THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. F[illegible]AN

SCRIPTURE: John 3:1—[illegible]45—52; 19:38—42.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Matthew 10:32—39.

Born Again

Lesson for January 27, 1952

IN many places one often hears the expression, "born-again Christians". As a matter of fact, there are no other kinds. If a person is not born again he is not a Christian.

The first birth is of the natural self, the awakening, so to speak, to this natural world. The second birth is of the supernatural self, the awakening to the spiritual world, the beginning of "living unto God." Sometimes this new birth comes very early in life. Dr. Warfield, a very conservative theologian, used to think that the second birth might in some cases actually come before the natural birth. (See Jeremiah 1:5).

Dr. Foreman

A man may become very distinguished, may be a great scholar, and still not have been born again. Nicodemus is a case in point. He was a man who had everything, as the saying is; he was a judge in the Jewish High Court, a man both wealthy and respectable. But he had not been born again.

* * *

God Is the Life-Giver

THE English translation of John 3:7 has given many persons the idea that being born again is a duty. Now a duty is something that you ought to do, and that by your own choice you can do if you will. It's up to you. But (taking the teaching of the Bible as a whole) being born again is not a duty. It is the act of God.

What Jesus was saying (as the Greek of John 3 indicates) is that it is necessary, it is indispensable, to be born again. There can be no development, no growth, in the spiritual life unless there is somewhere the beginning of that life. You must have been born once in order to see the sunshine. You must be born again in order to see God.

The seed which we sow in field or garden must have the germ of life in it or it will never grow. But no farmer can give life to lifeless seed. God alone is the life-giver, in the first birth or in the second.

* * *

Turn; Follow

SOME people get this far in their thinking and then they become discouraged. "If only God can give life," they think, "what is the use of my trying to obey him? If God takes that first step then all I can do is to wait for him. No matter how much I want to be a Christian in my heart, I may not be able to for God may not see fit to make it possible for me to do what I want to do." This is a mistaken thought.

John Calvin, as is well known, was a very strong believer in predestination. As pastor of a large church, he had numbers of people in his congregation who heard him talking about predestination, the doctrine that we are in God's hands and that spiritual life can com[illegible]nly as he himself h[illegible]ins it in [illegible] souls.

They would ask just about this same question: I want to be a Christian, but how do I know that God has chosen me? I want to be a Christian, but how can I know whether I have been born again? Calvin's answer was a simple one: If you really want to be a Christian in your heart, that is a sign, the very best sign, that you **have** been born again.

* * *

[illegible]ollow

[illegible] Bible, the commands are [illegible] "Follow"; "Believe"; [illegible]e have not been born [illegible]mmands fall on deaf [illegible] our conscience, if [illegible] respond, then that is [illegible] have been born again.

[illegible]en can't we tell when we [illegible]re born again? Certainly we can tell; just by being alive. "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we [illegible]ve the brethren," said the [illegible]

WOMAN'S WORLD

Add Charm to Inexpensive Curtains with Simple Tricks

By Ertta Haley

ARE curtains at your windows used just to have something there, or do they add the interesting note to the room?

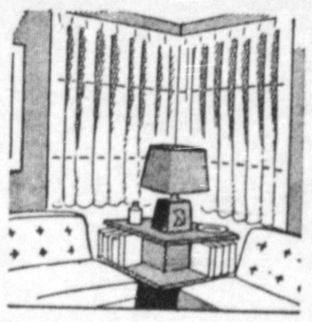
One of the most inexpensive ways to decorate any room in the home is to provide a bright accent with curtains, a cheerful note or something so lively as to start conversation just as soon as someone sees your curtains.

Just in case you think curtains haven't changed much, just look at some of the new designs and colors which are available, to say nothing of the new styles in curtaining. All rooms in the home have been exposed to the new things in curtains—kitchens, living and dining rooms, entrance halls, bedrooms and game rooms.

Just as refinishing furniture can improve it, so can curtains be used to hide any number of construction faults in windows. They can enhance the view if you have one, or replace a poor view just in the way the curtains themselves are treated.

Remember the days when curtains were mostly white or ivory? These are sometimes used, but the use is quite different from what it used to be. Curtains have plenty of color and design now, and they can be used to bring out room colors by harmonizing or accenting them.

There are even certain types of prints available which will help to



Sheer curtains refresh corners . . .

carry out furniture or decorative themes. These, used in curtains, can often be the most effective note the room has.

