

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson II. April 9, 1916.

Aeneas and Dorcas.—Acts 9: 32-43.

Commentary.—I. The healing of Aeneas (vs. 32-35). 32. As Peter passed throughout all quarters—From the preceding verse we learn that the Christian church was at this time enjoying a season of rest from persecution. The apostles were carrying out the parting command of the Master, as he was taken from them, and were preaching the gospel in Judea and Samaria. Their headquarters were still at Jerusalem and from there they made their journeys to spread the truths of the gospel. On such a tour as this Peter was proceeding when the events here recorded took place. Came down—From the elevated regions of Judea. Jerusalem is about two thousand five hundred feet above the sea, and the places here mentioned are in the low plain along the seacoast. Also—This word indicates that Peter had been laboring among the Christians on the uplands of Palestine. Saints—Holy ones. This name is commonly applied to Christians in the New Testament and especially by Paul in his epistles. Lydda—The Hebrew name of this place was Ludd. It is situated about twenty-five miles northwest of Jerusalem and twelve miles southeast of Joppa, and is on the line of railroad which connects Joppa and Jerusalem. It now has a population of seven thousand. 33. He found a stricken man.—It appears that Peter was seeking for those who needed help. Aeneas—All we know of this man is what is recorded in this and the following verses. Eight years—The condition of Aeneas was, humanly speaking, hopeless, and any cure must be considered as supernatural. Palsy—The sick man was a paralytic. 34. Jesus Christ maketh these whole—Peter keeps himself in the background and exalts Jesus. It is not Peter's skill or power that gives health and strength to the palsied man, but it is Jesus Christ. Peter has implicit, active faith in his Master, for he speaks of the cure as already accomplished and complete. Arise, and make thy bed—The bed was a sleeping mat laid upon the floor, and to make it meant to roll it up that it might be put away. For Aeneas to comply with this command was to demonstrate the fact that he was healed. He arose immediately—The man who "had kept his bed eight years" at once showed himself to be a well man. 35. All saw him—Seven doubters means the plain of Sharon in which Lydda is situated. The cure of Aeneas was well known in Lydda and the surrounding region, and an event so marvellous as his healing would be quickly and widely reported. Turned to the Lord—The people were convinced that it was by the power of Jesus that the paralytic was healed, and they were brought to believe in him as the Messiah and as their Saviour.

II. Dorcas raised from the dead (vs. 36-43). 36. Joppa—Situated on the Mediterranean Sea. This was a city of the Philistines during the early part of Israel's occupancy of Canaan and was not wrested from them until David's time. As it is at the present time, although it does not possess a good harbor. Its present name is Jaffa, and it has a population of more than fifty thousand, more than half of whom are Mohammedans. A certain disciple—Women as well as men were called disciples. Tabitha—Dorcas—Tabitha is the Aramaic form of the Hebrew proper name which in Greek is Dorcas. The name in either language means gazelle. On account of the beauty and gentleness of this animal the name was frequently given to girls in ancient times. Was full of good works and almsdeeds—Dorcas not only did good deeds, but she was devoted to them as if her heart was overflowing with kindness, which found expression in good works and almsdeeds. 37. Had washed—The custom prevailed then as now of washing the bodies of the dead in preparation for burial. The primitive Christians washed the bodies of their dead, not only out of decency and affectionate respect for them, but as a token of their firm belief in the resurrection of the dead. 38. Laid her in an upper chamber—Instead of burying the body immediately, as was the custom in that land then, as it is now, it was kept, in the hope that Peter, who was not far away, might be the means of her restoration to life. 39. Lydda was nigh to Joppa—The distance is about twelve miles. Disciples had heard that Peter was there—The Christians were interested in the expected visit of Peter to them and were probably informed by himself when he would be at the place. He would reach on his journey. Sent unto him two men—Some commentators suppose messengers were sent to Peter while Dorcas was yet alive, but the narrative does not suggest that interpretation. Would not delay—They do not expressly utter the request for a miracle. Only the hope will not delay; just as if she might soon go too far to hear and return. 40. Peter arose and went with them—The apostle was interested in the case that urged his speedy attendance at Joppa, and it is reasonable to suppose that the spirit gave him direction to go. The widows stood by him weeping. It seems certain that the widows here mentioned were those whom Dorcas had relieved by her good works and almsdeeds. Some writers think that they were women of with her in her works of charity. Their weeping showed their affection for her. Showing the coats and garments—They included outer and inner garments. Some of them may have been worn by those to whom they were given, and some may have not yet been given out to the needy. While she was with them—While she was alive. 41. Put them all forth—Peter was present when Jesus raised the

