Rastus Sure Knew What Platform Was Used For!

On a book going from one cotton picking job to another a couple of colored boys were talking politics. Rastus, who wanted to put one of the local Democratic re-elected, was giving his friend, Sam, a real hot sales talk on his candidate.

"Well," Sam agreed after listening for some time, "ah guess he's all right — but ah also don't like his platform."

"Platform!" snorted Rastus. "Platform! Say, don't you know that a political platform is jes like a platform on one of dese yere railroad cahs—hit ain't meant to stand on, 'cept you wants to git in on."



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IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL
SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, B. D.
Of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago
Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for February 17

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TRUE TO A GREAT HERITAGE

LESSON TEXT: Deuteronomy 4:1, 32-40; Hebrews 11:1-16; 39, 40; 12:1-3.

The numbers refer to the numbered verses in the lesson text.

A godly heritage is the gift of God to his people. By faith they could enter into it and possess it. Thus they honor him who has promised, and they witness to all the earth that he is a great God and a loving heavenly Father. It magnifies his name to believe on his word and to act on his promises.

Israel, having failed God and plunged themselves into years of wandering by their unbelief when they just came up to the Promised Land, were now ready to go over Jordan and take the land.

A new generation had grown up, and for their instruction Moses rehearsed the history of the people, repeated the promises of God, and renewed their remembrance of his law. The book of Deuteronomy gives that "second law" — actually a review of what had been given before.

As they entered upon God's rich heritage for them they were admonished to

I. Hearken to God's Law (v. 1).

To hearken means more than to hear and forget. It carries with it the giving of attention to what is heard with the purpose of doing something about it.

God's law, his statutes and judgments are for the good of his people. They are not designed to limit their freedom, but to provide the channels through which they could be used free to live and to accomplish that which is good and noble and useful.

Two things were assured to Israel if they hearkened to the law of God. They would first of all "live." This does not mean only that they should escape death, but that they might enter into the fulness of life.

"The Bible teaches that we are free to choose between a high grade of life or a low grade, between a life which involves fellowship with God or a daily existence which means nothing more than the enjoyment of animal comforts and following our own sinful ways" (Karl L. Dougherty).

The second result of obeying God's law would be their going into and possessing the land which God gave them. There in victory and attainment, as well as blessed fellowship for the one who obeys God. That is true today as it was in the time of Moses.

II. Remember God's Love (vv. 32-35).

The loving exercise of God toward his people had revealed his infinite greatness and glory.

He revealed himself in the fire—and they might well have been consumed for it—yet he graciously spoke to them instead of destroying them. They were to recall, too, that he had done a mighty and wonderful thing in taking them out of the powerful land of Egypt and making them into a people for his name.

Not in the style of the end of the man who has lost his sense of the miraculous. To live in the midst of the constant demonstration of God's power and his source, and to see and feel nothing but the commonplace, ordinary of hundreds daily life, is to be blind and deaf—yes, to be dead spiritually.

Is he any less powerful today? Certainly not! He is still the God of the miraculous and nowhere is that divine energy more evident than in the spiritual life of man.

The wonders of God in creation were witnessed for Israel. They learned of his care for his people. "Did far more wonderful are the works of God in the new creation and his infinite care for his people redeemed from a ruined race, and made inheritors of eternal residence in the heavenly Canaan" (Hugh C. Moore).

III. Beyond to God's Promise (vv. 37-40).

The Promised Land was before them, but it was for them to go in and possess it. There were warfare and struggle ahead, mighty warlike peoples in occupance. Were they able for it? No, not in their own strength!

How were they to accomplish this formidable task? By counting on God. He had promised to drive out the nations now holding the land. He is a God not only in heaven, but also on earth (v. 39). The people who believe him may go forward expecting miracles to happen.

Obedience to God's law brings fellowship with the eternal and omnipotent One, and the confident assurance that he will bring victory and the full accomplishment of his will for the obedient believer.

That is as true now as ever. You let's be accurate and say that it is more true than ever, for believers now are indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God who makes real in and through them all the grace and beauty and power of God.

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND
By DREW PEARSON

FARMERS AND LABORERS

WASHINGTON. — It goes on log to issue about coverage. But the price-wage turmoil of today may have equal or even greater repercussions next spring when farmers lose their four subsidies.

What most people don't realize is that the public is squarely in between two powerful, well-organized pressure groups, both with very considerable interests, both sometimes taking a public-be-damned attitude. One is organized labor. The other is the farm organizations, which, while they can't strike, can and will exert effective pressure when subsidies are removed.

Both groups work against each other to the following manner: When labor raises wages in the cities, this sucks labor away from the farms. Wisconsin the farmer has to raise farm wages in order to compete with the cities. This in turn increases his cost of production, forcing him to increase prices or go out of business.

