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D. A. McLachlan, President.  
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# SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson III.—First Quarter, For Jan. 17, 1915.

## THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Judg. vi, 11-16, 33-40—Memory Verses, 14-16—Golden Text, Ps. lxxv, 4—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

I often read what I copied from one of Dr. Andrew Murray's Bibles in his study in Wellington, South Africa, in August, 1898: "The central thought of this book is God. Its one object is to reveal God—His glory, His will, His love. In reading it our chief desire ought to be to know God." I am reminded of this as I read carefully our lesson chapter and note in these forty verses some name of the Deity forty-four times (LORD or GOD, 27; God, 7; Lord, 2; Spirit, 1; Angel, 7). Thus the sin of Israel draws forth the love and grace of God and this time in connection with a great deliverance through a seemingly very weak man called Gideon.

The chapter opens with the oft repeated saying, "The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord." This led to great oppression by the Midianites for seven years. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses (verses 1, 6; Ps. cvii, 6, 13, 19, 28). In our lesson verses, 7-10, He reminded them by a prophet of how He had brought them out of Egypt and planted them in this good land, warning them against any fellowship with the people of the land, but they disobeyed His voice (chapter ii, 1, 2). He calls us still to separation from this evil age unto Himself, but the god of this age, the devil, who also ruled the inhabitants of the land He gave to Israel, is still blinding and deceiving the people of God and running the so-called church for his own ends, and those who are willing to see Jesus only and follow Him fully are comparatively few.

Since Adam sinned God has been patiently and persistently seeking man, and mankind has been as persistently, under the power of the devil, turning away from God. God has myriads of angels who delight to do His will, but He never had but one man wholly and utterly at His disposal and under His control. Many redeemed men and women have been in greater or less degree yielded to Him, but none absolutely except the Son of Mary, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. We have already read in this book of Judges of His selection of Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah and Barak, and now His choice falls upon Gideon of the tribe of Manasseh, whom He visits in person and talks with him as a man with his friend.

These appearances of God in human form before He came as the Son of Mary are some of the most fascinating as well as the most profitable of Bible studies. In each instance it is the Son of God whom we see, whose goings forth have been from of old, from the days of eternity (Mic. v, 2, margin), for "no man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son \*\*\* hath declared Him" (John 1, 18). The glory of God can be seen only in Christ (11 Cor. iv, 6). We are more likely to have special manifestations of God when about our ordinary work rather than when we go aside to seek such. Gideon was thrashing wheat (verse 11); Moses was keeping sheep, as were also the Bethlehem shepherds; Elisha was in the field ploughing; Zacharias was ministering as usual, and Mary of Nazareth was probably about her household duties. How beautiful and wonderful the words from the Lord to Gideon: "The Lord is with thee. Go in this thy night, have not I sent thee. Surely I will be with thee."

Gideon's seeming unwillingness and probably his conscious unworthiness (verse 15) remind us of Moses and Jeremiah (Ex. iii, 11; Jer. 1, 6) and show us the Lord's difficulty in finding willing instruments. The Lord's encouragements to these three and to others were written for us that we may not hold back as they did. It is never a question of what we are or can do, but only and always, Who is He, and what can He do? The incident of verses 17-24, the Lord tarrying while Gideon prepared the kid and the unleavened cakes, reminds us of the Lord and the two angels waiting for Abraham and Sarah's preparation, but in that case they ate the food; in this it was consumed by fire, while in the incident of Manoah, the father of Samson, the angel of the Lord ascended in the flame which consumed the offering (Gen. xviii, 8; Judg. vi, 6-21; xiii, 19, 20).

Gideon's readiness when encouraged by this sign is seen in his fearless destruction of his father's altar to Baal. It is refreshing to see Joash stand with his son in this matter and to hear him say concerning Baal, "If he be a god let him plead for himself" (verses 25 to 32). If we would be used of God we must break with all idolatry and serve only the living and true God. There must be no conformity unto or compromise with the world lying in the wicked one. As the spirit of the Lord clothed Himself with Gideon (verse 34, margin), so He will use us if we are whole hearted. The three signs granted to Gideon, the two of the fleece (36-40) and the one of the offering, remind us of the three signs granted to Moses (Ex. iv, 1-9). Our one only sign is the crucified and risen Christ (Gal. vi, 14).

