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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson for July 11

Golden Text.—Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.—Eccles. 9:10.

The Lesson as a Whole

Approach to the Lesson

Some of us may be inclined to think that it is only those who are engaged in full-time service as preachers, missionaries, or teachers of the Word, who need a special endowment of the Holy Spirit for the ministry committed to them. But in the case of Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, who was called and appointed by God for what we might be inclined to consider secular work, we are told that God had filled him with the Spirit that he might do his part well. A great responsibility rested upon him as he had the oversight of the building of the Tabernacle and its furniture, which God commanded Moses to make according to the pattern shown him "in the mount." Bezaleel and his helpers needed special wisdom and ability to carry out the plan submitted to them. And, today, it is just as necessary that Christian tradesmen, artisans, mechanics, farmers, office helpers, and professional men be filled with the Spirit in order to pursue their avocations aright and in such a way as to glorify God in their respective spheres of activity.

A conscientious, Spirit-controlled workman in any walk of life is a wonderful testimony to the saving grace of God, and by his faithfulness, even in little things, he will commend the Gospel by which he has been saved.

The New Testament knows nothing of the artificial distinctions between clergy and laity and sacred and secular that we make ordinarily. All that we do should be done to the honor and glory of God and should therefore be considered sacred. In order that we may do it as we should, we need to walk in the Spirit and to be controlled by His mighty power.

The Historical Setting
When Israel reached the desert of Sinai, God called Moses up into the Mount and gave him instructions to build the Tabernacle as a sanctuary, where He would meet with His people and dwell among them. At the divine command, Moses appointed Bezaleel over this work. He was gifted in a special way to make the various articles of furniture and to guide Aholiab and others in their labors. We know nothing of his early history, except that he was the son of a man named Uri, who was of the house of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. He did the work allotted to him and so secured a permanent place in Holy Scripture.

Verse by Verse
Exod. 31:1.—"The Lord spake unto Moses." Everywhere in this book we have the voice of divine inspiration. It was not Moses who planned the Tabernacle or decided how to furnish it. God Himself designed it all as a remarkable series of types of Christ and His redemptive work. It was He who chose the workmen to build according to His own directions.

Verse 2.—"I have called by name Bezaleel . . . of the tribe of Judah." God has a work for every man and a man for every work. It should ever be our object to fit into His plan as Bezaleel did.

Verse 3.—"I have filled him with the spirit of God . . . in all manner of workmanship." It is only as thus filled that any man can perform his divinely appointed tasks. The Spirit of God is the spirit of wisdom and understanding and it is He who fits us for our daily duties as well as for any special ministry to which we may be called.

Verse 4.—"To devise cunning works", that is, work requiring particular ability, such as untrained men do not possess. All aptness and talent is from God and should be devoted to His honor and glory. When we realize this, nothing in our lives will ever seem uninteresting or commonplace.

Verse 5.—"To work in all manner of workmanship." This covers every possible trade or occupation that is of an honorable character.

Verse 6.—"I have given with him Aholiab . . . and in the hearts of all that are wise-hearted I have put wisdom." How the recognition that all wisdom is from God and is given for service, even in the everyday affairs of life, should dignify the most menial tasks as we realize that all may be done as unto Him and for His praise!

Verse 7.—"The tabernacle of the congregation . . . and all the furniture." Everything in connection with this sanctuary was important, for it was all intended to illustrate precious truth, yet to be revealed, concerning our blessed Lord and His work on our behalf. In Psalm 29:9 David tells us that "in His sanctuary every whit of it uttereth His glory" (literal rendering). Hence the need of divinely given wisdom to construct it.

Verse 8.—"The table . . . the pure candlestick . . . and the altar of incense." Each typified Christ in some character. As the table supported the loaves of shewbread, so Christ maintains and supports His people. He, too, is the light-bearer in the heavenly sanctuary as well as on earth. The incense altar speaks of His intercessory work.

Verse 9.—"The altar of burnt-offering." This tells of the Cross and the sacrifice there offered to settle the sin question.

Verse 10.—"The holy garments for Aaron the priest." These, too, typified various aspects of the

person and work of our great High Priest, who now ministers on our behalf in the Sanctuary above.

Verse 11.—"According to all that I have commanded thee shall they do." There was no room for human judgment as to what might be most appropriate. All was to be according to the Word of the Lord. His instructions were final and were to be acted upon implicitly.

2 Chron. 1:5.—"The brazen altar, that Bezaleel . . . had made, he put before the tabernacle of the Lord; and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it." Years and centuries had passed since Bezaleel built the altar, yet it had its place still in connection with the sanctuary of Jehovah. The thousand burnt offerings that Solomon offered (v. 6), while expressing his sense of the claims of the divine holiness, could not actually atone for one sin, but they typified the one offering of our Lord Jesus Christ, which has met all the claims of divine justice and settled the sin question forever for all who believe the Gospel.