daughter of Jairus to life. On that occasion all were excluded from the death chamber but Peter, James and John (Matt. 9: 25; Mark 5: 37). Peter desired to know fully the will of the Lord in the matter and he desired that nothing should hinder his communion with God or obstruct his faith. Kneeling down, and prayed—He assumed the attitude of a suppliant and his prayer was heard. He was assured that the Lord would raise Dorcas to life. Said, Tabitha, arise—it was not presumption for Peter to speak thus; it was faith. He had been commissioned and empowered for this kind of work. Opened her eyes—The first manifestation of life. Sat up—Strength was coming with the return of life. 42. Gave her his hand—In raising Jairus' daughter to life, Jesus took her by the hand before he bade her to rise. In this case Peter assisted Dorcas to arise after she had come to life. Called the saints and widows—The Christians of Joppa and those who had shared her bounty or joined in her labors were deeply interested in her restoration to life and they were to be the first to greet her now raised from the dead. Presented her alive—They had prepared her body for burial, but with the cherished hope that through divine power exerted through Peter she would be restored to them. Their hopes were fully and joyously realized.

42. Known throughout all Joppa—An event of such a character must become quickly known throughout the city. Many believed in the Lord—There seems to be intended by these words a fuller acceptance of the faith of Jesus than when it is said they turned to the Lord (v. 35). The belief here wrought by the resurrection of Dorcas is like that mentioned of those who were won to the faith by the raising of Lazarus (John 11:45). This miracle was wrought to open the way for a larger reception of the gospel, to strengthen the faith of those who were already believers, and to relieve the sorrows of those who were mourning. 43. Tarry many days in Joppa—The call for Peter to hasten to Joppa was evidently inspired by the Spirit, and by the same Spirit Peter was impressed to go. The raising of Dorcas rendered Joppa a most fruitful field for his labors. With one Simon a tanner—Simon was a common name among the Jews. This Simon was distinguished from others of the same name by calling him a tanner. The business of a tanner was considered in a sense unclean by the Jews, inasmuch as it necessitated contact with the dead bodies of animals. It appears that Peter's prejudices were giving away, since he was willing to associate with one who was not a rigid Jew. Questions—What was the attitude in Judea at this time toward Christianity? What was the work of the apostles? Where is Lydda? What had Peter been doing? Who was healed at Lydda? Describe the disease. Describe the healing. What effect did this have on the people? What can you say of the character of Dorcas? Whom had she helped? Describe the manner in which she was raised. What effect did this have? With whom did Peter lodge?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic.—Christian faith exercised.
I. In the healing of disease.
1. In the healing of disease. With the conversion of Saul the persecution of Christians subsided. The Jewish authorities were in turn made to suffer opposition through the efforts of the Roman emperor to get up his statue in their temple. This was an encroachment upon them quite opposite to anything they had met in the disciples of Christ. With this altered condition the apostle Peter found opportunity to visit the various companies of saints who had been driven from Jerusalem during the persecution. Visitation was not for the purpose of magnifying his official rank among the disciples, but to use the power bestowed upon him for the upbuilding of all believers. He was an example of modesty and power combined, so characteristic of real greatness. His faith in the power of Jesus was demonstrated for the upbuilding of the church. Not only was suffering relieved and sorrow turned to joy, but far and near it was seen and declared that Jesus had power to save. Divine love and divine power shone forth in the miracles of Peter so that many were won to Christ at each place where he visited. Peter's words to Aeneas witnessed to the actual presence and the divine power of Jesus Christ. His words supplied a firm foundation for the sick man's faith in Christ. The miracle wrought was convincing proof that Jesus still lived and continued his work among men. The healing of Aeneas resulted in the conversion of many. The spiritual interests of the church were upheld thereby. Divine healing exalted Christ and led to seasons of revival. The value of apostolic ministry was recognized and the purpose of miracle set forth. The power and influence of Christianity continued to spread. Persecution had made the church strong on defensive lines. Apostolic visitation was fruitful in aggressive spiritual expansion.
II. In the restoration of life. It was a sad and tearful congregation that greeted Peter at Joppa. The stricken church sent for him. They were in sore need of comfort. They naturally turned to one on whom the Lord had bestowed other and greater gifts than physical healing. The company at Joppa afforded a very fine example of the oneness and sympathy that existed among the primitive believers. The brief biography of Dorcas is exceedingly full, though condensed in a single paragraph. The tears and gratitude of the widows were a genuine testimony to Dorcas and her character. The title "disciple" referred to her faith. Her almsdeeds described her love. In her case discipleship included not only the belief and profession of Christ's doctrines, but also a conformity to His example. Hers was the religion of the heart and life. Her method has been perpetuated and her name immortalized in the annals of the Christian church. A character like Dorcas, one who lived to do good, could not fail to exert an influence. The crowded presence of the weeping company was not in harmony with the great emotion surging in the

