A Public Utility's Obligation

A PUBLIC utility has two outstanding obligations to the users of its service.

One is to give a good, reliable service at all times. To do this, it must have a competent, trained force of employees and pay them a living wage; it must use the best materials and equipment and pay for them at the market price.

The other obligation is to expand its system to be in a position to give service to all new patrons. This requires new capital. To command this new capital at all times, the investor—the person who has money to lend—must receive a fair return for its use.

The telephone system offers a striking example of these two obligations. Each new subscriber to the system involves not only a direct increase in the expense of giving service, but an outlay of new capital.

Therefore, a telephone system that does not earn an adequate revenue fails in its obligations to its patrons.

The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company

R. C. HARRIS, Manager

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 NOVEMBER 27

PAUL'S VOYAGE AND SHIPWRECK

LESSON TEXT—Acts 27:1-44.

GOLDEN TEXT—I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.—II Tim. 1:12.

REFERENCE MATERIAL — II Cor. 11:23-28; Phil. 4:12, 13.

PRIMARY TOPIC—The Story of a Shipwreck.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Paul in a Shipwreck.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Storm and Shipwreck.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Paul's Power Over Men.

I. A Stormy Voyage (vv. 1-20).

1. The ship. A ship of Alexandria sailing from Myra to Italy.

2. The company. Two of Paul's friends, Aristarchus and Luke, are permitted to go with him. Besides these three there were 273 in the ship (v. 7).

3. The storm. The ship made little headway on account of unfavorable winds. Paul advised that they winter in Fair Havens (vv. 9-12), but his advice was unheeded. The gentle south wind deceived them, so they loosed from Crete, only to be soon overtaken by the tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon. They did everything possible to save the ship. They took up the boat which was towed behind; they bound great cables around the ship to strengthen it for the storm; they lightened the ship by bringing down from the masts and rigging everything that was superfluous; and finally, the cargo and tackling of the ship itself were thrown overboard. All this seemed to be of no avail, so that all hope of being saved was removed. It seemed that wicked men and material forces were combined to prevent the great apostle from reaching Rome. However, this is only apparent, for these very experiences were overruled by God to bring good cheer and salvation to many on the way. We should remember that tempestuous winds, as well as the soft breezes, await God's faithful ones. The presence of storms does not prove that we are going the wrong way.

II. Paul's Serene Faith (vv. 21-26).

To a man who did not know God, the failure of the sun and stars to shine for many days, the fading of all hope, was natural; but to the man of faith, hope still burns brightly. God is just as near to His own in the midst of a stormy sea as in their quiet homes.

Note Paul's behavior:

1. His rebuke for their failure to heed his advice at Fair Havens (v. 21). This was not a mere taunt, but a reference to the wisdom of his former advice urging them to give him a more respectable hearing.

2. Bids them be of good cheer (v. 22). He inspired them with hope.

3. He promises them safety (v. 22). Though the ship would go to pieces, every man's life would be saved.

4. The source of his information (vv. 23, 24). The angel of God had revealed it unto him.

5. The reason of Paul's calm faith (v. 23). "Whose I am and whom I serve."

III. The Ship's Crew All Safe on Land (vv. 27-44).

This was exactly as the Lord had said. We can rest assured that all God has spoken shall come to pass, even though there be a broken ship, brutal soldiers and a perfidious crew. Aside from the fulfillment of God's promise, the most important part of this section is the splendid sanity which characterizes Paul's action on the way. Two things especially mark his sanctified common sense.

1. His vigilance had detected that the sailors had planned to escape. He knew how much they would be needed presently, and at once took steps to prevent their escape. He went straight to the man in charge and said, "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved." He practiced the truth that genuine reliance upon God is the all-powerful incentive to human action. God's decrees always include the means for their accomplishment.

2. He knew that the famishing condition of the people was not the most favorable for the physical struggle which was soon to be undergone by them when they must struggle through the water to the shore. So he gets them to take a substantial breakfast. He had the good sense to look after that which was necessary. It was no time to talk to these men about their souls, for their bodies needed the main attention. His prayer for that meal had more effect upon the people than his preaching would have had. Let us learn from this the divine method of administration, namely, God overruling while man trusts Him and acts. A vigorous faith manifests itself in reasonable action.

Peopled the Holy City.

And the rulers of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in other cities. And the people blessed all men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem—Nehemiah, 11:1 and 2.

At War Against the Soul.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.—I Peter 2: 11.

Bath Night

Pat was helping the gardener on a gentleman's place and, observing a shallow stone basin filled with water, he inquired what it was for.

"That," said the gardener, "is a bird bath."

"Don't ye be foolin' me," grinned Pat. "What is it?"

"A bird bath, I tell you. Why do you doubt it?"

"Because I don't belave there's a burrd alive that can tell Saturday night from any other."—Boston Transcript.