The Heart of the Lesson

God has a plan for every life, and He will enable each one through the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill that plan if there be but loyal subjection to His will. Whatever our talents or ability may be, we are responsible to put all at His disposal. When thus yielded to Him, He will take us up, fill us with His Spirit, and use us to bring glory to His name. Of old, the Spirit came and went according to His will. Now, He abides in the believer forever. But all are not surrendered to God, and therefore are not filled with the Spirit, and so are unfitted for service. As we yield ourselves unto the Lord in loving allegiance, the Holy Spirit is free to work in and through us according to the will of God.

DR. GALLOWAY PASSES AT 86

Physician at Woodville most of his life, Dr. A. Galloway died at the home of his son in Cannington Thursday at the age of 86. He retired 10 years ago and has lived at Cannington since.

Born near Beaverton, Dr. Galloway graduated from the University of Toronto and started practising at Glenarm. Seven years later he moved to Woodville.

Surviving are his wife, two sons, Dr. C. A. Galloway, Cannington, and A. G. Galloway of Long Ride; a brother, Dr. George Galloway, of Chicago, and a sister, Mrs. L. Denmeade.

Saturday Night Shopping, Poor Business in Whitby

The following report taken from the Oshawa Times paints a very different picture about stores remaining open on Saturday night in Whitby than we know it here in Stouffville. Locally Saturday night during the summer is as good or better business period than many of the summer afternoons. However, with Oshawa stores closed, it looks as though Whitby is lining up for a closed Saturday night. In any event the report reads:

"A survey made in Whitby just before nine o'clock Saturday night does not bear out the statement made Friday by George Ansley, chairman of the Rural Committee of Oshawa Chamber of Commerce that 'Whitby stores are crowded Saturday night.'"

Mr. Ansley made the statement backing up a plea that Oshawa stores should remain open one night a week as convenience to rural trade.

Last Saturday at nine, Whitby's business section was anything but crowded. In fact many stores were closed and had been closed for several hours, particularly the grocery and hardware stores. Other stores closed at nine o'clock and after that Mr. Ansley would concede the street was sparsely populated.

"Recently the Chamber of Commerce discussed closing hours and decided to leave things as they are," said J. M. Roblin, C. of C. president. There is no closing by-law being enforced but there is some unity of action between merchants in the same line of business. Certainly the good old days are gone when Brock and Dundas were packed on Saturday nights.

"I think it ridiculous to ask storekeepers and their clerks to work after six o'clock," one housewife vigorously told The Times-Gazette. "The farmers made out all right through the war when stores were on shorter hours. I can't see any necessity for it now unless the individual merchant take a notion to work himself to death."

On week nights only the restaurants in Whitby show any sign of life, with the exception of one or two rugged individualists who see fit to do business at all hours.

Mr. Ansley also named Bowmanville and Port Perry as towns which are crowded on Saturday nights. However Whitby has one feature

BORN IN WHITCHURCH MRS. CHARLES DIED IN RICHMOND HILL

Though not entirely unexpected, the sudden passing of Mrs. Alice Charles at her Richmond Hill home on Tuesday, June 22nd, came as a great shock to her relatives and many friends.

Deceased was the widow of the late John Charles and was in her eighty-first year. Born in Whitchurch Township, her father, James Pointin, was a farmer in that community and a local preacher connected with the Methodist church. Both he and his father before him witnessed with effect from pulpits in the surrounding countryside when ordained ministers were too few in number. Mrs. Charles was reared therefore under strong Christian influences and the effect of this early religious environment remained manifest throughout her life.

Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Charles moved to Patterson, near Richmond Hill, where they lived for nearly 50 years. A family of six children, four boys and two girls was reared in that home and the family circle was broken only by the father's death a few years ago. When Mrs. Charles suffered the loss of her husband, she moved to Richmond Hill where she had resided over ten years.

PAIR BEARS YIELD \$20 BOUNTY

Lindsay, July 1.—Wild life inspector A. M. Hodgson reports that two black bears have been killed in the district during the month of June. A ten dollar bounty is being collected by James Kyle, of Furnace Falls, who killed a bear in the township of Snowden. The bear, he said, had been killing sheep.

Another \$10 goes to Robert Madill of Gooderham, for killing a bear which was molesting calves in Monmouth.

ENTERTAINS AT PIANO ON 100th BIRTHDAY

Celebrating her 100th birthday Mrs. Harriet Scott of Kitchener played the piano for visitors on Friday. A church organist at 16, she still played in the Milverton Anglican church when more than 80. Her last appearance before a large audience was in Cobourg when she was 95. She composed six waltzes during her long musical career.

about which Mr. Ansley spoke truly. There are no parking meters here to plague farmers and others. Oshawa's meters, according to the chairman of the Rural committee "create an unfriendly situation."

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