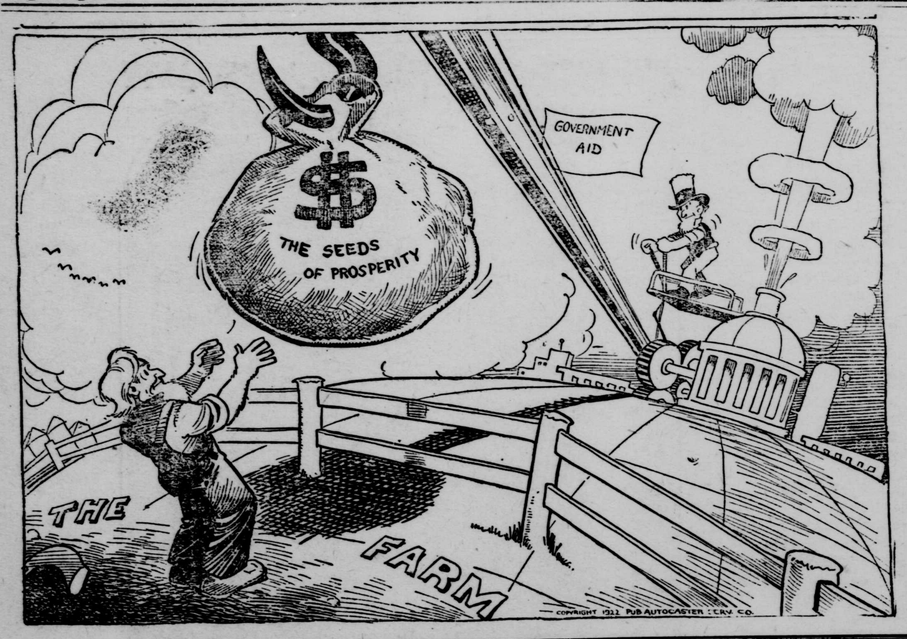

OUR CHILDREN AND THE BIBLE

Children Should Know Bible Through Memory Work, Pictures and Story

HAS EDUCATIONAL VALUE

BY ELIZABETH A. PERKINS

A few months ago in a magazine (I think the Woman's Home Companion) I saw a picture of The Flight into Egypt. It was a beautiful picture and is impressed on my heart, and I remember the message given with the picture.

"Herod, learning that in Bethlehem was born one who, the prophets foretold, was to be a great govenor, desired the death of the child, and, unable to find him, decreed that all the children of Bethlehem under two years of age should be slain.

"But meantime, while these dread powers of evil were at work, Joseph and Mary and the blessed child were already far on their way, journeying to safety in Egypt.

"Behind the dramatics of the story stand the old invincible truths. Out of all the terror and slaughter of evil powers, emerges unharmed some divine truth and beauty, which neither the jealousy nor hatred nor malice of many men can destroy."

"Those having in their care the tender lives of little children will hardly miss a deeper meaning to the story—the guarding of all that is precious and wonderful in childhood against the dark and mighty powers that threaten it; the cherishing and protecting of the divine little children, of which the story of Mary and Joseph and the flight into Egypt stand as a permanent, beautiful symbol.

The story of the Flight into Egypt and of the Christ Child becomes more and more precious to us as we try to work for all children. Again and again we hear the voice of the Master—the Christ Child older and attending to His Father's Business (Luke 2:49) saying "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not." From the Bible we receive our strongest charges to do our sacrifices.

In that great story of the Flight into Egypt, we find another and still deeper meaning. Would we guard the young lives, would we instill in their hearts that which will make safe their paths, we must give them a knowledge and a love for the Bible.

"My son be thou wise" is the injunction of Holy Writ, (Prov. 27.11.) How we may bring this wisdom to our children, how we may help our children to feel real joy in knowing and studying the Bible is the theme of this paper.

Let us make the Bible and its study, a real day-by-day joy, not an unusual matter to be avoided or to be solemnly stressed.

We may help children to know and love the Bible through bible memory work, bible pictures, and bible stories.

In all our Bible work with children, use the King James' version, in all its beauty and grandeur. Its simple and wonderful language, bring it with a few omissions within the grasp of the child. It is not necessary that the child understand the full meaning of each word, but his mind is becoming a storehouse filled with rich gems; some, perhaps to him, uncut gems, but rich and glorious in their beauty.

Very early in life children may begin memory work. Many a christian mother, today, recalls the time when as a girl, attending Sunday School, she at the close of the quarters lessons, memorized all the Golden texts for the quarter. Perhaps she was given a beautiful card as a prize.

