

**Again MAY WE RECOMMEND HIS MAJESTY'S MAILS?**

**THOUSANDS** of men and women in uniform will be telephoning home this Christmas. This means a huge additional load on Long Distance facilities—especially "long haul" lines—already busy carrying essential war calls.

So again this year we urge you to send your Christmas greetings by mail. You can help the Post Office people, too, by arranging to send them early.

Should there be an out-of-town call you must make, please telephone as many days before Christmas as possible. In this way you will help us to handle promptly the flood of eager holiday greetings which will pour in from military camps all over the country. Thank you.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**Approach to the Lesson**

Some have spoken of the Lord's admonition to love one another as the Eleventh Commandment. Others see in it a summing up of all the commandments, inasmuch as love is the fulfilling of the law (Rom. 13:10). It is the new commandment because it is the one outstanding commandment of the new dispensation of grace. It embraces the entirety of Christian living, so far as our relationship one with another is concerned. For if we love others we will not only refrain from all that would be injurious or in any way unkind, but we will be characterized by active benevolence and readiness to do all we can for the blessing of our brethren.

When speaking of this new commandment in his first epistle, the

Apostle John uses the rather strange expression "which thing is true in him and in you" (1 John 2:8). I take it he means that in commanding us to love one another, the Lord Jesus was simply telling us to do that which, as children of God, is now as natural to us as breathing. We cannot but love since His love has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us (Rom. 5:5). It is not a question of legal effort. It is as though one commanded a devoted mother to love her children, the thing that she always delighted in doing.

Where love does not rule the heart, one might well question if the new birth had ever taken place. God is love. This is His nature, not simply one of His attributes. As believers are partakers of the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4) they love one another even as they themselves are lov-

ed by God.

**The Historical Setting**

Our Lord's interview with the scribe concerning the first commandment of all took place in the court of the Temple, where He was teaching during his last week on earth, in April, A.D. 30. His instruction to His disciples was given after eating the Passover with them, either in the upper room or on their way out to the garden of Gethsemane, on His last night before His crucifixion.

**Verse by Verse**

Mark 12:28.—"One of the scribes came." He seems to have been an honest man. He had been impressed by the sincerity of Jesus Christ and the clearness of His answer to the questions of others. He came inquiring, "Which is the first commandment of all?" He meant, of course, not first in order, but first in importance.

Verse 29 and 30.—"Jesus answered....The Lord our God is one Lord....thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." In these words, quoted from Deuteronomy 6:4, 5, our Lord epitomized all of the commandments that deal specifically with man's duty toward other men. He who loves God supremely will not willingly dishonor Him in anything.

Verse 31.—"The second....Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." This commandment was cited from Leviticus 19:18. It epitomizes all the precepts that have to do with man's duty toward other men. He who loves his neighbor will not desire to wrong him in any particular.

Verse 32.—"Master, thou hast said the truth." The scribe was deeply impressed and at once declared his sincere appreciation of the answer the Lord Jesus had given. He had affirmed the unity of the Godhead. This, all Scripture-taught Jews held as a cardinal truth.

Verse 33.—"To love him—and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices." There was real spiritual discernment manifested by this scribe. Nothing in the sacrificial ritual of the law was of any value in the sight of God if love were lacking. To love Him and to love one's neighbor wholeheartedly was that which pleased God above all else.

Verse 34.—"Thou art not far from the kingdom of God." Nevertheless, with all his appreciation of the spirituality of the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ, this scribe was not yet in the Kingdom. He was, as it were, just outside the door. To step in would mean to receive Christ for himself—to trust Him as Saviour and own Him as Lord.

John 13:34.—"Love one another; as I have loved you." This is the breadth of the new commandment. No natural men ever attained it. Only one regenerated by the Word and Spirit of God could manifest a love like this. It is the ideal before every disciple of our blessed Lord, and we should never be content with

any lesser experience.

Verse 35.—"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Judged by this standard, what a sorry picture professed Christians have often presented to the world! It is as believers walk together in love and unity that honest seekers after the truth recognize that it is found alone with those who know the Saviour, and that the opponents of the Gospel realize their utter inability to destroy the testimony such seek to maintain. (Phil. 1:27, 28.)

John 15:10.—"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love." This refers to that love of complacency which our Lord has for all His obedient disciples. He loves all His own alike in one sense, but there is the abiding enjoyment of His satisfaction in those who honor Him in obedience to His revealed will.

Verse 11.—"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." The believer who walks in love and is characterized by real heart devotion to Christ fills Him with joy, and, in turn, has a deep sense of the joy of the Lord dwelling up in his own soul. An obedient Christian is a joyous Christian always.

Verse 12.—"This is my commandment." It is the one thing, above every other, that He longs to have us do. It grieves His spirit if we are unkind to one another. It gladdens Him when we love our brethren as He has loved us.

