

Sunday School Lesson

JESUS DECLARES HIS MISSION

Golden Text—"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Luke 19:10.

THE LESSON AS A WHOLE

In these two chapters we have the temptation of Jesus (41-13) and the beginning of his Galilean ministry. How much time is included in verses 14 and 15 we are not told, but he had become well known and the fame of his miracles had been widely spread abroad when at last he returned to Nazareth, where his early life had been spent. His townspeople were all agog over his coming to them and eager to see some great displays of his reputed power. In this they were disappointed. Jesus never worked miracles to gratify curiosity. He preached from the Scriptures they knew so well, but which they understood so little. Identifying himself with the servant of Jehovah in the latter part of Isaiah, he declared he was the fulfillment of the preacher of grace therein depicted (Isa. 61:1, 2b). He closed the book without reading of "the day of vengeance of our God," which was still in the future. His townspeople angrily spurned his message because of his reserved attitude as to miracles. From Nazareth he passed on to Capernaum, now called "his own city," and made it a center from which he went out into all Galilee, teaching and healing as the crowds thronged to hear and see him. It was during these early months that he called a number to him, who left their occupations and became his disciples, or pupils. These formed the nucleus of the company afterward designated apostles, or sent ones. Throughout these chapters we see him moving about as the Perfect Man, compassionately ministering to human need and proclaiming his vital message of the Gospel of the Kingdom, and calling upon men to bow in subjection to the Word of God. In contrast to mere tradition and unauthorized speculation of the rabbis, he spoke with the authority of One who knew he was the divine Messiah.

The Historical Setting

The temptation of Jesus followed almost immediately after his baptism. His Galilean ministry was preceded by a very brief period in Judea, but when John the Baptist's public testimony was ended by his imprisonment, Jesus moved northward to Nazareth and other parts. The best authorities place this beginning of his work in A.D. 27.

Verse by Verse

Luke 4:16—"He came to Nazareth." This city is on the eastern edge of the great plain of Esdraelon. It had a very evil reputation (John 1:46), but was the early home of Jesus and is today a place of considerable importance in north central Palestine. "As his custom was." In childhood, youth, and young manhood, Jesus, as an exemplary Jew attended the synagogue services.

Verse 17—"The book of the prophet Esaias is often called the evangelical prophet because of the very clear way in which he portrays our Lord as the One who was coming to put away the sins of mankind."

Verse 18—"He hath anointed me." This is a definite Messianic prophecy. The Hebrew word "Messiah" means "the Anointed," and is the equivalent of the Greek word "Christ." At his baptism Jesus was anointed in order that he might fulfill all that is set forth in this verse.

Verse 19—"The acceptable year of the Lord." This is the present dispensation of the grace of God, when all men are invited to come to him in repentance and faith.

Verse 20—"He closed the book." It was not the end of the sentence. Jesus stopped in the middle of the verse. If he had read on, he would have proclaimed "the day of vengeance of our God," but that day cannot come until the day of grace is ended.

Verse 21—"This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." Every act of his life was in fulfillment of the word spoken before by holy men of God, who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Pet. 1:21). Jesus is the central theme of all prophecies Acts 10:43; Rev. 19:10). The prophetic seal upon the Bible is a proof of its inspiration.

Verse 22—"Is not this Joseph's son?" Legally, yes; actually no. He was the incarnate Son of the Father, who was born of a virgin mother in order that he might take part of

our nature (Heb. 2:14) and so take our place as man and redeem us to God by his propitiatory work. But he had no human father. To affirm that he had is to deny the mystery of God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16).

Verse 23—"Physician, heal thyself." It was a common proverbial saying. He knew they were expecting him to do some great sign to authenticate his message, but their hearts were unmoved.

Verse 24—"No prophet is accepted in his own country." It was their way of saying what we too have put into a proverb: "Familiarity breeds contempt." The very fact that Jesus was grown up among them and that they had known him as a carpenter plying his humble trade in their midst blinded them to the glory of his character and the majesty of his person.

Verse 25 and 26—"In the days of Elias." That is, of Elijah, who declared that death was to come on all the land of Israel. He was sent to a widow of Sarepta (Zarephath, 1 Kings 17:9), to be cared for by a stranger rather than a woman of Israel. So God works sovereignly, according to his own will and not according to human caprice.

Verse 27—"Naaman the Syrian." It was another striking instance of the sovereignty of God in grace when many lepers were left uncleansed in Israel, but a needy Syrian who came seeking help was mercifully healed through the ministry of Elisha (here called Eliseus), the successor to Elijah (2 Kings: 5:1-14). In the same way when Jesus was here God passed over the merely curious and self-sufficient and wrought in power on behalf of those who sought his blessing in faith.

Verse 28—"All ... were filled with wrath." Because their pride was piqued, his townspeople became angry and sought to do him bodily harm. It is evident that conscience was dormant.

Verse 29—"They thrust him out ... that they might cast him down headlong." On one side of the city is a high hill with a sheer descent of some hundreds of feet, known today as the Mount of Precipitation. Over this cliff they would have hurled him to his death had they been permitted to do so.

Verse 30—"He passing through ... went his way." It was impossible that he should die before the appointed hour was come. Until then, all that men and Satan could do to destroy him was in vain. He could not be slain until he laid down his life voluntarily until he laid down his life voluntarily (John 10:17, 18).

BROUGHAM

Council will meet on Friday, Nov. 1, for general business.

Glad to see Mr. Bert Harvey able to be around again in his usual happy manner.