When rooms have sufficient color and design interest, then add no more conflicting accents, and use plain sheer curtains.

Study your rooms and see just what kind of curtains they need. Once this is decided, you'll have fun getting together just what's needed.

Use Unusual Treatments For Sheer Curtains

Sheer curtains aren't always perfectly plain; neither are they always feminine and ruffled. Today's trend shows interesting effects obtained by treating sheer curtains almost as draperies.

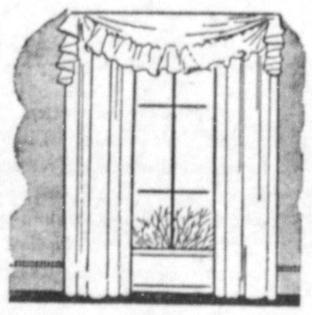
Take, for example, the room with a large corner window. If you need the light or don't want to close out the view, then sheer curtains are an absolute essential. But, you may say, the room is a living room, and you want something really appropriate.

Sheer curtains for this type of corner window may be strictly tailored. Pinch-pleat them at the top and place on traverse rods so they can be drawn easily. Use closed or open, as desired. Curtains treated in this way should be luxurious for they have no draperies "to help them out." Pinch pleats should be full; have hems at least five inches deep.

High ceilinged rooms usually need a valance at the windows to help cut down the disproportion of the room. Even though the windows may just be average length, they can be made more effective if you use tailored curtains of sheer material, falling to sill or floor length.

At the top, drape generously with a ruffled curtain to give the effect of a valance, though the curtains themselves may be perfectly straight. This is a very effective way to treat windows in old-fashioned houses as well as rooms in which there is sufficient color and design interest elsewhere in the room.

Drapes may be used with sheer curtains, but they should be full and generous. If they cannot be because of the expense involved, it's far better taste and much more good sense to spend the money on sheer curtains and make these like drapes, pleated and full, placed on traverse rods.



add luxury to long, narrow windows.

Novelty Curtains Have Many Uses

Need curtains for your bathroom? Plastic is frequently an excellent choice because it will withstand the constant dampness of the room, and the curtains will not wilt.

Curtains for the bathroom can match the shower curtains if they're used. In fact, in a small bathroom, it's best to have them not only of matching material but also in style. Tailored shower curtains naturally call for straight curtains.

If the room is not strictly tailored, ruffled curtains may be used, tied back, as in cottage sets.

Both the shower curtain and the curtains can be made from plastic material bought by the yard, especially if you like the shower curtain especially long and generously full.

There was a time when kitchen curtains had to be organdie or one of the other sheer materials, and preferably in white. Now that color has been introduced more strongly into the kitchen, curtain materials have a wide range.

Let's suppose that your kitchen is Early American in theme or has an informal peasant theme. What would be more appropriate than some colorful chintz or one of the peasant prints which are often done on natural or gray-white linen? Here, then, is the ideal choice.

Solve Window Problems With Clever Curtains

Rooms with small windows can probably use all the light they can get. Curtains, rather than drapes are the answer. Sheer curtains on double rods will answer the purpose nicely, especially those which are tied back in hour glass fashion.

Views outside the window cannot easily be changed, but you don't have to look out! Treat windows like this with pretty curtains and you can have as nice a picture as you want. Figured lace panels are excellent for living and dining room windows. You might have an attention getting cornice and some striking pattern in the drapes hung at either side to complete the effect.

Informal living rooms with windows, bedrooms and kitchens, too, can have the outside view blocked with gathered sheer curtains. You might try use of three or four rows of these, with the bottom edge piped in a solid color that goes well in the room.

Windows which show nothing at all on the outside, especially those which look right at the wall of another house can have tailored curtains in good colors. Take a cloth of good texture and add some vertical stripes of bright color, and use these at the windows.

Let Remnants Make Attractive Curtains

How often have you gone out to buy material and then found something later in the home which would have served the purpose as well? Too often! Check your stock at hand first and see if old things can be converted to usefulness.

For smaller curtains you're certain to find material unless you've just started housekeeping and have no remnants at all. Good portions of sheets, linen towels, crash, men's shirts and many such items can be cut and used for short curtains.

Trimmings may be needed, but these are certainly less expensive than buying everything new. Shirring in different colors is available to make the task easier, and so are rick-rack, ruffling, bias tape and ribbon for stripes.

