

# Business Directory

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Lesson for Sunday, July 3)  
Psalms 1; 33:12-15; 67; 100.  
Golden Text—Serve the Lord with gladness, come before his presence with singing.—Psa. 100:2  
The Lesson as a Whole  
Approach to the Lesson  
The Book of Psalms, from which our lessons are to be taken for some weeks now, was the Praise Book of the nation of Israel. These inspired lyrics were sung at the Temple and synagogue services, as well as in the homes of the people, and on their journeys as from year to year they came up to worship the Lord at Jerusalem. Actually there are five books combined into one, so that the Jews often referred to them as the Pentateuch of David, just as we have the Pentateuch of Moses in the first five Books of the Bible. Strikingly enough, and in itself an evidence of divine design in their arrangement, a careful examination will show that the outstanding theme of each of these books of Psalms corresponds with the earlier group of five. Book One embraces Psalms 1 to 41, and as in Genesis, the great truths specially emphasized here are the glory of God as Creator and the contrasted ways of the righteous and the ungodly. Book Two consists of Psalms 42 to 72. Here, as in Exodus, God is presented as the Redeemer, delivering His people from sin and its consequences. Book Three includes Psalms 73 to 89. This is the sanctuary book, the Leviticus of the Psalms, bringing the people of God into fellowship with Himself in holy separation from all that is evil and unclean. Book Four, Psalms 90 to 106, lays stress upon the wilderness experiences of Israel, answering to the Book of Numbers. In Psalms 107 to 150 we are in the Deuteronomy section, extolling the overruling government of God. It will be noticed that in each of these divisions the illustrations used are drawn from the corresponding book of Moses. Surely, in all this we see indubitable evidence of the divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures.  
The Historical Setting  
While most of the Psalms were written and sung by David, there are several by other authors. One, the Ninetieth, is attributed to Moses. Some are by Asaph, and one at least, is possibly by Solomon. Quite a few are spoken of as orphan Psalms, as they have no human author's name connected with them. The Psalms were written over a period of perhaps five hundred years and put in final order in the days of Ezra, according to Hebrew tradition.

Verse 1.—"Walketh not... nor standeth... nor sitteth." The first part of this Psalm, which serves as an introduction to the entire Book, celebrates the blessedness of the man who refuses all association with those who dishonor God by disobedience to His Word. The man of God is not found walking in the counsils of the ungodly; neither is he to be seen sitting in company with those who scorn the things of the Lord. Actually, the verbs here are in the past tense. Of only one blessed man can it be said that he walked not, stood not, nor sat in the ways of the goddess. Verse 2.—"His delight is in the law of the Lord." This is more than a mere negative attitude. While the blessed man refuses the evil, he delights in the good. The Word of God is the food of his soul and the joy of his heart.  
Verse 3.—"Like a tree planted by the rivers of water." Drawing his strength from the fountains of divine revelation, this man prospers in his way and brings forth fruit unto God.  
Verse 4.—"The ungodly are... like the chaff." In contrast to the blessed man of the first three verses, those who refuse to be in subjection to the will of God are like the worthless chaff, which is driven away by the wind as it is separated from the wheat in the time of threshing.  
Verse 5.—"The ungodly shall not stand in the judgment." To stand in the judgment is to be justified before the divine throne. Whatever their confident boasting now, the ungodly will be condemned in the day when they appear before God. They shall have no place in the congregation of the righteous.  
Verse 6.—"The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous." The holy eye of God beholds all the ways of men, and His judgment is according to truth. He will reward the righteous in due time and punish the ungodly who have spurned His Word.

Psa. 67:1.—"God be merciful unto us, and bless us." In this Psalm the hearts of the people of God are lifted up to Him in adoration and prayer. No doubt it was used frequently as an opening or closing hymn when the people gathered together to worship the Lord. It begins with the prayer for His loving favor as the source of all blessings.