Mr. C. Bate of Kingston visited his aunt Miss I. Bate last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Gray and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gray visited the latter's brother in Toronto recently.

Congratulations to our local gardeners, Mrs. T. Robertson, Mr. Wm. Bassett, Mrs. F. Cassie and Mr. Ralph L. Hattley who were successful in receiving prizes in Junior Farmers Home "Garden Competition."

Saturday was moving day in our midst. Mr. A. Hamilton, Mr. Frank Carter and Mr. Hedge, all moving in a circle.

Mr. Roy Miller of Toronto spent the weekend at home with his father.

Mrs. D. Seebeck and daughters also her son G. Seebeck of Markham visited friends in Uxbridge on Sunday.

A euchre party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm 7th Con., on Saturday night. Proceeds are to go for war relief.

Mr. and Mrs. Hillick and daughter, also Mrs. T. Hubbard and Mrs. Wright and Miss Josephine Stephenson of Georgetown visited with Mrs. D. Stephenson on Sunday. Mrs. Cowie and sons and Fred of Toronto called on friends during the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Routley and son Leonard of Brooklin called on the former's sister Mrs. L. Matthews.

Bruce Easton one of our ace hunters who was participating in the pheasant shoot on Saturday brought in a fine red fox.

On Monday evening, last, about sixty-five friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Gray, to spend a social hour with Mr. and Mrs. James Farley who are moving away from the village. The evening was spent in euchre and games, after which a dainty lunch was served by the

FACES IN THE NEWS



R.A.F. ACE ENGAGED

Martha Jane Mooney, 24, daughter of James D. Mooney, vice-president of the General Motors Corp., has cabled her father she is engaged to Flt.-Lieut. John Kerwick McGrath of the R.A.F. "McGrath has shot down 22 Nazi planes for which he has received the Distinguished Flying Cross," Mooney said.



SECRET DIES WITH HIM

Only living descendant of Tecumseh, famed Indian chief, Signalman Joseph Stonefish can't even tell his own son where the warrior's bones lie. This is because the son is not of the descent demanded by tradition, his mother being from off the reserve. Meanwhile, the Indian veteran of the last war cooks for the troops in this one.



"ROCKETTE" MARRIED

Judy Sammons, only Canadian in the Radio City Rockettes, was married in New York city. The groom is George Markling, Cleveland brewery executive. Judy will still be a "Rockette" after her honeymoon, she said.

ladies, Mr. and Mrs. Farley were called to the dining room, while Mrs. Cassie read the following address.

Dear Friends: We know with regret that you are about to leave us but we cannot allow the tie that binds us as friends and neighbors, to be severed without expressing our regret in some outward form. We have always found you both to be sympathetic and charitable in every way which lay in your power; and hope the example you have set may influence us to try in some measure to fill the place you are about to leave. We therefore ask you to accept this "Floor lamp," a slight token of the esteem in which you are held by us all. We hope you may long be spared to use it and remembers the pleasant times we spent together. With best wishes for happiness and prosperity we bid you farewell from your Brougham friends. The presentation was made by Mrs. Lemon.



Six Canadian airmen, who have seen action against the Nazis as Royal Air Force fliers, reached Canada recently to serve as instructors for new empire pilots. Shown aboard ship as they arrived in port, they are from LEFT: Flight-Lieut. Roderick Bell-Irving, Vancouver; Flying Officer John C. R. Brown, Toronto; Flight-Lieut. Douglas MacPherson, Saskatoon (behind Brown); Flying Officer R. F. Hatton, Toronto; Flying Officer F. C. Willis, Saskatoon, and Flight-Lieut. A. L. McDonald, Blairmore, Alta.



The air was "nippy" when the King and Queen paid this visit to one of London's community feeding centres for the homeless. As a nurse and an officer explained the operation of the centre, the Queen bent over to warm her hands above a small cook stove. Their majesties evidenced great interest in this and other communal centres, where thousands of victims of the bombing holocaust in the poorer districts are fed daily.



NEWFOUNDLAND COMMANDER

One of the new appointments in the Canadian forces is that of Col. P. Earnshaw as officer commanding the troops in Newfoundland. He is promoted to brigadier.



Though she confesses she's better with horses, Freda Johnston of Wilton Grove acquitted herself creditably in the open tractor class at the plowing matches held at St. Thomas. This is Freda's first year of tractor plowing, but she has plowed her father's farm with horses for six years. She is an all-round farmhand; part of her daily job at home is milking eight cows.

HOW WHITCHURCH EDIFICE GOT IT'S NAME

Celebration of the 17th anniversary of Mt. Pisgah United Church, Whitchurch Township, was concluded with a turkey supper when 300 gathered.

A twelve-piece orchestra from Newmarket, played throughout the evening, while Rev. Herbert W.

Piercy of Niagara Falls gave a dramatic presentation of Irving Bachelor's "Keeping Up With Lizzie."

Greetings were brought from Toronto Centre Presbytery by Rev. Douglas Davis and Rev. H. J. McKay, chairman and secretary of the Presbytery. Rev. G. W. Lynd, one-time pastor, gave a few reminiscences of past days.

Mt. Pisgah Church was dedicated by Rev. Wm. Mioricy Punshon, on October 19, 1870, and was known up to that time as Richardson's appointment on the Aurora circuit.

Erected on one of the hilltops of Whitchurch, Dr. Punshon called it Mt. Pisgah, which name it has borne ever since. A log church had served the community before the erection of the present church.