At present, the farmer can't increase prices because of OPA. In the government, recognizing the injustice of his higher operating costs, gives him a subsidy. When this subsidy is removed, he will have to increase prices — unless operating costs are reduced. And the current strike wave is constantly forcing up the cost of labor.

All this operates to a vicious circle. For, the minute food prices go up, labor will come in for more wage increases, based upon the cost of living.

Organized labor, of course, can better take care of itself. But unorganized and unprotected are a great body of white-collar workers, unskilled labor, plus the middle-class business men who get squeezed in between. This is the group which is getting worse and worse at labor. There was a time when they were sympathetic, but not now. This is the red flag of public opinion which organized labor needs to watch.

U. S. MARES TO EUROPE

Biggest foreign purchase of horses since Mussolini dreamed the southwest for his Ethiopian transport division is now taking place in the middle west. UNRRA is buying 18,000 American mares for shipment to Greece, Yugoslavia, Poland and Czechoslovakia — countries from which the Nazis drove away most of the horse population.

The mares are being purchased under the supervision of the department of agriculture which has passed the job on to the Sparks-Norris horse and mule company in St. Louis, Owen Brothers in Wenona, and Dean Brooks and W. L. Tyler in Des Moines. Average price paid by UNRRA to the dealer is $97 and $99.50 per head.

This has aroused criticism in the farm belt, because dealers are paying only $60 to $80 per horse, thus netting a profit of about $40 each. However, agriculture department officials defend prices on the ground that dealers take a risk on sick horses, accidents during shipment, etc.

The army paid an average of $186 per head for horses during the war, but was more particular, requiring horses for mules and limitation. Horses now being purchased must be three to eight years old, broken for both work and riding. They are being shipped overseas from Baltimore, New Orleans, Jersey City, and Portland, Me.

NOTE. — Tip-off to the fact that Standard was plundering to conquer Kilkuan came two years before he was stymied when, in 1943-44, the Italians suddenly bought $142,000 worth of mules from Missouri, Arkansas and Texas.

ADMIRAL NIMITZ'S POINTS

Adm. Chester Nimitz, new chief of naval operations, was sitting in the navy building barber shop near a captain in the naval reserve.

The four-striper, exchanging pleasantries with the former U. S. commander in the Pacific, twice removed his superior that he had sufficient points to get out of service, and seemed just as anxious to be separated as the average seaman first class.

Smiling mischievously, Nimitz replied, "I never thought I'd get enough points to get out of the Pacific."

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Those two one-time enemies, AFL's William Green and United Mine Workers John L. Lewis, were seen beside together, lunching at the Mayflower hotel here recently. "This may be an historic occurrence," Green remarked to a passing friend.

Boys Congressman Smith of Wisconsin regarding a department of peace: "I would be in favor of spending as much for this type of program as we are spending for the military establishments today. I would like to see a secretary for peace within the cabinet."

Teachers' Digest has sent to 30,000 leading educators the following sage advice: "Try not to advocate force or you may differ for violence. No matter how you feel, one hurt remains. If Russia and the U. S. agree, there two countries can assure the peace of the world."

Creating a Modern Air in Living Room

HOUSES of glass are realities today and, if you want to give any house a modern air, try to make the windows seem important. One way is to frame them in a group by removing the wall and leaving the glass exposed.



An inexpensive chintz with gray-green ground and a floral pattern in red for draperies and to trim the small chair of natural wicker, which is also used for the cushions. The glass curtains are hung on rods mounted on the inside of the window frame at the two side and header. The side drapes are caught back by the cutouts in each end of the book shelves is shaded to make a head for the couch. The couch is covered with a plain green fabric and the pillows are made of the same fabric with green bindings.

• • •

NOTE: This decorating idea is from HOME, a book which covers more than 30 other suggestions for furnishings. Copies are 10c postpaid. Send check or

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Look! Muffins made with Peanut Butter!
(No shortening and only ¼ cup sugar)

If you'd like to try something truly new in muffins that's truly delicious and extra nourishing, try — try Hillsdale Pure Peanut Butter Muffins! They have that "just baked" flavor, too, for inside, melt-in-your-mouth texture of bran muffins made with Hillsdale's nut-rich, golden peanut butter. For recipe is added extra-fine for golden richness.

½ cup peanut butter
¼ cup sugar
1 egg, well beaten
1 cup milk
½ teaspoon salt
¼ cup Hillsdale's Pure Peanut Butter
1 cup sifted flour
2 teaspoons baking powder

Mix peanut butter and sugar thoroughly; add egg, milk and bran and mix well. Let stand until most of moisture has been absorbed. Sift flour with salt, add to first mixture and stir only until flour disappears. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full and bake in moderately hot oven (400°F.) about 25 minutes. Makes 12 medium muffins.

Good Nutrition, too!
Another bright thing about your menus of days when you make a generous use of Hillsdale Pure Peanut Butter is the extra good nutrition you get from it. Rich in the vitamin B1 and other vitamins and minerals needed for nourishing hot cross buns!



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