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**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**GOD'S CALL TO FAITHFULNESS**  
 (Lesson for Sept. 27)  
**Malachi**  
**GOLDEN TEXT** — Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me. — Psa. 101:6

**THE LESSON AS A WHOLE**  
 Approach to the Lesson  
 Malachi, last of the "minor" prophets (writing about 425 B. C.), was God's mouthpiece to the Jewish remnant in Palestine which had returned after the captivity in Babylon. He is the prophetic link connecting the Old and New Testaments. "Malachi" (Heb.) means "my messenger." He looks across the intervening 400 years and predicts the arrival of his prophetic successor, John the Baptist (3:1; see Matt. 11:10), who would prepare the way before Christ.

The Jews needed a stern rebuke. In their initial burst of religious and patriotic enthusiasm they had rebuilt the Temple and fortifications of Jerusalem, and re-established the ancient worship of Jehovah. But now their ardor was cooling. The flesh, corrupt and deceitful as ever, was asserting itself. A voice from Heaven was sorely needed.

Malachi reminds Israel of God's unflinching love, denounces her corruption, pointedly analyzes her sin, and warns her of impending judgment. He brings to her remembrance the gracious promises of the Lord. He declares that Israel's Messiah would come. His arrival announced by a messenger of God. And finally the day of the Lord would break, when those that feared God would be spared, and divine wrath would be visited upon the wicked.

**The Heart of the Lesson**  
 Israel's sin was worthy of severe reprimand. Malachi bluntly exposes it and summons the nation back to the path of faith-

fulness to God.  
 The priests had proved unfaithful. Surely, after their distressing experiences in Babylon, they would have remained true to their holy calling when at long last they were back in their own land. But such was not the case. Their offence was threefold.

First, they presented unworthy sacrifices to God. The Mosaic Law stated that animal offerings should be without blemish. But they despised God's table and altar, and used polluted bread and blind, lame, or sick animals (1:7, 8, 13, 14). Second, they were more concerned about their priestly pay than about the performance of their sacred duties. Third, they went about their task in perfunctory, formal fashion, with no holy zeal whatever.

The people, too, had wandered from God. "Like people, like priest" (Hos. 3:9). They were guilty in several respects.

First, they had "profaned the holiness of the Lord" (2:11) by intermarrying with foreigners in the land, thus defiling the Hebrew blood strain; and then in many instances by divorcing their wives. When called to account for this fault they had impudently defied the Lord. Second, the people had robbed God in their tithes and offerings (3:8), selfishly retaining for their own use what they should have dedicated to the Lord.

From all this waywardness and transgression Malachi earnestly urges Israel to return to her God. In her worship, daily life and stewardship she must once more be faithful. The names of the Jews who had not apostatized but had remained true were inscribed in the "book of remembrance" (3:16) — as belonging to God. But the wicked would receive their just due at the coming of the day of the Lord when Christ, the "Sun of righteousness," would certainly arise (4:2).

**County Planning Board Discussed In Special Meeting Of Council**

A special meeting of York County Council was held on Thursday evening, to hear Mr. Pearson of the Dept. of Planning & Development and discuss the proposed establishment of a county planning board.

In summarizing his remarks, Mr. Pearson pointed out that the County could not hope to plan on its own without co-operating with those municipalities on its borders. He said that in the past the thinking of council had been mainly rural, but in the future it would have to be expanded, as much of the county was becoming urban. His advice was to proceed slowly with the full co-operation of all existing Boards.

**\$3500 to Start**  
 Mr. Pearson, in answer to a question, estimated that a Planning Board would cost the county \$35,000 in its first year of operation, and that this would likely expand to \$50,000 inside of five years. He said they would require a Planning Director and Public Relations man. Present Boards would continue as they are, he said.

Asked about those municipalities already in Metro jurisdiction, and there are six, Mr. Pearson said that he believed that the county board would be busy enough handling the remaining eight, without seeking to obtain jurisdiction over any others.