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To the Editor The American Union:

May I claim a little space in your paper to express my opinion on a subject especially interesting to the people of Denton at present? I am refering to the epidemic of dog-poisoning which seems to afflict the town at the present time. I am not a dog owner, but I am a lover of dogs, and more than that, a lover of open and above board play. I am willing to admit that certain dogs are a nuisance; that some annoy with their howls and yaps; that others are destructive. But such dogs are in the minority, and the dogs which have been poisoned have not been in that class. Rather they have been the clean, frolicking, well-trained playmates of the children, absolutely harmless to any person in the town. They have been really an asset to the town.

Then this mean, crabbed, hateful person comes along, and for no reason at all, proceeds to poison every dog within hi s reach. I only wish he could be made to understand in some way the grief of the children he has robbed, whose faithful followers the dogs were. I wish he could be made to suffer as they have suffered.

Mr. Editor, without definitely mentioning his name, I want to say that a certain man is seriously suspected of these crimes. Not from one source, but from many have I heard his name mentioned in connection with the deaths of these dogs. Let him take warning now and stop before the people become so enraged that they employ means to prosecute him.

There is no law against owning dogs in this town; indeed, they are licensed and while they behave have a perfect right to be here, as much as any person or business. Neither is there any law which allows a man to promiscuously poison everything he happens to dislike. If there were, said man would soon follow the dogs! No, there is no excuse for this "general cussedness" except bad blood in the guilty man, and that is deserving of just one kind of cure.

I hope, sir, that you will see fit to print this letter of protest, and that the man to whom I refer will read it.

D. W.

November 22, 1921.

WILLISTON

Miss Cleone Cooper has returned to Baltimore.

Mr. Harry Haskins is in New York for several weeks.

Mrs. Mary Johnston of Michigan is spending the winter with her nephew, Mr. H. S. Cooper.

The Ladies Guild will meet at the home of Mrs. Oscar Maloney on Friday, November 25th.

The Misses Minnie and Marjorie Todd spent some time with their brother, Mr. Ben Todd.

Mrs. William Willoughby is spending some time with relatives in Atlantic City and Philadelphia.

Mrs. Rosa Hignutt accompanied her mother, Mrs. Allen, to Philadelphia on Friday of last week.

Mrs. O. M. Hignutt was accompanied by J. W. Thawley and Mrs. Tribbett of Denton in an auto trip to Easton and Miles River to visit Mrs. Hignutt's sister, Mrs. William Shortell.

Mrs. Depew has returned to her home in New Jersey after spending a couple of months with her son, Mr. F. R. Depew.

Similar

"Did you ever hear anything so perfectly wonderful?" exclaimed the daughter of the house, as the phonograph ground out the latest thing in jazz.

"No," replied her father, "I can't say I have, although I once heard a collision between a truckload of empty milk cans and a freight car filled with live chickens."—Judge.

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The family of the man who does not waste his money for intoxicants is well clothed and fed and his home is fitted with everything conducive to comfort. The family of the man who is given to drink does not get what justly belongs to it. If a man continues to spend his money away from home it will eventually spell ruin.

When you send your money away to mail order houses you are doing precisely what the unthinking man does only in a more refined way. But you are jeopardizing your living conditions and must eventually pay and pay big for your thoughtlessness.

If the goods offered by these catalogue houses were to be reduced in price 40 per cent from the listed price of today it would even then be the height of extravagance for any citizen who is dependent upon the prosperity of this community for his income to send away for his goods.

When you give your merchant a trifle more for dependable goods,(you seldm have to) you are not spending your money. You are investing it on a dividend paying proposition.

Don't let it require a surgical operation to get this simple common sense idea into your understanding. When you deprive your home merchant of business you are certainly and foolishly depriving yourself of many things.

This paper stands for home first, last and always. It stands for, and tries to protect the best interests of the buying public and the local merchants.

If there is any question you desire to ask in reference to this menace of catalogue buying we will be pleased to set you right to the best of our ability and understanding. If you were ever to hear just how strong a hold this pernicious habit has on the community you would wonder that there was any work to be had.

As our Ethiopian brother says: "All gwine out and nuffin' comin' in."

Merchants, stand by the people, and this danger mark will be passed without any dire results.

If the people heed this obvious duty one year from now will give the most convincing evidence of the wisdom of spending your money at home. We must grow and expand, our men must have paying positions, our families must be properly fed and comfortably clothed, our children must have the advantages of a free education. But to make these things a certainty, you must buy at home.

CENTRAL

Mrs. Myra L. Fisher of Wyoming, Del., has been visiting Mrs. Robert Butler.

Mrs. Mildred Garey of Hobbs is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Andrews.

Mrs. James Voss has returned home after spending some time with her son, Dr. Norwood Voss, of Wilmington, Del.

Mr. and Mrs. Burnley and three children of Drexel Hill, Pa., have been spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wyatt.

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