Verse 2.—"That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations." The God of Israel was not, as some have supposed, a mere tribal deity. He was the God of all mankind and was so recognized by Israel. Consequently they prayed that all people might come to know His way and enjoy His saving health, His delivering power bringing blessing to spirit and body alike.  
Verse 3.—"Let all the people praise thee." Elsewhere we are told that "praise is comely for the upright" (Psa. 33:1). It is meet that all men should honor and praise the Lord because of His infinite love and wisdom.  
Verse 4.—"O let the nations be glad and sing for joy." This is the heartfelt prayer of the godly Israelite, who would have all men everywhere know and rejoice in the One who had manifested His favor toward them and who had promised to deliver the nations from their miseries and misrule. This will have its fulfillment when our Lord returns in glory to establish His Kingdom over all on earth.  
Verses 5 and 6.—"God, even our own God, shall bless us." Again the people are called upon to praise the Lord in a holy unity of spirit. When thus united in giving Him glory, we may be assured that His blessing will follow.  
Verse 7.—"The ends of the earth shall fear him." To a large extent this has become true already, but it awaits its complete fulfillment when the Kingdom of God is set up in power and all men recognize the divine authority.

The Heart of the Lesson  
Children of God, both in Old and New Testament times, have found the contemplation of the Book of Psalms an unfailing source of spiritual refreshment and soul culture. Every experience that believers are called upon to pass through seems to find some expression here. The more one saturates his mind and heart with these holy hymns and sacred songs, the more they prove to be a constant source of spiritual growth and edification. The contrast between the godly and ungodly man which begins in Psalm One runs all through these inspired lyrics, emphasizing the blessedness of a life of piety and the folly of a life lived for self and sin. They have encouraged the living and comforted the dying. Above all, they present Christ in a wonderful way, setting forth poetically His sufferings and the glories that are to follow. They should not be read hurriedly or thoughtlessly, but slowly and carefully in order that one may enter trustingly into their inner meaning.

## Outlook Is Grim All Over The Province

Heavy damage was done to crops in North, Central and Western Ontario by frost during June, a newsletter from the Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Division, Ontario Department of Agriculture says.  
The weather continued very hot and dry the latter part of the week and it has been noted that the prevailing drought has begun to affect tree fruits, the letter says.  
In the Leamington area quality of produce leaving the area is reported as "fairly good." There has, however, been a noted decrease in quantity of asparagus. Small quantities of celery was harvested. Bulk of truck movement was to Toronto. Cabbage and cauliflower quality good and shipments heavy.  
Many early head lettuce fields in this area, were plowed under because of soft heads.  
In the Hamilton-Niagara area drought has already affected strawberries, raspberries and cherries. Cherries and early peaches were falling badly and not sizing.  
London reports that the heavy frost set back 50 per cent of the tomato, potato and egg-plant and bean plants from two to three weeks with 35 per cent of plants completely damaged. Orchards not seriously affected.  
In Eastern Ontario apples are reported very heavy. Bud moth prevalent in some orchards. Tomatoes

and peas backward because of weather. Strawberry crop to be small and season short. Quality good.  
Bradford district says some cut-worm damage noted. Lettuce will be late due to poor growth.  
Strawberries coming to Toronto market are reported to be very dry and seedy. Lettuce heads generally soft and quality only fair. Cherries fairly good but size small.  
In Orangeville-Shelburne district frost damage is reported to be from five all the way to 100 per cent on new potatoes. Damaged plants have started to grow again but potatoes will be three to five weeks late. Old potatoes very scarce.

## WORKERS PRODUCING MORE

A substantial increase in the productivity of the worker in Britain is shown by the latest issue of the Industrial Production Index. This index which covers March 1949, gives the production figure for all industries of 130 (1946 equals 100). The index number for 1948 as a whole is 121 so that the percentage increase in production on last year was seven and a quarter per cent. On the other hand more workers have entered industry. Taking this manpower increase as two per cent maximum, this means that the improvement in individual output on last year was slightly higher than five per cent.

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