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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for February 2
Golden Text—I am the resurrec-
 tion, and the life; he that believeth
 in me, though he were dead, yet
 shall he live.—John 11:25

The Lesson as a Whole
 The three remarkable miracles
 which come before us in today's
 lesson demonstrate our Lord's
 power as the life-giving One. In
 each instance the subjects were
 helpless. They could do nothing to
 alleviate their wretched condition.
 In this they depict the state of
 those who are suffering from the
 dread disease of sin, and being
 spiritually dead are unable to save
 themselves. For their deliverance
 came through the power of Another
 and that One the Lord of life and
 glory, who had come down from
 Heaven to enter into earth's trials
 and sorrows and to free those who
 trusted Him from Satan's thrall-
 dom. There is a sense in which all
 disease come from the Devil, for if
 sin had not come into the world
 there would have been no sickness
 nor death; but Satan can afflict
 men only as God gives permission.
 (See Job 2.)

The instruction that is given in
 chapter 5 is all connected with the
 healing of the impotent man at the
 pool. It sets forth a much needed
 and most important lesson for us
 all; namely, that life is found alone
 in Jesus Christ. He gives eternal
 life to all who believe in Him.
 Eternal life is more than continu-
 ous existence. It is divine life im-
 parted to those who receive the
 Son of God in faith (1 John 5:12).
 Apart from Him men are all dead in
 their sins, even though they may
 be very much alive to the things
 of this world (1 Tim. 5:6). Neither
 is eternal life to be confused with
 immortality. The latter refers to the
 body and is to be given to those
 believers who live until the return
 of the Lord Jesus (1 Cor. 15:53, 54).
Verse by Verse
John 4:46.—"Sick at Capernaum."
 This was some ten miles from Cana,
 where Jesus was at this time,
 having returned from Judea to
 Galilee.

Verse 47.—"He went unto him,
 and besought him that he would
 come down, and heal his son." The
 nobleman took it for granted that
 the personal presence of the Lord
 Jesus Christ was required in such
 a case. He was to learn that there
 was healing in His word.
Verse 48.—"Except ye see..... ye
 will not believe." The Lord was
 putting the nobleman's faith to a
 test.

Verse 49.—"Come down ere my
 child die." The troubled father was
 so concerned lest his son pass away
 ere Jesus could reach his house that
 he pleaded for immediate action.
Verse 50.—"The man believeth
 the word that Jesus had spoken."
 The Lord's declaration was enough.
 There was real faith in the father's
 heart. He took the Lord Jesus at
 His word and went back toward
 Capernaum in perfect confidence
 that his son had been healed.

Verse 51.—"His servants met
 him, and told him..... Thy son
 liveth." Thus was his faith con-
 firmed. When he reached his home
 he found that the healing had taken
 place in the very hour in which
 Jesus had spoken the words, "Thy
 son liveth."

Chap. 5:2.—"In Jerusalem by the
 sheep gate a pool" (R.V.). This was
 probably what is called an inter-
 mittent spring, but was provided
 by God for the deliverance of His
 afflicted people. It was in a place
 called Bethesda, the house of
 mercy.

Verse 3.—"A great multitude of
 impotent folk." These poor, sick
 ones had come, or had been brought
 to Bethesda, seeking physical heal-
 ing, but only a very few could ever
 avail themselves of the means pro-
 vided. It was those who were
 strongest and needed it least who
 found health by stepping down into
 the pool. It reminds us of the pro-
 vision made under Law, "The man
 which doeth those things shall live
 by them."

Verse 4.—"Whosoever..... whatso-
 ever." There is a question as to the
 authenticity of this verse, but
 certainly it explains why the sick
 were there. The healing was for
 whosoever — if they had strength
 to get first into the pool. Then
 whatsoever affliction they had was
 healed.

Verse 5.—"A certain man..... had
 an infirmity thirty and eight years."
 Longer than the time Jesus had
 lived on earth, this man had been
 sick and helpless. Now the hour
 had struck for his deliverance. The
 Lord Jesus Christ had come to
 Bethesda specially to minister to
 him, though he knee wit not.

Verse 6.—"Wilt thou be made
 whole?" There were no conditions
 laid down, no rules to be obeyed.
 The question was a simple one and
 involved only the man's readiness
 to receive new life for his half dead
 body.

