IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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LESSON FOR AUGUST 23

FROM ASIA TO EUROPE.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 16:6-18.

GOLDEN TEXT—And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.—Acts 16:31.

REFERENCE MATERIAL—Rom. 15:15-21.

PRIMARY TOPIC—A Wonderful Dream.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Paul Crosses Over Into to Europe.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Beginning Work on a New Continent.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Paul Carries the Gospel to Europe.

I. Forbidden by the Holy Spirit to Preach the Word (vv. 6-8).

We have here a lesson on divine guidance. The inclination of Paul and his companions was to tarry in the provinces of Asia preaching the word, but contrary to their inclination they were hurried along. They might have reasoned "What difference would it make as to where we preach, just so the Gospel is preached?" Though seemingly small, the question as to whether the Gospel should be preached among the people in the East or in the West has determined the entire history of the church. Had they preached among the people in the East, Christianity would never have become worldwide. On the other hand, by laying hold upon the Grecian intellect and combining with it the push and energy of the Romans, it became worldwide. In the guidance of the Spirit we find Him just as active and as faithful in closing doors as in opening them. "The stops as well as the steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord." We ought to as truly recognize God's hand in the "shut-ins" as well as in the "open-outs."

II. Called to Macedonia (vv. 9-12).

A vision was given to Paul of a man from Macedonia pleading for help. This was the solution of the mystery of closed doors about them. There is a negative and a positive side to the Spirit's guidance. If we will note both we shall be able to determine with a surety the proper course of action. In order to be led aright we must be sure that we are willing to be led, pray definitely for leading, and then render willing obedience as fast as the light comes. As soon as the divine way was known they rendered immediate obedience.

III. The First Convert in Europe (vv. 13-15).

The missionaries went to Philippi. The Jewish element in this city was very insignificant; so much so that they could not afford a synagogue; therefore the devout people were accustomed to worship at the river side. To this humble gathering Paul came and preached to the women gathered there. A certain woman from Thyatira believed his message, and was baptized. Lydia was a woman of wealth, culture, and wide experience, and yet she had need of Christ. The steps in Lydia's conversion are worthy of note:

1. Attendance at the place of prayer (v. 13). This is the case with most people who are saved.

2. Listened to the preaching of the word of God (vv. 12-14). The instrument used by the Holy Spirit in the conversion of sinners is the word of God. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

3. Her heart was opened by the Lord (v. 14). Regeneration is a supernatural work. When the Gospel is preached the Spirit of God makes it living and active, opening the sinner's heart for the reception of Christ.

4. She was baptized (v. 15). It is natural for the one who believes in Christ to desire to be baptized.

5. Her household also believed (v. 15). Thus we see that her's was a typical conversion.

IV. A Spirit of Divination Cast Out (vv. 16-18).

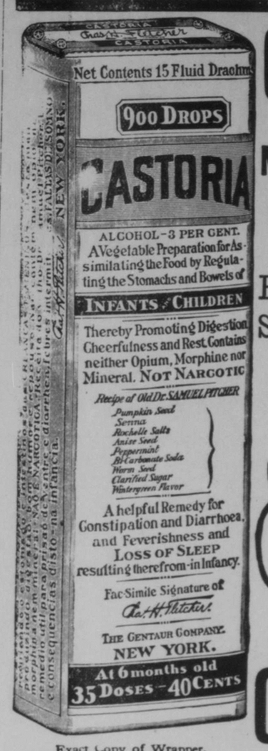
As the missionaries went out from day to day to the place of prayer they were accosted by a young woman possessed by a spirit of divination. She was owned by a syndicate of men who derived large gains from her soothsaying. This act of the woman became a great annoyance to Paul who, in the name of Jesus Christ, commanded the evil spirit to come out. Here is a case of a spiritual medium a fortune-teller, being freed from demoniacal possession. Many men today are making money by the degradation of womanhood, and they resent all efforts to destroy their infernal business, even try to destroy those who interefere with their business. Here as everywhere Satan blocks the way as the Gospel of Christ is carried into new fields, but the Lord is again triumphant.

The Multitude of His Mercies.

For the Lord will not cast off forever: but though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men—Lamentations 3:31-33.

Word of Lord Was Precious.

And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.—1 Samuel, 3:1.



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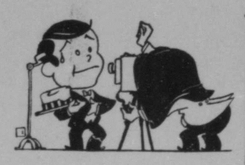
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For Sheriff

I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of Sheriff of Carroll County, subject to the Republican primaries to be held in September 9 1921.

Edward Martin
Patapsco, Md. 8-12-4t

GEORGE L. STOCKSDALE, Telephone 7-W
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
WESTMINSTER, - MD.

Westminster, Md., August 1st, 1921.

Fellow-Republican;—

Next to the Judgeship itself, there is no more important office in the county than that of Clerk of the Circuit Court. The interests of the people of the county make it absolutely necessary that either the clerk or his chief deputy be a man thoroughly qualified to care for those interests. No one can have greater fitness for the position than a lawyer, who has been for many years familiar with all the details of the work of the office and in the Court.

As such a lawyer, and believing that I have the necessary qualifications, I am seeking the nomination, and, if nominated and elected, it will not be necessrry for me to seek some one with greater knowledge of the duties of the office to be my chief deputy, and as such deputy to be the clerk in fact while I am clerk in name, but pledge myself to give to all the work of the office my personal attention and supervision.

It will be impossible for me to see more than a very small percentage of the voters, and therefore I am taking this method to ask you to go to the primary election on September 9th and cast your vote for me.

Very Respectfully Yours,
GEORGE L. STOCKSDALE.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters testamentary on the estate of

EMMA L. J. HAINES

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated to the subscriber on or before the 26th day of March 1922, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under my hand this 19th day August, 1921.

Laura E. Stouch,
Marie Lease,
Bertha M. Haines,
8-19-5t. Executors.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

In the Circuit Court for Carroll county sitting as a Court of Equity.

Ruth E. Daubert, Plaintiff.
vs.
David D. Daubert, Defendant.
No. 5315 Equity.

The object of this suit is to procure a divorce a vinculo matrimonii by the plaintiff Ruth E. Daubert from the defendant David D. Daubert. The bill states that on the 21st, day of March A. D. 1918 the said Ruth E. Daubert the plaintiff was married to her husband, David D. Daubert, with whom she resided in the City of Westminster, Carroll county in the State of Maryland, for about two months.

That, though the conduct of the said Ruth E. Daubert toward the said David D. Daubert has always been kind, affectionate and above reproach, the said David D. Daubert, has, without just cause or reason, abandoned and deserted her, and has declared his intention to live with her no longer, and that said abandonment has continued uninterruptedly for at least three years, and is deliberate and final, and the separation of the parties beyond any reasonable expectation of reconciliation.

That when the said David D. Daubert, her husband, left her he fled the State of Maryland and does not now reside therein, and is a non-resident of the same. That the said Ruth E. Daubert and the said defendant David D. Daubert have had no children born to them from said marriage.

The bill prays for a decree of divorce a vinculo matrimonii from the said defendant, and for further and other relief as her case may require.

It is thereupon this 28th day of July A. D. 1921, ordered by the Circuit Court for Carroll County sitting as a Court of Equity, that the plaintiff by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper, published in said Carroll county ,in the State of Maryland, for four successive weeks before the 29th day of August 1921, give notice to the said absent defendant of the object and substance of this bill, warning him to appear in this court in person or by solicitor, on or before the 15th day of September next, to show cause, if any he have, why a decree ought not to be passed as prayed.

Edward O. Cash,
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Carroll County.
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