String Bows

Dainty string bows are a favorite trimming feature of the season's shoes. Here they are seen on an open-toed, but closed heel shoe done in black suede, but may be had in brown suede or blue calf as the wardrobe dictates.

Charming Dress Is Easy for Beginner

1312
14-46

SO practical and charming, you'll want to make several versions of this daytime dress that even a beginner can turn out with confidence. Soft scallops finish the front closing.

* * *

Pattern No. 1312 is a sew-rite perforated pattern in sizes 14, 16, 18, 20; 40, 42, 44, 46. Size 16, 4 yards of 39-inch.

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KATHLEEN NORRIS

Home and Job Need Not Conflict

"I'M A VICTIM of what I call dishwater ache," writes Penny Vickars, from Uniontown, Pa. "I think lots of American housewives have it, and I want to know if there's a cure. Let me tell you of myself, because I've an idea I'm typical.

"I worked in a nursery apron factory before I was married, 12 years ago. Johnny wanted a family, and a family we have, three lovely girls, whose ages now are 10, 9, and 5. We wanted Pamela, the youngest girl, to be a boy before we saw her, and then we wanted Pam. Pam is now in school, and the other girls are helpful and normal and a great delight.

Every Day Tasks

"You know what I do every day. I make beds for people to muss up in a few hours, I clean bathrooms so that they can be strewn with soapsuds and wet towels again, I sweep floors to make room for more dust and scraps, I go to market to buy supplies that only last a few days, and I wash dishes that aren't cold before I have to lift them off the shelves for the next meal. I have a group of Scouts, we belong to a country club, and in our eight-room house, which we own, is every convenience and luxury that we Americans take for granted.

"My dishwater ache is because I know I can do better than this. My apron designs are still on the market; my color patterns are still framed in one of the offices. They want me back, at a good weekly salary, but truly it isn't the money. It's the chance for self-expression, even if only through nursery aprons! I don't want to go to Hollywood, or into the legislature, I'm not television material. But I want to hold my own in the business world, and while cotton clothes for children may not sound thrilling, my working at it may free some other women for the nursing or teaching they say we need so much.

". . . I can do better . . ."

"Johnny won't hear of it. To employ my loved old Mandy regularly, instead of one day a week, would mean a well-managed home. The older girls would take on Pam until I got home at half past four. And I [illegible] have all the thrill of really working again. But may dear kind Johnny disapproves.

"What is your solution? You must have had this prob[illegible] presented to you before."

Indeed I [illegible] quite righ[illegible] would [illegible] deal [illegible] are [illegible]

The women I advise to stay at home are the failures. They are the women who can't run the affairs of five rooms and one child and one man with any success, and yet who feel that they are quite capable of sensational exploits in the field of movies, art, letters—anything that gets their names and pictures into the magazines and papers.

Not long ago a pretty, restless, discontented woman did get her name into the papers. She won a dance contest in a rather low type of roadhouse and afterward went home with the man—up to that evening a stranger to her—with whom she had danced.

The police and the man's wife brought charges against the pair the next day, charges that included drug taking, drug peddling, reckless driving, car stealing, drunken driving, infidelity, and, in her case, criminal neglect of children and manslaughter. She had her moment of fame—of a sort. Her three small girls, aged 6, 4 and a few months, were in a damp basement room; she said the only place for which she had a key. The older child was feeding raw vegetables to the younger; the baby had found eternal peace.

FIRST AID TO THE AILING HOUSE

BY ROGER C. WHITMAN

Blackened Window Frames

QUESTION: We are building a new home. The windows were installed without paint or varnish, and from the steam and ice that formed on the windows during the winter, the framework around the windows is turning dark and there are some black streaks. I would like to keep them light, as I intend to varnish. What could I use to restore the natural wood color? Would a wood bleach remove the stain?

ANSWER: If there are any signs of decay, you should sandpaper it down to clean wood. The wood bleach would take out the black discoloration, but it would also take the natural color out of the wood. If you do not object to this, you can use the wood bleach. The varnish will give some color to the wood, of course. You will probably need to smooth the wood with sandpaper (dusting off afterward) in some places. You can make an inexpensive bleach with oxalic acid (poison!), dissolving as much of this in hot water or denatured alcohol as a given quantity of the liquid will absorb. (Water solution should be applied hot.) Apply this on the wood liberally and let it stand all night. Then rinse well next day, several times. Let the wood dry thoroughly before varnishing. Spar varnish would be suitable, for it would withstand moisture very well.