Verse 7.—"I have no man." He
 thought in terms of human expedi-
 ency, little realizing who had put
 that simple question to him. But his
 answer at least expressed his great
 need and his utter helplessness. He
 was just where the Lord Jesus
 could meet that need.

Verse 8.—"Rise, take up thy bed
 and walk." The life-giving com-

W.P.T.B. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—I am enclosing un-used meat
 coupons as I have noticed
 several requests for them in the
 various papers. Are they still
 wanted?
A—They certainly are..... every
 unused (valid) meat coupon
 means more meat for ship-
 ment overseas. It is good to
 know there are people in this
 country who are willing to
 share their rations with those
 less fortunate in other places
thank you.
Q—Please explain why housewives
 are desperate for sugar when
 the beer quotas are being con-
 stantly increased? Surely in
 times of shortages the brewer-
 ies should not be given any.
A—We have answered this ques-
 tion so many times in the past
 we were sure everyone knew
 the answer. Sugar is not requir-
 ed for the manufacture of beer
the breweries do not re-

mand came from the lips of Jesus.
 The man did not argue or attempt
 to show the impossibility of obedi-
 ence.

Verse 9.—"Immediately the man
 was made whole." He felt new life
 coursing through his body as he
 leaped in astonishment to his feet
 and went away joyfully carrying
 the cot on which he had lain so
 long.

Chap. 11:11.—"I go, that I may
 awake him out of sleep." The body
 of Lazarus slept in death. Jesus, as
 the life-giver, was going to bring
 him back from the grave.

Verse 12.—"Lord, if he sleep, he
 shall do well." The disciples
 thought only of natural slumber.
 They did not realize what had
 taken place in the case of their
 friend Lazarus.

Verse 13.—"Jesus spake of his
 death." Although so far away at the
 time, Jesus knew well what had
 taken place. He had waited pur-
 posely two days after receiving the
 message telling Him that Lazarus
 was sick, in order that the glory of
 God might be displayed in resurrec-
 tion power.

The Heart of the Lesson
 Nothing demonstrated more fully
 the deity of our Lord than His
 power over disease, demons, and
 death. At His command, sickness
 fled, demons were expelled, and
 death had to give up its prey. In
 the present lesson we see Him as
 the life-giving One, who heals with
 a word, for the words that He
 spake were both spirit and life
 (John 6:63). He is the same today
 as when on earth, but His power is
 now manifested in quickening into
 newness of life those who are dead
 in trespasses and sins.

ceive any sugar. Once again we
 repeat there is a world short-
 age of sugar and Canada re-
 ceives a fair share in the same
 way as other countries. This
 share is divided between the
 holders of ration books and in-
 dustrial concerns who require
 sugar for the manufacture of
 their products. But none for
 beer.

Q—My grocer charged \$1 for a tin
 of shrimps. Why is he allowed
 to charge such a price.

A—There has been no ceiling price
 on canned shrimps since last
 summer. They are considered
 a "luxury" food and if you find
 the price too high it is not
 necessary to buy. As more and
 more items are removed from
 price ceiling control, we will
 have to spend our money where
 we receive the best value.

Q—I have heard that rent control
 will be removed very soon. As
 I bought a house some time ago
 and am anxious to move into it
 could I give six months' notice
 now so the tenants would have
 to go as soon as controls were
 lifted?

A—No..... a thousand times no.
 Last Saturday Hon. Douglas
 Abbott made a statement to the
 effect that there would be no
 change in the eviction controls
 for some time to come. While
 these controls remain in effect
 you would not be able to give
 your tenants any notice to
 vacate. We have no information
 whatever as to when the con-
 trols will be removed.

BIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—I maintain that there is no
 such thing as a spiritual body. I
 want you to back me up in your
 column.

A—Let the Scripture settle it. I
 Corinthians 15:44 "It is sown a
 natural body; it is raised a spiritual
 body. There is a natural body, and
 there is a spiritual body."


Q—Was not the old covenant
 made with the Jews and the new
 covenant with the Gentiles?

A—Both were made with the
 houses of Israel and Judah. Read
 Hebrews 8:8: "Behold, the days
 come, saith the Lord, when I will
 make a new covenant with the
 house of Judah." (See also verses
 9, 10.)



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