And, children of a generation earlier, were compelled to memorize entire chapters from the Bible. These children were not to be pitied; they were given an in exhaustible vocabulary, clearness of diction, conciseness of expression, and great lessons of spiritual faith and courage.

No book has so great an impelling power towards goodness; no book so reaches into the heart of the child. Even young children will love to memorize the beautiful story of the Christ Child, the Shepard Psalm, the story of the true vine and the husbandman.

Memory Work

Psalms 1, 19, 23, 24, 91, 93, 96, 103, 121; Proverbs 3; St. Matthew 5,1-11; St. Mattew 6,9-13; St. Luke 2,9-32; St. John 3, 16-18; St. John 14; St. John 15,1-14; Ephesians 6; 1 Timothy 6 11-21; and many, many other beautiful passages.

We may help our children to know the Bible through Bible pictures.

No one can measure the influence of a picture over the heart and life of a child. Just as we wish them to memorize great passages and great poems, so we must wish them to see great pictures. From the Perry Picture Co., Boston we may secure copies of the great masterpieces; beautiful pictures of the Christ; Christ blessing little children; Christ and the Doctors; Christ teaching from a boat; The Angelus and many others.

Perhaps in some magizine you may find a beautiful Bible picture; a picture of the boy Joseph as, tending his father's flocks he dreams of greatness and of the days to come

Our Children and the Bible

The picture of that clean stalwart boy, with his daring dreams of attainment and his faith will be an inspiration to every boy who looks upon the picture.

We may help children to know and love the Bible through Bible stories. Clara W. Hunt in her little book "What Shall We Read to Children?" tells this beautiful story.

"Two small boys had been spending the week-end at grandma's, their first overnight visit away from mother. As they were being put to bed on Sunday night, one of the aunties remarked, "I've a nice story to read to you after you are tucked in." The youngsters looked a bit suspicious at the Bible in auntie's hand.

That book was associated with texts to be commited, with moral and religious talks given by not always skillful Sunday School teachers. However auntie's ideas of a good story had always coincided exactly with their own, so they were ready to give the Bible a hearing at least.

Auntie opened to the Book of Esther. Pencil marks here and there indicated that for omission some unimportant parts; this in order that, at one not too long reading, the whole of the story might be given. Here is the way auntie began to read:

How it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus..... when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace, in the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces being before him.....

When he showed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honor of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days.

And when these days were expired, the king made a great feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the kings palace; were white, green and blue hangings fastened with cords of fine linen to purple and silver rings and pillars of marble; the beds were of gold marble....

At the beginning of the reading there had been a good deal of rustling in the bed. It was difficult to fall in at once with the notion that the Bible could be interesting enough for close attention. Soon however, the moving about ceased, and to the end of the story such stillness reigned as made auntie glance up once in a while, to see if the boys had dropped off to Dreamland. Not a bit of it. Who could think of sleep while such pictures of Oriential magnificence were being woven before one's eyes by those splendid colorful words? A long sigh of complete satisfaction, the same sign of reluctant coming back to earth as greeted auntie's most successful fairy tails, was evidence of the boy's entire approval of the reading."

I have given this little incident from Clara W. Hunt's book that we may realize how wonderful to the child is the orginal reading or telling of the Bible story in the very words of the King James version. It does not matter if the child is not able to define every word. If some of the words leave "all sorts of splendors to the imagination."

"An hundred and fourscore days"-what a very very long feast, and how rich and mighty must the king who could feed and amuse his guests so magnificently".

No other book is so rich in wonderful stories for the children as the Bible. The Old Testament particulary is a storehouse, filled with the most varied and wonderful imagery. Beginning with the Creation and the Garden of Eden, going on to the wonderful story of Moses; Moses grown to manhood; Moses and the Burning Bush, Exodus 3 12.20. The pillar of Cloud and the pillar of Fire; Exodus 13. 7-22; The passage through the Red Sea; Moses song of triumph. Daniel, the courageous young leader, Dan. 1: 1-21; Daniel interprets the handwriting, Dan. 5:1-30; Daniel cast into the den of lions, Dan. 6: 25-28.

The life of Christ as told in the Gospels is simple enough for even very young children, and children will like particularly the beautiful parables.

Frances Jenkins Olcutt has written or compiled "Bible stories to Read and Tell". Mothers will find this collection of great help.

Buy for the child a well-made Bible printed in clear type, and encourage the child to read just a verse or two each day. Make it a joy and not a compulsion. At the twilight hour, or at bed time, mother and child may read a few verses together. This habit may become fixed in childhood, and the daily Bible reading go on through life.

