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A HILL, AND 3,000 YEARS

The International Sunday School Lesson for May 16th is, "Victory Under Samuel."—1 Samuel 7: 2-17.

By William T. Ellis.

Less than a year ago I stood on the highest eminence near Jerusalem, the tower of the self-flaming German hospice on the Mount of Olives, and heard from the lips of a British staff officer the story of the progress of the army which captured Jerusalem and drove the Turks out of Palestine. One strategic eminence first taken by the British troops in the final attack upon Jerusalem was a point about four miles to the northeast of the city called "Nebi Samuel" or "Prophet Samuel," the traditional home of the king-making prophet of Israel.

The Eternal Theatre of Nations. What a place-book is the Bible! Its geography seems forever alive. To-day there is a new struggle under way on the scenes of our Lesson story, and Zionists and Syrians have come into bloody conflict. The spiritual and ethical issues of the world war are still at stake, and apparently the final decision is to come within the area of Bible lands.

So our first comment concerns the importance of places in Bible study. A map may be more illuminating than spiritual musings. Personally, I have been poring over the maps in the back of my Bible, and the wonderful battle-charts issued by the Egyptian expeditionary force which conducted the Palestine campaign: the two dove-tail enclaves. There is such a thing as a place providence. In the geography of God, this little strip of land along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, called Palestine, with which the European powers have of late been playing battledore and shuttlecock, seems destined to be forever pivotal to the history of the race.

Setting Right a Nation. One of the war's many lessons is that men should think in terms of nations. Our western world has always been far behind the older civilizations in this respect: even the peasants of the Near East talk more freely and intelligently about the essential characteristics of great nations than do we in North America. I have been amazed at the shrewdness with which orientals have appraised the qualities of the powers. Public opinion increasingly deals with nations as units. That such has always been the way of God is made clear by the Old Testament.

Catarrhal Deafness and Head Noises. TELLS SAFE, SIMPLE WAY TO TREAT AND RELIEVE AT HOME.

If you have catarrh, catarrhal deafness or head noises caused by catarrh, or if phlegm drops in your throat and has caused catarrh of the stomach or bowels you will be glad to know that these distressing symptoms may be entirely overcome in many instances by the following treatment which you can easily prepare in your own home at little cost. Secure from your druggist 1 ounce of Parmit (Double Strength). Take this home and add to it 1/4 pint of hot water and a little granulated sugar; stir until dissolved. Take one tablespoonful four times a day. An improvement is sometimes noted after the first day's treatment. Breathe should become easy, while the distressing head noises, headache, dullness, cloudy thinking, etc., should gradually disappear under the tonic action of the treatment. Loss of smell, taste, defective hearing and mucus dropping in the back of the throat are other symptoms which suggest the presence of catarrh and which may often be overcome by this efficacious treatment. It is said that nearly ninety per cent. of all ear troubles are caused by catarrh and there must, therefore, be many people whose hearing may be restored by this simple, harmless, home treatment.

The Chosen People were losing their peculiar character. The Lord has chastised His wandering children, and they had become penitent. Here is how the lesson story runs: "And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel saying, If ye desire to be with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods, and direct your hearts unto Jehovah, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. Then the children of Israel did put away the Baalim and the Ashtaroth, and served Jehovah only."

And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpah and I will pray for you unto Jehovah. And they gathered together to Mizpah, and drew water, and poured it out before Jehovah, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against Jehovah. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpah. And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Call not to cry unto Jehovah our God for us, that He will save us out of the hand of the Philistines. And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a whole burnt offering unto Jehovah; and Samuel cried unto Jehovah for Israel; and Jehovah answered him. And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel; but Jehovah thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and they were smitten down before Israel. And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Beth-car.

And 79. Our Own Day. These international lessons are more than history; they are a message for the present times: the light of the Bible upon the life of today. Even a cursory reading of the present lesson story reveals its peculiar applicability to our own national affairs. We are in a state of reaction from the war, and also in a state of becoming. There has been much wandering after false gods. Real and unique perils threaten us. This is our greatest problem era. What can we learn from this somewhat analogous experience of old Israel? Simple is the answer. Strange gods must be put away, sins must be confessed, and we must return unto our God, who will abundantly pardon. With prayer and sacrifice and worship, as did Israel at Mizpah, we are to prepare for a restoration of the divine favor, and victory over the foes that afflict our souls.