apostle's heart. It was for the good of the kingdom of God that Peter was inspired to ask for the return of Dorcas to life. The results abundantly justified the exhibition of miraculous power. It was accomplished through the living Christ. The whole event sets before the world the word of God with power, the church with its blessing, the city of the Messiah with its love. The entire circumstance may be related in few words while the lesson it has taught for centuries is one which cannot be estimated throughout the church. Individuals and families have been comforted in the prospect of reunion. At Joppa the scene is described touchingly. Weeping widows, apostolic praying, an awakening call, restoration to life, friendly assistance and lastly the presentation of the loved one to her friends. The event thrilled the church with joy and all Joppa with wonder. It was a marvellous distinction conferred upon Dorcas and a marvellous exhibition of divine compassion toward the needy widows, and a marvellous testimony to the claims of Christianity. The humility and faith of Peter are clearly brought to view. Christianity was established above the prejudices of worldly wisdom. The disciples were enabled to declare Christ's power among His followers. T.R.A.

FARM GARDEN

THE HOT BED.

There is nothing better than a good hotbed for starting early vegetables. The hotbed protects the plants from the cold, and also supplies bottom heat. The soil is constantly kept several degrees warmer than the air above, which is favorable for quick and strong growth.

Fresh horse manure, containing a liberal amount of straw bedding, is the best heating material that can be employed.

If thrown into a loose pile, horse manure will heat violently and unevenly, and soon become cold. The hotbed needs a steady and moderate heat, and one also that is lasting. In order that this may be obtained, the manure should be forked over, shaken apart, and if dry, watered and allowed to stand a few days, and again forked over, piled and permitted to heat a second time. The object is to get the whole mass into a uniform degree of fermentation, and when this is accomplished, the manure is ready for the hotbed.

Straw can be purchased that is made especially for hotbeds. They are glazed with small lights, and the frame painted. A size convenient for handling, and especially adapted for home gardens, is about two and one-half by four or five feet, with glass about 10x

14, laid with not more than one-quarter-inch lap. They should be made like skylight sash. The frame should be constructed of sound one-inch lumber, the back 12x14 inches high, and the front 10x12. It must be well fitted to the sash, so as to allow as small opening as possible and yet permit the sash to be easily moved up and down, even when the frame is quite wet. The soil in the hotbed must be light, rich and friable. Any considerable quantity of clay in it is very objectionable. If possible the soil should be unfrozen when put into the bed. Gardeners generally prepare the soil in the fall before, covering the pile with sufficient coarse manure or straw to keep out the frost.

Careful attention is required in making the bed, as future success largely depends upon the manner in which this work is performed. Having removed the snow and ice, erect a rectangular bed one foot larger each way than the frame to be used, carefully shaking out and spreading each forkful, and repeatedly treading down the manure so as to make the bed as uniform as possible in solidity, composition and moisture. It is of the utmost importance that this shaking apart and even pressing down of the manure be carefully and thoroughly done. Where attention is not given, one portion will heat quicker than the other, and the soil will settle unevenly, making it impossible to grow good plants.

The right depth of the bed varies with the climate, season and kind of plants to be grown. A bed that is shallow will quickly give a high temperature, which will soon subside; one that is deeper, if well made, will give a more moderate heat, and last considerably longer. A bed about two feet deep will be best for general purposes. The bed completed, the frames and sash may be put on and fresh manure carefully packed around the outside to the very top. Should the weather be at all severe, this outside banking must be replenished as it settles.

The bed should then be allowed to stand with the sash partially open for a day or two, to permit the steam and rank heat to pass off. The earth should then be put on and carefully leveled.

The soil must be dry and friable. If wet or frozen ground must be used, it should be placed in small piles so that it may well dry out before spreading. At first the heat will be quite violent, often going up to 120 degrees, but it soon subsides, and when it gets down to 90 degrees the seed may be planted.

Every season thousands of hotbeds fail of good results for the reason that the soil is not allowed to dry out, and the first rank heat not permitted to pass off. The consequence is that seedmen are blamed for failure resulting from over-heat, or wet, seamy soil.

It must be borne in mind that the essentials for success are a steady, uniform degree of heat and moisture, the soil at all times kept a few degrees warmer than the air, and the careful "hardening off" by exposure to the air and diminishing the supply of


water) of the plants. Before transplanting them into the open air. The temperature inside of a well-built hot bed will rise very quickly to 90 or 100 degrees upon a still, sunny day, even with the temperature outside is far below freezing. On the other hand, the temperature will quickly fall to that outside if upon a windy, cloudy day the sash be left open ever so little.

A rush of cold air driven over the plants is far more injurious than the same temperature when the air is still. During cloudy weather a bed will go several days without watering, but will dry up in an hour when open on a sunny day.