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Jesus Christ. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteouness; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. —2 Timothy 3:14-17.

AMERICA'S CALL TO LEADERSHIP

(Continued from Page 1)

and other less important, but extensive backward portions of the world. I never advocate a policy simply because it is ideal. I insist that every policy must combine the ideal with the practical. My proposal for a voluntary concert of effort by all the nations for the common recognition and affirmation of the principles upon which our government has been founded, for the promotion of general justice, for the solution of these common and grave economic problems, looking to the general enrichment and prosperity as well as to the permanent peace of the world, is one which is in harmony with sound morals, international righteousness and sound and profitable business principles.

My resolution providing for an international conference, looking to such a concert of action between the nations has been before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate for many months. It has been commended by some of the most eminent students of international relationships. It is the plan which must be ultimately adopted. The fatal blunders at Paris and the failures at Washington may be attributed to the tragic fact that at these conferences no effort has been made to formulate plans in harmony with the American ideals of universal justice and liberty and the general welfare, all of which would be promoted by such a conference as I propose.

Watering Stock in Winter

Paradoxical as it may seem, on many farms, stock suffer for drinking water more in the cold months than in hot months. In the summer time, man, through his own thirst, is not likely to overlook the thirst of his dumb animals. But often there is actual suffering by all stock in winter for want of a fresh drink.

One of the victims of thirst, but by no means the only one, is the dairy cow. She suffers because she delivers a product that is 85 per cent water and the call of her system for palatable water is so great that if it is not heeded, her milk flow is grievously affected. This is such an important subject that much is written about it, and it merits special thought as to ways and means of encouraging the cow to consume water in as great quantities as possible.

But perhaps the greatest sufferer is an animal that we at first little realize has cause to suffer, and that is the fattening hog. He is usually kept in close quarters, and fed such a heavy ration of grain that he has a great need for lots of drinking water. A diet of corn, the usual fattening feed, calls for lots of water, if it is to be properly digested. Yet it is seldom that confined hogs have access to pure drinking water. They are usually given slops, soft feeds, and skim milk, but these do not by any means answer the purpose of water. Slops in particular usually contain so much salt that they aggravate a thirst instead of quenching it.

A bucket of water daily for each four or five hogs is not much trouble and aside from the plain suffering relieved, keeps the hogs in a more healthy condition, simulating their appetites. In another way it pays, and pays in dollars and cents, for it furnishes the moisture necessary for the food to move freely in the alimentary canal, allows the digestive juices to mix freely and act on the food, and is the direct means of putting on fat more rapidly.—Farm Life.

Cows Passed Perfect Test

The dairy cows owned by G. F. Lee have all successfully passed the tuberculin test applied by Dr. Bryan. This is a cause of great satisfaction among all of Mr. Lee's customers.

INCOME TAX BURDENS OF AVERAGE FAMILY WILL BE LESS UNDER NEW LAW

Washington, Dec. 30.—With the arrivel of the period for filing income tax returns, which must be filed on or before March 15th, every individual should present to himself the following questions concerning his affairs during the calendar year of 1921:

What were your profits from your business, trade, profession or vocation?

Did you receive any interest on bank deposits?

Have you any property from which you received rent?

Did you receive any income from stocks and bonds?

Did you receive any bonuses during the year?

Did you make any profit on the sale of stocks, bonds, or property, real or personal?

Did you act as broker in any transaction from which you received commissions?

Are you interested in any partnership or other firm from which you received an income?

Have you any income from patents or royalties?

Have you any minor children who are working?

Do you appropriate, or have the right to appropriate, the earnings of such children? If so, the amount must be included in the return of the income.

Has your wife any income from any source whatsoever? If so it must be included in your return or reported in a separate return of income.

Did you receive any directors' fees or trustees' fees in the course of the year?

Do you hold any office in a benefit society from which you receive income?

Under the new law enacted by the special session of the Republican Congress, the exemption for heads of families with incomes of less than $5,000 a year has been increased from $2,000 to $2,500, and the exemption for dependents has been increased from $200 to $400 for each dependent. Tax rates remain unchanged.

Mark Twain's Feat

Mark Twain once sat in the smoking room of a steamer and listened for an hour to some remarkable stories. Then he drawled: "Boys, these feats of yours that you've been telling about recall an adventure of my own in Hannibal. There was a fire in Hannibal one night and Old Man Hanginson got caught in the burning house. It looked as if he was a goner. None of the ladders was long enough to reach him. The crowd stared at one another with awed eyes. Nobody could think of anything to do. Then all of a sudden, boys, an idea occurred to me. 'Fetch a rope,' I yelled. Somebody fetched a rope and with great presence of mind I flung the end of it to the old man. 'Tie her round your waist,' I yelled. Old Man Hankinson did so, and I pulled him down." —Argonaut.

