

# Business Directory

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### SAMUEL D. BORINS

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82 Richmond Street West  
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## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for December 1  
Golden Text.—Finally,..... be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might—Eph. 6:10

The Lesson as a Whole  
After evangelizing in Macedonia and Achala, and establishing churches in Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, and possibly other cities, Paul and his companions made their way back to Antioch and there reported to the church the progress of the Gospel. Thus his second missionary journey had come to an end (Acts 18:22, 23). Shortly after this, the apostle started forth upon his third, and last journey prior to his arrest in Jerusalem. Apollos, "an eloquent man, and mighty in the (Jewish) scriptures" (Acts 18:24), had been led into fuller light through Priscilla and Aquila at Ephesus. He left there and passed over to Corinth, where he was received as a teacher of the new faith and where he gave valuable ministry of an edifying character. While he was still laboring there, Paul, after visiting various places between Antioch and Ephesus, came to the latter city and contacted the group of Apollos' disciples and was used of God to lead them into clear Gospel light. He remained there three years, and a great work of God resulted from his testimony. From there he sent Timothy and Erastus over to Macedonia, while he remained in Ephesus. It was at this time the incident occurred in connection with Demetrius and the silver shines for Diana.

Verse by Verse  
Acts 19:23.—"There arose no small stir about that way." This was the name given to the Christian message in the beginning. It was designated the "way," because it purported to show the true way of life. So great had been its victories, as recorded in verses 11 to 22, and so many had been converted that it affected greatly the trade in images of Diana, the mother-goddess of Ephesus. This led to a protest on the part of the silversmiths, whose business was falling off.

Verse 24.—"Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana." Diana, the moon goddess, was worshipped by the pagan populace of Ephesus with fanatical fervor. Visitors to the cities as well as residents bought the silver images made by Demetrius and others and cherished them for idolatrous use. It is easy to see how this illicit business enriched its producers, and how the Gospel made serious inroads on their ill-gotten gains, and so produced bitter discontent and enmity in their hearts.

Verse 25.—"By this craft we have our wealth." Touch a man's pocket-book and you touch his heart. Moved by covetousness, Demetrius had little difficulty in stirring up the indignation of his fellow craftsmen against Paul and the Gospel that he preached.

Verse 26.—"This Paul hath..... turned away much people; saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands." Nothing could be truer than this charge against the apostle (Acts 17:29; 1 Cor. 10:19, 20), and probably no one realized

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## KLONDIKE KATE "NOT A-GRIEVIN'"



Mrs. Kate Rockwell Matson, belle of the Yukon in the roaring twenties," passed through Vancouver recently on her way to her home in Bend, Ore. "Klondike Kate" was alone. Her 83-year-old prospector husband died in the Yukon while hunting the gold find that was to lead to their retirement. "I'm not a-grievin', no, not a-grievin'," she said. "Johnny wouldn't want me to grieve." Matson's body was found in his isolated cabin 100 miles from Dawson, near his prospecting site.

the truthfulness of what Paul taught more than Demetrius and his associates, who must often have chuckled contemptuously at the superstition of their customers, who would venerate a bit of silver which they themselves had fashioned into an idol.

Verse 27.—"Our craft is in danger to be set at naught." This is ever the cry of the charlatan, who endeavors to enrich himself by preying upon the fears and superstitions of mankind. The clear light of the Gospel reveals all these deceitful cults as they really are and sets men free from their baneful influence so that they no longer pour their money into the coffers of the deceivers who have no concern whatever about the souls of their dupes, but whose covetous practices (2 Pet. 2:3) cry aloud for judgment. They love the wages of unrighteousness and resent any interference with their unholy gains.

Verse 28.—"Great is Diana of the Ephesians." Wrought up to frenzy by the speech of Demetrius, the fanatical mob shouted their acclamation of the goddess whose image (a large black meteorite) was supposed to have fallen down from Heaven and in whose honor a great temple, one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world, had been built at Ephesus.

Verse 29.—"Having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia." These were two Macedonian converts mentioned elsewhere in Scripture (Acts 20: 4; 27:2; Col. 4: 10) who sometimes accompanied Paul on his missionary tours. The Ephesian mob laid hold on them when unable to apprehend the apostle himself.

Verse 30.—"The disciples suffered him not." Paul, free of any taint of cowardice, would have pushed his way into the midst of the crowd, hoping doubtless to impress them by an address, but his friends urged him not thus to endanger his life and liberty and so restrained him.

Eph. 6:13.—"The whole armour of God." This is listed for us in the verses that follow. It is complete spiritual panoply for the protection of all parts of the warrior but his back. The Christian soldier is called upon to stand with his face to the foe.

Verse 14.—"Loins girt about with truth." Peter tells us to gird up the loins of the mind. Just as the Oriental's flowing garments were drawn in and bound tightly about him by the girdle, so our thoughts are to be brought into control by the truth. "The breastplate of righteousness" is that practical righteous behavior apart from which none can face our great spiritual enemies with confidence.

Verse 15.—"Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." We are to be characterized by a joyful readiness to spread abroad the Gospel which tells how sinful man may find peace with God (see Isa. 52:7).

Verse 16.—"The shield of faith." That is, confidence in God. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4). As we put our trust in the living God, the enemies darts are powerless to hurt us.