## GUELPH TO BE MEAT CENTRE

A building is under construction at the prison farm that will ultimately supply all the meat required in the provincial institutions. It is situated on the C. P. R. siding at the "farm" and it is expected that it will be finished in three months. Some of the cattle will be raised here, and others imported. A despatch from Toronto states: "The latest plan of the Ontario Government, to make all the provincial institutions self-supporting, to properly conserve food products for consumption and to eliminate much of the waste which under present conditions is unavoidable, is to erect within the course of the year a large provincial abattoir in Guelph. Here all the beef, pork and meat products, which constitute the year's supply for the different institutions will be prepared by a competent staff of officials, to be shipped direct to the different centres. The whole enterprise is expected to prove a means of economy and will save nearly \$50,000 in a year's operations. The plant itself, with refrigerating rooms in connection, will cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

The scheme has been under consideration for some time and to that end careful plans have been made. It is understood that the building will be the result of expert effort from both architectural and purveyor's standpoints. Arrangements will be made to carry out the work on a large scale, and quite as thoroughly as that of any private abattoir. Every carcass will be utilized to the last ounce, and it is likely that if an excess of fresh meat occurs at any time, this will be cured and kept in storage. Judging from the number of patients now maintained in the different institutions, it is estimated that six or seven hundred tons of meat are consumed annually. At the present time this is prepared at the different places and the slaughtering and dressing are subject to all the waste and inconvenience incident to local conditions.

It will be necessary under the plan for the Government to purchase the bulk of the beef on the hoof from farmers, the institutional farms not being capable of maintaining strong dairy herds, and at the same time providing supplies for consumption. The centralizing of the operations will allow purchases at reasonable rates, and will likely prove more profitable than that allowed by the present conditions.—Mercury.

## HOUSEHOLD HELPS.

When a hand embroidered blouse begins to show wear and little holes appear simply buttonhole around the tear or embroider a dot over the worn place.

If you wish to prevent green vegetables from boiling over, drop a piece of dripping the size of a walnut into the centre of them, just as they commence to boil.

If a glove splits at the thumb or near a seam a sure and permanent way to repair it is to buttonhole the kid either side of the split, then sew the buttonholed edges together.

In using butter with meat the first thing to remember is that the butter should not be burned. Burned fats of any sort are exceedingly indigestible and ruin the flavor of the meat.

In using a white sauce with meat, which is a usual procedure with the French Cook, great care is taken to have the white sauce thoroughly cooked before it is added to the meat.

According to a man who makes fly paper, the resin used to make the paper sticky is soluble in castor oil, and any article which has come in contact with the fly paper can be cleaned if the spot is soaked in it.

When making a steamed pudding put a piece of well greased paper over the top before tying the cloth. This will prevent the cloths from becoming greasy, and they are no trouble to wash.

## WHAT RED CROSS MEANS.

Mr. Lloyd George has contributed a long message to the Christmas number of the Methodist Times, in which he comments on an incident which he witnessed at the front:

"I recently visited one of the battlefields in France. I saw a village being shelled by the German guns. A prisoner of war was just being brought into the French lines. He was in a motor-car under guard. He was wounded and looked ill and in pain. A French general with whom I had gone to the front went up to the wounded Prussian and told him that he need not worry; he would be taken straight to the hospital and looked after as if he were 'one of our own men.' The Prussian replied, 'We treat your wounded in exactly the same way.'"

It was a curious rivalry under those conditions for you could hear the whizz of the German shell and the shuddering crack with which they exploded, dealing out death and destruction in the French trenches close by. We were in sight of a powerful French battery which was preparing to send its deadly weapons into the Prussian ranks a little further on. I marvelled that this exhibition among men who were sworn foes should be possible amid such surroundings, until my eyes happened to wander down a lane where I saw a long row of wagons each marked with a great red cross. Then I knew who had taught these brave men the lesson of humanity that will gradually, surely, overthrow the reign of hate. Christ had not died in vain."

## THE CHINESE ATTITUDE.

Every Class Characterized by Imperturbable Contentment.

In an article in a recent number of The Chinese Review, a London publication edited by two Chinamen, the attitude of the Chinese toward Christianity and the profound difference in the modes of thought which characterize the east and the west are discussed.

In the China of the more recent times, says the writer, the same vivid contrast is discernible. One looks in vain for a Thomas Carlyle or a William Wordsworth; nor can the ecstasies of the modern mystic find any affinity in Chinese thought. There is no unspeakable agony, no mortal strife between faith and unbelief; and it is highly doubtful whether such states of mind can be made so much as intelligible to the eastern understanding.

The Chinese of to-day pursues his even course with equanimity as he has done for ages past, and is less perturbed by questions of faith and delicate casuistry than the Sage (Confucius) who had determined for him, irrevocably it may seem, his summum bonum. His needs are few and his ambitions attainable, with ordinary effort. "To see God" and "to be persecuted falsely and yet rejoice" are beatitudes after which he entertains no aspiration. If he is literary he may hope for honor, for state employment and for power to rule. For the rest he is content to live in easy affluence without undue luxury or extravagance.

The lower classes are permeated with the same atmosphere of imperturbable contentment. In spite of economic pressure, of the many uncertainties of life in a frequently disorganized state, living is cheap and easy; and the Chinese peasant is no less remarkable for his simplicity of life than for his philosophical calm in adversity, and for the elasticity with which he recovers from disaster.