ONCE OVER

1952: Seen by A Crystal Gazer

By H. I. Phillips

JAN.—Mike DiSalle says prices are under control. Food, clothing and fuels hit new high. Auto dealers announce an increase of $150 a car. Truman says inflation is being checked by vigorous action. Dollar value drops to 47 cents. Vishinsky sets new record for hurling the 500-pound invective and 800-metre slur.

FEB.—Clue to Brinks robbery reported. Florida has a $2,360 daily double. Video announces a code prohibiting off-color material, overemphasis on sex and the blueprinting of crime routines. Franchot Tone pokes somebody in the eye.

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MARCH. — Mike DiSalle says prices are under control. All prices hit new high. Vishinsky excoriates U.S., U.N., the free world and two fellows who weren't even playing.

APRIL.—Video announces a code prohibiting off-color material and the blueprinting of criminal routines. American political campaign warms up. Country is shaken by a report the real President Truman is still in his beach costume at Key West and that the one at Washington is an impostor. Taliulah Holm sues Billy Joyce who sues Ava Ma[illegible] who sues Ali Sinatra [illegible]

MAY. [illegible] declared under [illegible] highs [illegible]

hower, nominates Taft for President with Faye Emerson for Vice-President. The Democrats counter by naming Dagmar for President, Dagmar for Vice-President, Dagmar for left tackle. They adopt the slogan "A Dagmar in every home and two videos in every garage."

JULY.—Mike DiSalle says prices are under control. Everything goes up. The dollar drops to 32 cents fahrenheit. Franchot Tone pokes somebody in the nose. Vishinsky excoriates the U.S. and U.N. Things look pretty bad all over the world. Leon Keyserling says not to worry as we owe it to ourselves.

AUG.—Joyce Khan sues Ali Rose who sues Ava Matthews who sues Eleanor Gardner or somebody.

SEPT.—Mike DiSalle says prices are under control as prices take another leap.

OCT.—See Sept.

NOV.—Election results in a dead heat. Issue goes to a video panel which decides the country must be governed by a triumvirate composed of Errol Flynn, Milton Berle, Howdy Doody, with the Ritz Brothers as a second platoon.

* * *

DEC.—Video adopts a code prohibiting off-color material, over-emphasis on sex and the blue-printing of crime routines. Billy Rose is sued by Rita Hayworth, Ali Kahn is used by Eleanor Holm and Joyce Matthews [illegible] by Frank Sinatra [illegible]

Grandma Recalls Maple Sugaring

Sap Boiling Trips All-Day Expeditions

MAPLE SUGAR TIME in upstate New York was an exciting event to farm children of 80 years ago — take 91-year-old Grandma Moses' word for it.

"That was a pleasure for us children," she relates in her autobiography, "to run to the woods to gather the sap and run back with it, and we had lots of fun keeping the fires burning to boil the sap down."

The sprightly little farm wife who began a fabulous art career at the age of 76 has painted a dozen canvases of "sugaring off" as she remembers it, many of which have appeared on Christmas cards. In a recent issue of a magazine she described her recollections of the season.

"We had all the syrup we wanted to eat on buckwheat cakes in the morning and syrup on hot biscuits for supper, with butter," she recalls. "Then for drink we would have sweet fern tea."

Fern tea, Grandma reveals, was "maple sap boiled down to a certain degree with sweet fern. With cream it made a very nice drink and Father would say it was healthful, a blood purifier. You had to cultivate a taste for it, but it was very nice and Father let us have all we wanted of it."

Win[illegible] fact, meant "happy [illegible]dma as a child, she [illegible] one occasion [illegible] to go to school. [illegible] 25 degrees [illegible] brothers

KIDNEYS MUST REMOVE EXCESS WASTE

When kidney function slows down, many folks complain of nagging backache, loss of pep and energy, headaches and dizziness. Don't suffer longer with these discomforts if reduced kidney function is getting you down—due to such common causes as stress and strain, over-exertion or exposure to cold. Minor bladder irritations due to cold, dampness or wrong diet may cause getting up nights or frequent passages.

Don't neglect your kidneys if these conditions bother you. Try Doan's Pills—a mild diuretic. Used successfully by millions for over 50 years. While often otherwise caused, it's amazing how many times Doan's give happy relief from these discomforts—help the 15 miles of kidney tubes and filters flush out waste. Get Doan's Pills today!

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BUTTONS BY THE [illegible]