

Business Directory

DENTAL

NEIL C. SMITH, L.D.S., D.D.S.
Graduate of
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Office over Canadian Bank of
Commerce
Telephone 167, Stouffville

E. S. BARKER, L.D.S., D.D.S.
Honor Graduate of Royal College
of Dental Surgeons and of the
University of Toronto
Office over Marie Jack's
Beauty Parlor
Phone 27402
Markham every Tuesday

MEDICAL

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Physician and Surgeon
X-RAY
OFFICE: Cor. O'Brien and Main
Phone 196
Coroner for York County

DR. F. J. BUTTON
Stouffville, Ontario
Telephone 371
X-RAY
Hours—Daily 9 to 12 a.m.
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evenings 7-9 p.m.
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DR. HERBERT B. FREEL
Physician
Telephone 164. **X-Ray**
Hours: Daily, except Sunday
9 to 12 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday,
7.00 to 9.00

A. C. KENNEDY
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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Golden Text—I delight to do thy will, O my God; yea, thy law is within my heart.—Psa. 40:8

The Lesson as a Whole

Approach to the Lesson

How little did Ananias realize the honor that was being conferred upon him when he was commissioned by God to go to Saul of Tarsus, instruct and baptize him, and give him the right hand of fellowship as he recognized him as a fellow member in the church of God, who was formerly its bitterest persecutor! (Gal. 1:13.) Hesitant at first, how must Ananias have rejoiced afterward that it was he who was used of the Lord to start the great apostle to the Gentiles on the new path that God had ordained for him to walk in!

It is an interesting fact that while Ananias was a pronounced Christian and also well reported of by the Jews in Damascus, he was not what would be called today a clergyman, but evidently just one of the little company of Christian Jews for whom Saul had been seeking in order to compel them to renounce Jesus Christ or else be punished as the advocates of a false religion, who, under the Law, were condemned to death (Deut. 18:20). Yet to him was committed the glorious privilege of enlightening the erstwhile persecutor, baptizing him, and introducing him to the Christian company now as a brother in the Lord. We can imagine how the heart of Ananias must have rejoiced in the years that followed as he saw and heard the man whom he had instructed preaching the faith which once he destroyed (Gal. 1:23). When the full results of Paul's ministry are manifested at the judgement seat of Christ, who can doubt but that a rich reward will be the portion of Ananias of Damascus, his first tutor in the ways of the Lord.

The Historical Setting

As a result of persecution in Jerusalem, many of the early church were scattered abroad and went everywhere proclaiming the Gospel. Some had penetrated to Damascus and as a result a church of Jewish believers had been established there, to which Ananias belonged. On his way to arrest members of this group, Saul of Tarsus was converted and had been stricken blind. He had been taken to a house in the city of Damascus, where he remained three days, fasting and seeking further light. Ananias was sent by God to give him needed help, and baptize him as a confessed Christian.

Verse by Verse
Acts 9:10.—“A certain disciple of Damascus, named Ananias.” How long this man had been converted we are not told but it is evident he was well known, both to the followers of Christ and to Jews of the old faith, as an ardent disciple of the new way. The Lord spoke to him in a vision and there was immediate response.

Verse 11.—“Behold, he prayeth.” Prayer expresses dependence on God. He who hears every petition addressed to Him had heard the heart-cry of Saul, just newly brought to know Jesus as Saviour and Lord, and in response to his prayer. He directed Ananias to the exact place where Saul abode. Straight Street is still the principal thoroughfare in Damascus.

Verse 12.—“(He hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in.....that he might receive his sight.” Everything had been arranged according to God's pre-appointed plan. Already Saul was informed even of the name of the one through whom relief and enlightenment were to come.

Verse 13.—“I have heard by many of this man, and how much evil he hath done to thy saints in Jerusalem.” Saul's unholy activities were well known. Ananias only uttered what many others would have confirmed, and he added further information, of which the disciples of Christ in Damascus

NEW DUAL-FREQUENCY MOTORS CUT CHANGEOVER COSTS

Industry in the 25-cycle island of Southern Ontario this week was studying the announcement of development of a dual-frequency electric motor said to operate equally well on either 25 or 60-cycle current. Such a motor could help smooth out power conversion problems particularly of new and expanding industry. It could cut conversion expenses of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.

The Commission expects to save a minimum of \$4 millions on industrial motor conversion costs, and new and expanding industry might save countless thousands of manhours of production.

English Electric Co., of Canada, St. Catharines, has developed the new motor and will co-operate with other Canadian electrical equipment manufacturers in production and marketing. Although some dual-frequency (Universal) motors in fractional h.p. sizes have been available, the English Electric motor will be the first made available to Canadian industry in larger than 1 h.p. sizes.

Up to now, new and expanding

had been warned beforehand.

Verse 14.—“Here he hath authority.....to bind all that call on thy name.” It must have seemed strange indeed to Ananias, knowing Saul's mission as he did, to be sent to give him his sight. But he was to learn how wonderfully the grace of God had wrought and how marvelous was the change that had taken place in the heart of the once proud, persecuting Pharisee, to transform him into a humble follower of the One whose name he had hated and despised.

Verse 15.—“He is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles.....and the children of Israel.” God, who delights to show great grace to great sinners, had selected Saul to be His messenger to the nations of the world, and to their rulers, as also to the people of Israel. To Ananias this must have come as an amazing revelation of the power and love of God.

Verse 16.—“I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.” As Saul had made many of God's saints to suffer, he was himself to bear the reproach of Christ and to endure great persecution, both from Israel and the Gentiles, for the sake of Jesus, who was now his Lord. He counted this in after years as a privilege (Acts 21:31; 2 Tim. 1:11, 12).

Verse 17.—“Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus.....hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.” Ananias' greeting of Saul as a brother shows how grace had wrought in his own heart. He had come first that Saul's sight might be restored, but, second, and of the greatest importance, that the new convert might be endued with power by the filling of the Holy Spirit, the blessing promised by the risen Lord to enable His servants to bear witness to the Gospel among all nations.

Verse 18.—“Immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he.....arose, and was baptized.” In answer to the prayer of faith, Saul's blinded eyes were opened and in accordance with Ananias' further instruction (Acts 22:14-16) he was baptized, thus outwardly severing all connection with the past and identifying himself definitely with the followers of Jesus.

Verse 19.—“Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.” How different was this blessed association and fellowship from that which the little company of disciples had looked forward to with uneasiness and fear!

Verse 20.—“Straightway he preached Christ.....that he is the Son of God.” According to Galatians 1:17 there was a short period of meditation and waiting on God in Arabia before this public ministry began. But when the new convert commenced to preach, it was in no uncertain way that he proclaimed Jesus as the Son of God, the Saviour of both Jew and Gentile who believe in Him.

The Heart of the Lesson

In Ananias we see a fine example of man subject to the will of the Lord, and therefore in a condition to be used of Him as His messenger to carry the liberating Word to another. While we do not know of any other special service to which he was called, we cannot overestimate the importance of his visit to Saul of Tarsus and the manner in which he was used of God to start the new convert on his great mission as the apostle to the Gentiles. Had Ananias been unfaithful at the time he was commissioned to go to Saul, God would, no doubt, have found someone else, but Ananias would have missed the opportunity of his life. We may all see in him what we ourselves should be: willing instruments in the hand of the Lord.

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