## Hit His Pocket.

He was a young man, more or less in society, according to the state of his pocketbook, and he had invited two young ladies to dine at a fashionable restaurant. Before the repast was brought in he called the waiter aside and said confidentially:

"When I order Bordeaux you must bring us a cheap, second class wine." The waiter replied that he understood, and the interior wine was accordingly served. When the bill was brought in, however, the young man looked considerably annoyed and tried to attract the attention of the waiter by discharging a series of sly winks and nods upon that functionary.

Finding his efforts fruitless, he said, "Here, waiter, there is some mistake in the wine item." The waiter courteously denied the charge, stating that Bordeaux had been charged for, as ordered.

The ladies at once confirmed this statement, and the economical young man had nothing to do but pay up.

## Dogs as Artillery Horses.

The First Army Corps of France is said to be considering the adoption of dogs for hauling artillery. The dogs in question are the big Flemish animals, which are largely utilized in the north of France for dragging milk carts and other vehicles.

A good Flemish dog can be bought for 100 francs, and the cost of feeding it does not exceed 50 centimes a day. The lowest-price of an artillery horse is 400 francs and the daily cost of its upkeep amounts to two francs. In other words, the first cost of the horse is at least four times as great and it costs four times as much to feed. Moreover, for 100 francs it is possible to buy a dog in much better condition than the majority of the French artillery horses.

## Chicken Hash.

Cut fine a quart or more of cold boiled potatoes (do not chop) and put them in a hot frying pan with a tablespoonful of butter which has been melted, but not browned. Let them cook slowly, loosening frequently with a spatula. After they are partly browned (adding more butter as needed) add a pint or a quart of cold chicken cut fine and cook fifteen or twenty minutes longer, salt and add one-half cupful of sweet cream and a teaspoonful of chopped sweet green peppers. The quantity of chicken used in this recipe may vary according to the amount on hand.

## Hang It All!

The village carpenter had given so generously of his services and sound advice toward rebuilding the school that when it was completed the villagers agreed that he should be asked to speak after the luncheon which was to follow the opening service. The day and the carpenter's speech came.

"Ladies and gentlemen—Dear friends," he began, his brown face very red indeed, "I am a great deal better fitted for the scaffold than for public speaking." Then he realized what he had said and sat down amid roars of laughter.—London Telegraph.

## A Crop Equal to Fertilizer.

An Irish farmer was asked if he used any of the commercial fertilizers on his land.

"No, sorr," he replied. "To my notion there's nothing like the old barnyard kind."

"Nonsense, man," said the other. "The time is coming when a man can carry the fertilizer for an acre of land in one of his waistcoat pockets."

"Maybe he will, sorr," returned Pat. "An' he'll be able to carry the crop in the other pocket, I'm thinkin'."

## To Make Prisoners Work.

The British War Office has notified that prisoners of war, other than officers, may be employed in their quarters under the same conditions as British soldiers, receiving only working pay for such employment as British soldiers would receive under existing regulations.

# Special Sale of Rubbers and Underwear

We are over stocked with Men's and Ladies' Rubbers, also Men's Underwear. In order to reduce them we are prepared to sell them less than cost, and give the customers the benefit of it. Be sure and call before buying elsewhere and save monen for your own interest.

Men's overshoe rubbers, first quality, reg. \$1.00 for 69c  
Ladies' overshoe rubbers, first quality, reg. 75c for 59c  
Also reductions in men's heavy rubbers, and a special reduction in men's heavy rubbers in sizes from 10 up.  
Men's unshrinkable heavy underwear, regular \$1. for 75c  
Men's fleeced lined underwear, regular price 50c for 39c  
Men's Penman's first quality fleeced lined underwear regular 75c for 50c  
Special reductions in girls coats 14, 16 and 18 years \$2.98

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Durham - Ontario

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Intending purchases may rest assured of getting even better bargains than we offered last spring. A trial order will convince you. Come in and ask for prices.

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R. Macfarlane, Town Agent  
E. A. Hay, Station Agent

**Canadian Pacific Railway Time Table**

Trains will arrive and depart as follows, until further notice—

P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
3:00	6:20	Lv. Walkerton Ar.	1:00 10:30
8:14	6:34	Maple Hill	12:43 10:13
3:24	6:43	Hanover	12:3 10:05
8:33	6:52	Allan Park	12:25 9:55
A.M.			
3:48	7:07	Durham	12:11 9:41
3:59	7:18	McWilliams	11:59 9:29
4:02	7:21	Glen	11:56 9:26
4:11	7:31	Pelleville	11:46 9:16
4:25	7:45	Saunders J.	11:35 9:05
4:55	11:20	Toronto Lv.	7:45 5:05

R. MACFARLANE, Town Agent

**Grand Trunk Railway TIME-TABLE**  
Trains leave Durham at 7:15 a.m., and 4:00 p.m.  
Trains arrive at Durham at 11:45 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 8:35 p.m.  
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