

Business Directory

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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Dates of Visits to Stouffville Office
Announced in Local Columns

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Golden Text.—Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. —1 Cor. 15:57

Approach to the Lesson
The resurrection of Christ was the Father's expression of satisfaction in the work His Son so blessedly accomplished on the cross, when He gave Himself a ransom for our sins. The sin question settled, God raised Him from the dead and set Him at His own right hand in the highest glory, exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour.

We need to remember that apart from His physical resurrection there was no proof that God had accepted His work as an atonement for our sins. But having been delivered up to death for our justification. Some prefer to render this, "because of our justification." His death so fully met all the righteous claims of God's throne against our sins that now God has declared, by bringing Him back from the dead, that sin is no longer a barrier to our complete justification.

The Historical Setting
The First Epistle to the Corinthians was probably written by Paul while he was in Macedonia in A.D. 59, and was occasioned by the reports that had reached him of so much disorder prevailing in the church there; also of the denial, on the part of some, of the great truth of the physical resurrection of the body. This error is met and refuted in chapter fifteen.

Verse 1.—"The gospel which I preached unto you." There is no other remedy for man's lost condition but the Gospel. That Gospel tells of Christ, who suffered and died for our redemption and now lives to sustain all who trust in Him.

Verse 2.—"If ye keep in memory." Endurance is the proof of reality. Many a one has made a profession of faith in Christ whose after life has made manifest the fact that the Gospel had never really found lodgment in the heart.

Verse 3.—"Christ died." This is a historical fact. "For our sins." This is the divine explanation of the reason for His death. He died as our substitute.

Verse 4.—"He rose again the third day." Apart from His resurrection there could be no means of knowing whether redemption had been accomplished or not. His triumph over death was the proof that His work had met with the divine approval.

Verse 5.—"He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve." We are not told the circumstances con-

cerning the Lord's appearance to Cephas, that is, Simon Peter, who had denied Him. We learn, however, in Luke 24:34, that some time on the resurrection day Christ sought out His sorrowing apostle who had failed so grievously, evidently to assure him of the divine forgiveness and so to restore his soul. Later He appeared to the Twelve as they sat at meat in the upper room, for, according to the mind of God, in spite of the defection of Judas, the Twelve were to be maintained as one unbroken group of witnesses to the Resurrection.

Verse 6.—"He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once." This was when He appeared to His disciples upon a mountain in Galilee according to His previous appointment.

Verse 7.—"He was seen of James." We are told that before His death "neither did his brethren believe in him" (John 7:5). James was one of these and to him the Lord Jesus appeared after He arose from the dead, thus giving him positive proof of His Messiahship.

Verse 8.—"Last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time." We might naturally conclude that Paul meant when Christ appeared to him on the Damascus road it was after the "due time," but the Greek text indicates the contrary. The term he uses really means "as of an abortion," that is, one born before the time. Paul here has in mind the coming revelation of the risen Christ to Israel at His second advent. That revelation came to Hebrew, Saul of Tarsus, before "due time." (See also I Tim. 1:16.)

Verse 20.—"Now is Christ risen and become the firstfruits of them that slept." The reference is to Leviticus 23:10 and 11. The first fruits were to be presented to the Lord on the morrow after the Sabbath following the Passover. The fulfillment came in the exact order of the type—Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us. On the morrow after the succeeding Sabbath, that is, on the first day of the week, our Lord rose from the dead as the first fruits of the glorious resurrection harvest. His resurrection is the pattern and assurance of ours who believe in Him. As we read in verse 23, "Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming."

Verse 21.—"By man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead." Verse 22 explains the meaning of these words. When Adam, head of the old creation, sinned, "death passed upon all men" (Rom. 5:12). Christ, as the "second man" (v. 47) and the last Adam, the head of the new creation, is now the giver of life to all who trust in Him. By natural birth we are all "in Adam." Only those who are born again are "in Christ."

Verse 57.—"The victory." It is victory over death and all of Satan's power that is in view. The resurrection of Christ was the evidence of Satan's utter defeat and the guarantee that all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ shall be delivered from the power of death, and raised in His likeness.

Verse 58.—"Ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Assured that we have not followed "cunningly devised fables" (2 Pet. 1:16) in accepting the testimony God has given concerning the resurrection of His Son, we are exhorted to a steadfastness and unwavering faithfulness as we seek to carry the message of the Gospel to an unbelieving and gain-saying world, confident that His Word shall not return unto Him void and that our labor will be richly rewarded at our Lord's return.

The Heart of the Lesson
The physical resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is fundamental. There is no room for human theories here. It is not merely a question of survival after death. It will not do to say, as one has done, that "the body of Jesus sleeps in a Syrian tomb, but His soul goes marching on." This is to deny His resurrection altogether. His soul was never dead. His body died, and it was His body that was raised again.

Note that the resurrection of Christ is ascribed to each person of the Trinity. All had part in that glorious work. The Lord Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up..... He spake of the temple of his body" (John 2:19, 21). He was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father (Rom. 6:4; see also Heb. 13:20). And His resurrection is attributed to the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:11). There is no contradiction. All is blessed harmony. The entire Godhead was concerned in the Resurrection.

LOGGERS and LUMBERMEN!

As from April 1st your employees are insured under provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act. This means that contributions must be paid for them beginning on that date.

If you employ anyone in lumbering and logging you should:—

1. Register with your National Employment Office;
2. Obtain insurance books for your employees;
3. Get instructions about making contributions and about rates.

Your National Employment Office is ready to assist you with all necessary information.

All sawmills and planing mills come under the Act on April 1st regardless of how many weeks they operate.

Farmers and any other persons whose main occupation is non-insurable need not be insured if they work in lumbering and logging for 60 days or less a year and apply for exemption.

Call at the nearest National Employment Office for full information.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

C. A. L. MURCHISON J. G. BISSON R. J. TALLON
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VANDORF
(Thursday, March 30)
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Eade entertained a number of friends and relatives on Saturday evening, March 25th. The occasion being their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Best wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Eade.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolia Scott entertained friends on Monday evening to a surprise party in honour of Mr. R. Carr's birthday.

Dr. and Mrs. George Covey, Toronto visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy Morley over the weekend. Mr. Morley has returned with them for a short holiday.

Mrs. Wm. Pattenden, Mrs. Roy Morley, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Morley and Billie were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Pattenden and family.

Mrs. Olive Coulson and Laura Mae were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Carr on Thursday. Sorry to hear that Miss Carroll has been on the sick list again. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. Hilliary on the birth of a daughter, a sister for Bobby, Margaret and Lynne.

Miss Minnie and Mabel Pattenden spent last weekend in Buffalo.

AGED MAN DEAD
Last surviving member of the Menno Snyder family and one of the oldest residents of Kitchener, E. K. Snyder, died in that city last week at the great age of 93. He retired from his shoe store a few years ago, and which he operated over half a century.

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