Verse 13.—"Greater love hath no man than this." He was speaking of man as such, the natural man. For such an one voluntarily to lay down his life to save his friends from disaster is the highest expression of love that transcends this in Christ. He laid down His life for His enemies, for that is what we all are by nature (Rom. 5:10). There was in us nothing that warranted such love. But He looked upon us in our deep need and in His infinite grace He gave Himself to be the propitiation for our sins (1 John 4:10). Since He has thus given Himself for us, the least we can do in return is to be ready to lay down our lives for the brethren (1 John 3:16). When the love of Christ constrains us, no sacrifice will be considered too great on behalf of others (2 Cor. 5:14).

Verse 14.—"Ye are my friends, if—" Though once His enemies, He now esteems us as His friends. We manifest our friendship to Him by obedience to His Word. To prate of loving the Lord Jesus while living in selfishness and disobedience is but to deceive ourselves. The best of love is devotion to Another.

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**Toronto - Goodwood FLASHES**

Fred Middleton visited Flash correspondent one evening recently in Toronto.

Miss Blanche Bacon was home from Toronto for the weekend.

Birthday greetings to Stanley Slack who celebrated, chalked up another on Nov. 29.

Very sorry to hear that Mr. Ed. Taylor is in the hospital very ill. Hope soon for improvement.

Geo. C. Taylor a Goodwood old boy passed away at 230 Riverdale Ave. Toronto. His wife was Sophrona Shaver, and known years ago as Mrs. Wellington Pearson. Geo. Taylor was buried from the Funeral Home of A. E. Cook in St. John's cemetery.

Quite a number of neighbors on the third line south enjoyed a quilting at Mrs. Stanley Slack's.

Sorry to report many folks have the Flu on the third concession south. Buy your spare Tribune at Watson's store.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Latham and girls, visited with Mr. and Mrs. Cain and John Latham, West Hill.

Pte. Albert Yakely is at home now from the army.

Mrs. Sinclair and granddaughter of Cherrywood, called on her sister, Mrs. Wm. Maye last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woodland, also Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hockley, spent a day in Oshawa last week.

Sorry to learn that Miss Grace Wagg has been very sick.

The Baptist Sunday School business meeting was held at Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wagg's. Sixteen were present and a good meeting resulted.

Fourth Line Young People report good skating on the local pond. Robinson's pond was also frozen over.

Floyd Lewis, son of Walter and Mrs. Lewis of Dinsmore, Sask., and a member of the R.C.A.F. has returned home to Canada from England, where he will train to be a pilot. After visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. Brown in Toronto, he has left for home where his father and mother farm.

Best of good wishes to Earl Cook as he comes to Toronto Maple Leaf baseball team from Portland, U.S.A.

A number from Goodwood were at the Stouffville High School open night.

I've got it! We will send Mum and Dad The Tribune as a Christmas present. They will at least think of us 52 times a year.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Hill visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ashenhurst on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Maye and Kenneth had tea with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin.

Many former Goodwood folk attended the funeral of the late Geo. Taylor.

Sorry to hear Mrs. Norman Wagg has been on the sick list. Mrs. John Rae has been looking after the library in her absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Todd have moved into their home, formerly the Henderson property.

**EDITOR FOLLOWS CANADIAN PRODUCTS OVERSEAS**

Roderick S. Kennedy, Editor of the Family Herald and Weekly Star, is at present making an extended tour of the United Kingdom, during which he will prepare a series of articles on such vital, timely subjects as how Canadian products are distributed and used, how British farmers have achieved their startling increase in home production and how the boys in our Army and Air Force are feeling and living.

From wherever he happens to be, in England, Scotland or Ireland, Mr. Kennedy will write on what he sees. His articles, which will run consecutively for two or three months, will be liberally illustrated by his own photographs and will be exclusive to the Family Herald and Weekly Star.

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**Mother is Practical as well as Sentimental about Christmas**

**AND THESE ARE GIFTS SHE'LL ENJOY**

More this year than ever, the Mother in your family wants this to be a practical Christmas. She'd like her own presents, and the youngsters too, to be things that are needed. And they can be wonderfully attractive too, of course. Think, for instance, how Mother would delight in a smart new purse, lovely Stockings, Elegant Gloves or Dainty New Hankies.



We have all these and many more practical Christmas Gifts, such as a nice Warm Dressing Gown for Mother or Daughter or little Sister. Also Ski Coats, Women's lovely Warm Sweater Coats, Women's Smocks, House Dresses, Aprons for grown ups and Kiddies. Silver-plated ware in Casseroles, Pie Plates, Butter Dishes, Pickle Dishes, Pepper and Salt, &c. A fine new shipment of beautiful Pictures and useful Tea Trays. These are just some of the items we carry which are favorites, and make a welcome CHRISTMAS Remembrance at

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