to start the year off right), when a lady of rather small stature and woebegone expression presented him with the tattered centre portion of a Royal five dollar bill and asked what could be done about it.

Devoured End Pieces

"After a few questions the lady divulged that the family dog in a playful mood had devoured the two end pieces containing the serial numbers. The teller expressed his condolences as best he could and promised to write Head Office as per Rule 72C.

"But the lady was not content with this and you can imagine the teller's amazement when she arrived smilingly the next day before his cage with the missing pieces wrapped up in a paper towel. The story rushes to a conclusion. The dog had been bled to a vet, who gave it a good work-out on the stomach pump, with the subsequent release of the valuable tit-bits, and everyone was made happy."

Small weather balloons will be used by Bangalore Observatory to obtain data concerning the monsoon, the wind which brings to India most of its rain.

Oldest Pastor



The oldest clergyman in Great Britain is said to be the Rev. Matthew Gold, (above) who preached regularly until five years ago and is now spending his time with friends in the Exmoor hamlet of Luckwell Bridge. Spending half a century abroad in the ministry of the Methodist Church, in missions and frontier stations, he returned to England some thirty years ago, and was called to preach in the hill districts of West Somerset. Rev. Mr. Gold is 103 years of age.

Aviation Crashes; Their Prevention

Less Than Five Per Cent. Can Be Attributed to Mechanical Failure

Major General James E. Fechet, formerly chief of the United States Army Air Corps has studied airplane crashes statistically and discovered that less than 5 per cent. can be attributed to mechanical failure, says the New York Times. The pilot, the weather man, the airline operations manager, the mechanic are responsible for most of the accidents. In this human chain the pilot is obviously the supremely important link.

When we consider in this light the recent accidents in which aerial passengers have lost their lives, the proposal for a more intensive physical examination of pilots made in Science by C. E. Ferree and G. Rand should commend itself to airline companies. The utmost care is taken in selecting the men who are to manage a plane in flight. But this is not enough. If planes are inspected before each flight why not their pilots? A ten-minute instrumental test is enough to reveal subnormality in co-ordination of eye, brain and hand, in other words those effects of fatigue, insomnia, worry, temporary lack of mental efficiency which may cause a man to falter in a crisis. Messrs. Ferree and Rand would also examine pilots after flights for the purpose of determining susceptibility to fatigue, the amount of strain that can be safely imposed and the proper kind of aerial duty that may be safely assigned to a given man.

Pilots' Fitness Important
That these are not unreasonable demands is borne out by Major Gen. Fechet's testimony. The army has its flight surgeons. They have found that "annual or semi-annual examinations are not enough," and that a "smart medico to keep the pilots under daily observations" was needed. These flight surgeons "paid off in reducing airplane crashes." To Major Gen. Fechet an easy mind is so much more important than a sound body that, in his opinion, an aviator who is "worried and pre-occupied" is to be trusted less than one "subject to fits or fainting spells." Granted that a human being is not a machine, the safety of the public nevertheless demands that the fitness of an aviator to set out on a flight should be as much a matter of concern as the fitness of the plane in which perhaps twenty passengers are seated.

Sees Through Fog For Thirty Miles

New "Magic Eye" Will Be Tested Out by Television Pioneer On Voyage

LONDON.—J. L. Baird, television pioneer, leaving for Australia, disclosed that during the voyage he would carry out experiments with a "magic eye" to enable ships' pilots to see through fog for a distance of thirty miles.

Mr. Baird said he had already carried out experiments in an airplane at Crystal Palace.

"The set, which can be comfortably carried in the cockpit of a plane, enables the crew of a bomber to see on a ground-glass screen a town from 50 to 100 miles away," he declared. "The invention can be used for reconnaissance work, and will be invaluable to scouting planes, enabling them to ascertain the position of troops who are deployed."

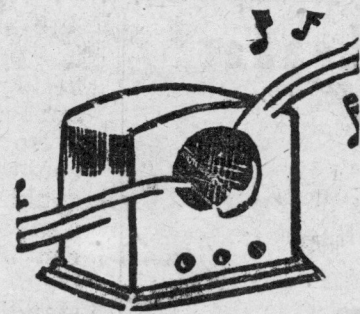
10,000,000 H.P. Engine Pictured

If one can imagine a giant sixteen-cylinder engine with its cylinders replaced by the barrels of a sixteen-inch coast-defense gun, using the usual powder charge of such a gun as fuel and its ton-weight shell as a piston, he can picture a 10,000,000 horsepower engine.

Such is the power developed in the barrel of a coast-defense gun during the period the shell is travelling through the bore, according to Dr. L. Thompson, of the U.S. Naval Proving Grounds, at Dahlgren, Va. There would, of course, be almost insuperable engineering difficulties involved in building and operating such an engine, but the calculation is useful in giving an idea of the amount of energy which is released in such a gun. It momentarily uses more power than the propelling power-plant of the battle fleet of the Navy.