Reeve Clarke of Markham Twp. said he thought this would be very difficult to establish if all municipalities were not included. The speaker said that all incorporated areas would have a member on the Board without

regard to population.  
 Only a Bedroom  
 Mr. Bryan, chairman of the Woodbridge Board, asked what the county board could do for an area that Metro could not do. He said that his board considered that Metro wished to "grab" all the industry and use Woodbridge only as sleeping quarters, with all the expense of educating the children.

Mr. Pearson replied that he would hope that if a county board was organized, it would be in the spirit of co-operation and not controversy.

Lorne Evans, formerly of Whitechurch Twp., said that he considered the county board desirable, but 25 years too late. The question was left with the county planning committee for consideration.

**Thomar Walter, 91, Deacon 50 Years**

Thomas Percy Walter, 91, of Main st., Markham, until a few years ago a farmer in Pickering, Jericho and Scarborough, died at his home on Saturday.

He operated a 200-acre farm at Arkona, and while there was a deacon of the Baptist Church for more than 50 years.

He leaves his widow and nine children; Mrs. Clarence Eastman, Arkona, Harry of Bright, Howard of Thedford, Anna, Henrietta and Dean of Markham, Joseph of Agincourt, Mrs. Joe Beyak of Rainy River, 24 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

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**Cedar Grove News**

(Sept. 17)  
 Many a man brags of his wife's culinary ability, but few can prove it as conclusively as can John Petrie this week. John is proud, and rightly so, for Bea Petrie not only won first prize for her white cake at the CNE but did it with one hundred marks, an unprecedented record at the Ex. Glory came complete with pictures in the paper and a warm handshake from Elsa Jenkins. In fact, Cedar Grove was well recorded at the Exhibition this year. Did you notice the cute pictures of Arthur and Meredith Lapp viewing the grandstand show? Bruce Petrie did pretty well with his cooking, too, but did not get recorded for posterity.

Whoosh! One day we are running fans and the next we are running furnaces. Better clean off the snow shovels — the autumn crocus predict snow for the middle of October. Why not a crocus predicting? Everything else does.  
 Didn't notice any jubilant celebrating in the village, on Monday after Lunik struck the moon. Wonder if there would have been a gayer reception if the "good guys" had made it first. If the moon people are anything like our science fiction has led us to believe, what ever are they going to do with all those Russian pennants? They just might already have a leader. However, Mr. Krushchev arrives in a blaze of glory. He may find a trip to the USA is a more daring adventure than a journey to the moon.

A new music teacher will soon be established in Cedar Grove. Marian Burkholder, who has successfully reached grade nine music, is now taking pupils up to grade six. She has the blessing of her own teacher,

Blanche Raymer, who hopes some of the youngsters eager to begin will start with Marian. Saturdays will be her teaching days.

Cedar Grove learned with sadness of the death on Sunday of George Offen. George came to Cedar Grove as a small boy when his father took over the store, and his public and High School days were shared with many of our villagers. He worked with his father in the store and finally ran it himself until he moved to Carrying Place about twelve years ago. His associates in Cedar Grove were many and his sudden death was a great shock to his friends here. We extend heartfelt sympathy to his brother Jack of Cedar Grove and to his wife and family.

Rally Day will be held next Sunday at Zion Church with one service only, at 11.15 a.m. The children will take part in the service and the Girls' Choir will provide special music—Sept. 20.

Sept. 21st, Monday — Euchre will be held in Cedar Grove schoolhouse. All players cordially invited.

Last week's winners were: Mrs. Albert Booth, Mrs. Allan, Mrs. Wm. Ham, William Ham, Herb Jarvis, Levi Coathup. Carrying prizes went to Lillian Dean and Mrs. Albert Booth.

The Mothers' Club will open their fall session on Thursday evening at 8:30 at the home of Elsie Reesor. Topic for the evening is French Conversation.

Any black sheep in the family usually is also the goat.  
 The job you put off until tomorrow adds to your fatigue today.

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