Roger Babson, the statistician, has been saying of late, in public addresses, that we have all the brains and efficiency and secular resources needed to solve the present problems which are arousing the people to discontent; but that what we need is religion—a new sense of our obligation to God, and a fresh reverence for His will. The same note is echoing from the secular press and from public men. Our land will be safe only as it is saved by the ever-living God. A reverent erection of Ebenezer's stones of memorial to the past goodness of God, may prepare us for a future more dependent upon Him, and therefore more conformable to His righteousness.

When some people spend their time in self-contemplation it looks to others like time thrown away.

McLEAN INCIDENT HAS BEEN SETTLED. Col. Peck and Col. Cooper Withdraw Resignations, and Harmony Reigns. Ottawa, May 13.—The resignation of Col. C. W. Peck, V. C., and Col. R. C. Cooper from the pensions committee of the house of commons, have been withdrawn. A statement from Brig-Gen. H. H. McLean apologizing for any offence which his words may unintentionally have caused to returned soldiers, their wives or widows, was made at a public meeting of the committee on the whole McLean incident, which for a time threatened to disrupt the committee, has been settled. The committee met in private and is understood to have had under discussion the procedure to be followed when the hearing of re-establishment evidence is begun. The death took place in Toronto on May 9th of Mary Mackenzie widow of Rev. Dr. John Thompson, of Sarina, and daughter of the late Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, prime minister of Canada. Mrs. Thompson formerly resided in Brockville.

SOLDIER'S BRIDE DEAD

Sudden Passing of Mrs. Charles Lockwood, Mountain Grove. Mountain Grove, May 11.—Mrs. Charles Lockwood passed away very suddenly on Saturday morning, May 8th at the early age of twenty-five years. Deceased's maiden name was Ellen Rogers, daughter of John Rogers of Belfast, Ireland. On May 4th, 1919, in Meagan Memorial church, Hollywood road, Belfast, she became the bride of Charles Lockwood, a Canadian boy, who was serving overseas. In September, she left friends and country to accompany her husband to his home here. Her genial disposition and kindly manner made her very well come here, and endeared her to all those with whom she came in contact. The funeral was held in the Methodist church on Sunday, and the pastor, Rev. W. H. Buckley, spoke very touchingly to the large assemblage. He paid great tribute to the life of the deceased, and her noble Christian character. After the service, the cortege proceeded to the cemetery, where the body was laid to rest. There were a number of floral tributes. The sympathy of the entire community goes out to the young husband who mourns her loss and to her father, six sisters, and three brothers, of Belfast, Ireland; also one sister at Goodland, Manitoba.

An old and respected resident of this place, Mrs. A. Gibbs, passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Parker, Welland. The body was brought to Mountain Grove, on Monday, May 10th, and was removed to the home of her son, Fred Gibbs. The funeral service was held at the home to-day, and the body laid to rest in the Anglican cemetery, beside that of her husband, who predeceased her a number of years ago. She leaves two sons and four daughters.

Ring Protects Wearers. The "luck" ring of Mr. Wm. R. Switzer, of Toronto, has returned to its owner for the third time. The ring is of plain gold, surmounted by a Masonic emblem, but according to its owner, for the third time. The ring saw its service during the American campaign in the Philippines. Mr. Switzer presented the ring to a friend leaving for active service, with the request that he return it if he survived. In due time, the friend and ring returned. Later, Mr. Switzer presented the ring to another friend, who was sailing to South Africa with the Canadian forces. Again the talisman protected its wearer; and at the close of the campaign the friend restored the ring to its owner. Pte. Sydney Sawley, of the A.S.C., was the next to wear the ring, during his four years overseas, and on his return to Toronto he restored the ring to Mr. Switzer several weeks ago.

Cold! Fifty-nine degrees below zero was registered in some parts of the populated sections of Canada this winter around the first of the year, according to weather bureau statistics. Bitter (or worse) than that was met at the close of the year, when the temperature registered 70.6 below zero.

When some people spend their time in self-contemplation it looks to others like time thrown away.

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