Sold—A Horse

An American farmer recently looked at one of his horses, decided it had passed its prime, and sold it for 65c. Some time later his brother-in-law looked round his stock and, deciding he needed another horse, bought one for \$50. It was the same horse.



Around The Dial

RADIO HEADLINERS OF THE WEEK

By FRANK DENNIS

Ticketts present a new Phil Harris show over CFRB, every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:00 p.m. This program is carried by a network of Ontario stations. Pretty fair entertainment!

Flying Club Broadcast

A new serial for kids and grown-ups is now on the air—heard across Canada . . . The air adventures of Jimmie Allen. We understand that real flying lessons, clubs, squadrons, air races and everything connected with aeroplanes comes out in gift form during this series. 4,000,000 members belong to Jimmie Allen Flying Clubs in the United States, and this Canadian series makes Jimmie Allen an international organization. If our readers would like to learn practically all there is about flying a plane, building one, and even entering it in air races, tune in to Jimmie Allen, heard locally over CBL 5:45 to 6:00 p.m. This is without doubt the cleanest kiddies show that we have ever heard—plenty of excitement and thrills but no blood and thunder business.

The nation's favorite serial dramas have been brought together so that they follow consecutively. Starting May 30th, The Goldbergs, The O'Neils, Ma Perkins, The Road of Life and Kitty Keene Inc., will be heard each Monday, through Friday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. So far this is all

the information we have on these serials, but more is forthcoming and as soon as we have it, we shall pass it on to you.

Winner Goes to New York

April 1st will see the first Dr. Jackson final program—in this series of Airbreak Shows. The winner of this program will be sent to New York to be auditioned by the Columbia Broadcasting System. The quality of the talent presented is much above the average amateur standing—and there might be a possibility of a star being born on this date. The time—8:30, Friday over CFRB.

"A postage stamp or a postal card may save you a great many dollars on your fuel bill," says James Stewart, 'blue coal' Heating Expert, whose regular talks on home heating are so much appreciated by listeners to "The Shadow" programs, heard over CFRB, Toronto, every Wednesday evening. Mr. Stewart went on to say that hundreds of householders have discovered how to get more comfort and better heating, and still spend less for fuel, through following the simple instructions contained in the free booklet—"First Aid to Better Heating"—published by the producers of 'blue coal'. Those wishing a copy of this very valuable little book need only send their name and address to—"blue coal", 217 Bay St., Toronto.

Leader Resigns



A recent photo of Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett who resigned the leadership of the Conservative Party.

Your Handwriting Tells The Truth About Your Character!

By LAWRENCE HIBBERT

(Psychologist, Character-Analyst and Lecturer)

In deciding on marriage, should a girl choose security without glamour or should she marry a man who will give her real companionship, but who is somewhat lacking in steadiness? This interesting topic is suggested by one of the letters I received this week.

The girl's writing shows that she is very reserved. She is capable of much real affection, but she is not effusive when she meets people. There is nothing impulsive about her. She considers matters carefully, weighs the "pros and cons" before coming to a decision. Once she makes up her mind she won't be in a hurry to change it.

In sending me letters from her boy friends she says, "please tell me what you think of these two friends, both of whom seem very fond of me. I have my own ideas about them, but should like to check with your conclusions. I am particularly anxious to know as it is possible I may have to choose between them shortly."

Mr. A's writing shows a volatile nature, a little highly-strung and very expressive emotions. Unfortunately his enthusiasms are not lasting; they are like summer storms that sweep up in an instant, flash for a brief period, and then disappear. He will be "good company" but a none-too-sturdy tree to shelter beneath when trouble brews!

Mr. B's writing depicts a man who is solid and dependable but unimaginative. His energy is constant; not a matter of fits and starts. He pursues his tasks quietly but firmly, and whilst other men may surpass him in brilliance he will win races in the game of Life because he always has "something in reserve" for the final pull.

There you have a picture of all three. If the girl marries Mr. B. she need have no fears for her future security, but she will hardly have the companionship that Mr. A. would contribute.

The above case is an excellent illustration of how a handwriting analysis can help. It does not relieve you of the final necessity of making a choice, but it is amazingly revealing of the innermost characteristics of people, especially the qualities which are often obscured by mere surface indications.

Readers are invited to send specimens of their own writing, as well as that of friends, sweethearts or relatives, for an unbiased analysis personally prepared by Mr. Hibbert. Enclose 10c for EACH specimen (coin or postal note preferred) to help defray handling charges. Enclose with stamped addressed envelope to: Lawrence Hibbert, Room 421, 73 W. Adelaide St., Toronto, Ont. Replies will be forwarded as quickly as possible.