YOUTH'S COMPANION HOME CALENDAR FOR 1922

The publishers of the Youth's Companion are sending to every subscriber whose subscription is paid for 1922 a calendar for the new year. The tablets are printed in red and dark blue, and besides giving the days of the current month in bold legible type, give the calendar of the preceding and succeeding months in smaller type in the margin. The Companion Home Calendar has been published in standard form for many years and is everywhere in request because of its convenience and novelty.

Improving Slowly

Commissioner Milton R. Smith, of Ridgely, who has been confined to his home for several weeks, is imprving slowly. He was able to dress and go down stairs for the first on Sunday. Mr. Smith is chairman of the County Commissioners.

Democratic Seeds This Time!

Congressman T. Alan Goldsborough will be very glad to send vegetable and flower seeds to all those who will write him for same at room 334, House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Construction vs. Destruction

Mr. Hughes limitation of armament plan provides for constructive destruction rather than destructive construction.—Arizona Republican.

Farmers' Notice

The Caroline County Farmers Federation will hold their first annual meeting at Denton Court House on Saturday, February 4. A large attendance is much desired.

F. E. YEOMAN, Sec.

Surveying Road

Instructions were given the county surveyor Tuesday by the commissioners to have two miles of the Ridgely-Baltimore Corner road surveyed, in preparation for making it a state road.

He Saw It All Right

If the renowned ground hog ventured forth from his lair, or whatever he calls his winter residence, today, he had little difficulty in seeing his shadow at least, after noon. Much to the disappointment of the many who were counting on the little fellow's prognostication of an early spring, the day which started in so well turned from rain and clouds to sunshine and the bluest of skies. Oh well!

Long Life Assured

Brown was the professor of very large feet and a very bad cough. He entered a shoe store and the young clerk turned the place upside down to find something to fit him. Brown had just tried on the fortieth pair when he started coughing.

"Nasty cough," said the assistant.

"Yes," gasped Brown. "Doctor says I've got one foot in the grave."

"I shouldn't worry," said the assistant. "You'll never get the other in; it's too big." —Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Engraved stationery and calling cards at The American Union.

VALENTINES

From 1 cent cards up to 10 cent folders.

Pretty, clever, neat—something to fit every occasion and everybody—grownup or kiddie.

They are different, many of them, from the regular, year-after-year kind of valentines. You will be glad afterward if you come in and see them.

St. Valentine prescribes hearts, arrows, and Cupids.

George Washington suggests hatchets, cherries and flags.

We have all, in various forms, easy and pleasant to take—

Entire luncheon sets (Valentine design)
Napkins
Little stickers and cut-outs (for place cards and invitations.)
Festoons
Decorated crepes
Paper serving cups Plain colored crepes

THE DENNISON KIND

"If we haven't it, we'll order it for you."

THE AMERICAN UNION

JUST ARRIVED
FINE VALUES
—IN—
KINDERGARTEN CLOTH
—AND—
TAUTON ZEPHYR GINGHAM
BEAUTIFUL PLAIDS AND PLAIN COLORS

J. ED. NICHOLS
Side Meat and Country Lard Wanted
Cash for Chickens and Eggs
Highest Cash Prices for Produce

M. K. NEWNAM
FUNERAL DIRECTOR
Denton, Maryland

Uncle John's Poem

SETTLERS—UP AND DOWN

If yer soul is mighty restless, and it's hard to keep it still, an' you find it slow to subjugate a migratory will—If yer life is simply nothin' but an aggravated chase, and you're movin' every season to another rented place,—Jest consider this sejestion, which a trial will endorse, and you'll find it mighty helpful, which I have did, of course,—Pick you out a little homestead, one that ain't too fur from town, buy it on installment payments, get to work, an' settle down. . .

If you chance to be a feller that is strugglin' with his debts which they seem to grow so rapid-like, a feller most forgets,—an' you meet a blame collector every whichaway you run, an' near every letter that you get contains a dun. I offer this sestion, which a trial will confirm, and it soon will have you smilin' at the other feller's squirm. Don't you cuss the man you're owin' like a sour, ungrateful pup,—but, never stop a-goin' till you go an' settle up!

Yr. own Uncle John.

Don't Forget Our Line of Stationery

The American Union

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