Verse 17.—"The helmet of salvation." It is the assurance of our eternal salvation that gives us courage to face the foe. "The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." It is not merely the Bible as a whole, but the passage might be rendered, "the sayings of God." Note how the Lord Jesus used the sayings of God to defeat Satan, when tempted in the wilderness.

Verse 18.—"Praying always." Apart from prayer, which is the expression of daily dependence upon the Lord, we should still be helpless in the hour of need. We are to pray not only for ourselves, but for all saints, because all are engaged in the same conflict with

wicked spirits in the heavenlies (v. 22).

The Heart of the Lesson  
Wherever God is working in the awakening and salvation of the lost, we may expect to see Satanic opposition developed, and this often of the most cruel and unreasonable character. The hearts of unsaved men, already at enmity against God, are easily aroused to open hostility when the Gospel of His grace is being proclaimed and souls are being won for Christ. Nothing so enrages the ungodly as to be

called upon to repent and face the sins in His presence, and nothing so emphasizes the falsity of flesh religion as the manifestation of the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. We need not, therefore, be surprised or disappointed when we find our best efforts to win men for Christ misunderstood and our love repaid by hatred. This is the way the world treated Christ, and we may expect to find it the same in our unrelenting hostility to God as He did.



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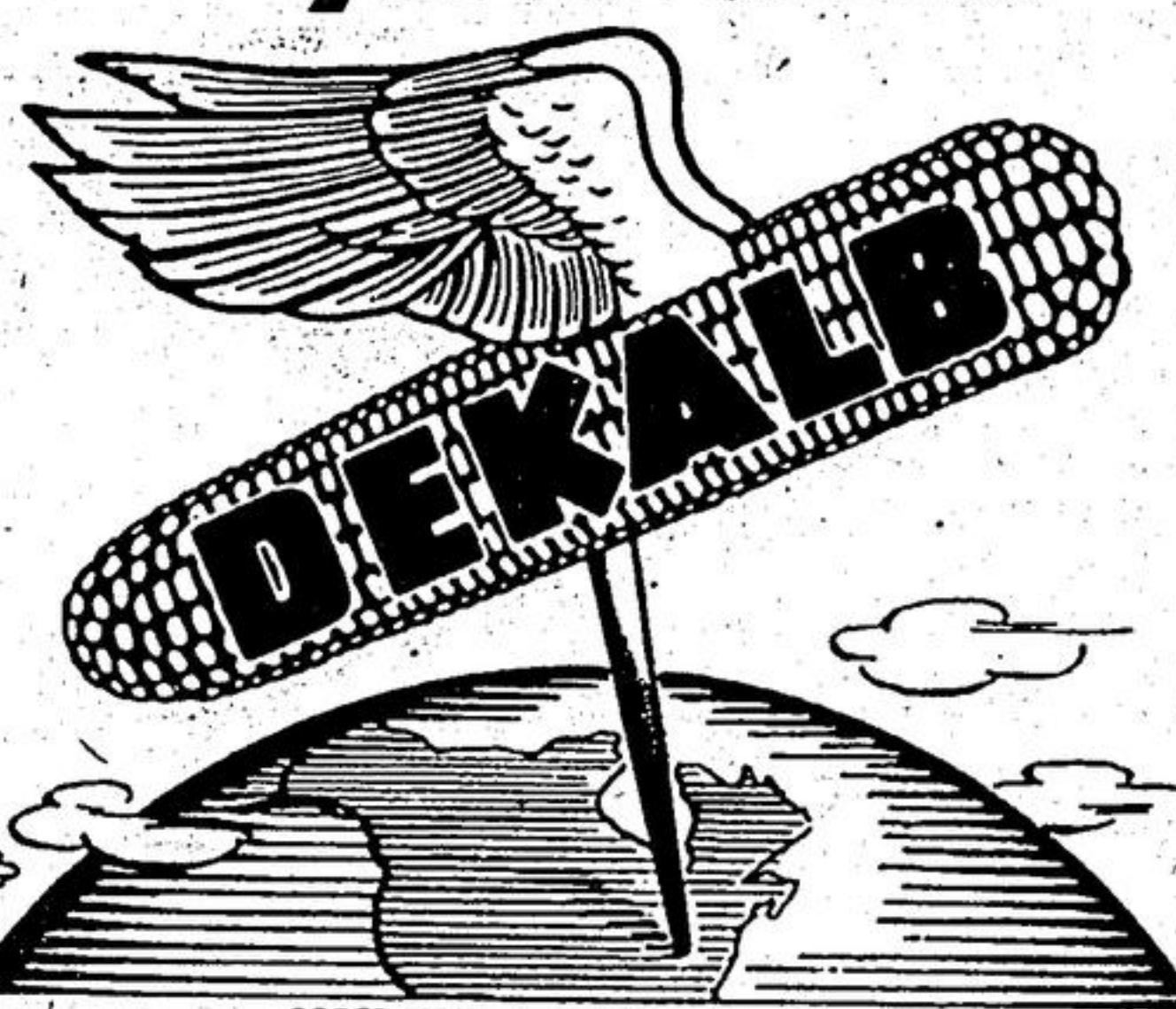
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