FARM NEWS AND VIEWS.
About this season of the year we are likely to read a great deal about the advantages of certain practices in plowing. One man has good success with subsoiling, and earnestly advises every farmer to subsoil. Another farmer has tried subsoiling and has found that it actually reduced crop yields, or at least did not help them any. Still another man will find deep tilling machines plowing 12 to 18 inches deep profitable on his farm, and immediately concludes that very deep plowing will be profitable under all circumstances. As a matter of fact it is not of course. All this goes to show that the practice advisable to follow on any certain type of soil cannot be determined any way except by actual trial. Probably in the great majority of cases subsoiling will not pay, nor extremely deep plowing, too, for that matter. Undoubtedly there are many cases known where either of these practices may prove extremely profitable. How to plow in order to get the best results is something that no man can work out for you. You must find out for yourself on your own type of soil.

A rich soil is the first essential to good farming. Too often we forget this and try to skip along hoping to make crops grow without any plant food to do it on. If plants are to grow, they must be fed, just as animals must feed. Animal manures carefully conserved, commercial fertilizers rationally and liberally applied and green manures plowed under in a proper environment, each or all, will turn the trick. But plant food you must get.

Sheep are the great enemies of weeds, and where sheep can be turned into a field, or a flock herded along the roadside, they will effectively clear up waste vegetation and in addition the trampling of their feet will destroy many insects. The sheep at the same time turn waste material into mutton and all they require is a little grain for finishing. Frequently when sold they return a profit, but the entomologists hold that even if they merely pay for the extra grain they eat their function in destroying weeds and keeping down insects makes them well worth while.



THERE IS HEALTH IN RICH RED BLOOD

ANAEMIA

Disease germs take advantage of every weakness of the human system. Their greatest enemy is rich, red blood, but when the blood gets thin and watery they increase rapidly and easily gain the upper hand. In this way grip, pneumonia, consumption and other germ diseases get a foothold on the system almost before you know it. Anaemia or poverty of the blood makes itself known by pallor of the gums, lips and inside of the eyelids, you feel weak and languid, the heart's action weakens, you are easily tired out and find yourself short of breath.


The blood is thin and watery, and is lacking in the red corpuscles which represent the nutritious element of the blood. Because Dr. Chase's Nerve Food increases the number of red corpuscles and thereby enriches the blood, it is the most effective means available of curing anaemia and fortifying the system against the attack of disease.

On account of the weakened condition of the blood from anaemia, there is always danger of developing Droopy or Pernicious Anaemia, from which there is small chance of recovery.

With the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to build up the richness of the blood, the color is soon restored to the pallid skin, and you find yourself gaining in health and strength. The heart's action is strengthened and gradually the muscular weakness is replaced by new vigor and energy.

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is truly doing wonders for many thousands of anemic men and women and puny boys and girls, whose blood has got thin and weak. Put it to the test and you will better understand why so many people are enthusiastic in its praise.

50 cents a box, 6 for \$2.50, all dealers, or Edmondson, Meters & Co. Limited, Toronto. Do not be talked into accepting a substitute. Imitations disappear.



Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

Dr. Chase's Recipe Book, 1,000 selected recipes, sent free if you mention this paper.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

FARMERS' MARKET.	
Apples, bbl.	3.00
Potatoes, bbl.	2.19
Eggs, new-laid, doz.	0.28
Butter, good to choice	0.32
Chickens, lb.	0.24
Fowl, dressed, lb.	0.29
Ducks, lb.	0.25
Geese, lb.	0.18
Turkeys, lb.	0.30

MEATS—WHOLESALE.	
Beef, forequarters, cwt.	\$ 8.50
Do., hindquarters, cwt.	12.50
Do., choice sides, cwt.	11.00
Do., common, cwt.	9.00
Veals, common, cwt.	8.00
Do., prime	14.00
Shop hogs	12.50
Do., heavy	11.00
Spring lambs	19.50
Mutton, light	16.00

SUGAR MARKET.	
Sugars are quoted as follows:	
Lantic, granulated, 100 lbs.	\$ 7.51
Redpath's, granulated, 100 lbs.	7.51
St. Lawrence, granulated, 100 lbs.	7.45
Acadia, granulated, 100 lbs.	7.41
St. Lawrence, heavy, 100 lbs.	7.45
Lantic, brilliant yellow, 100 lbs.	7.41
St. Lawrence, brilliant yellow, 100 lbs.	7.41
Blue Star, 100 lbs.	7.41
Redpath, yellow, 100 lbs.	7.11
10-lb. bags, 10c over granulated bags.	
20-lb. bags, 10c over granulated bags.	
2 and 5-lb. packages, 30c over granulated bags.	

LIVE STOCK.	
Trade was steady, with no material change in prices.	
Export cattle, choice	8.25
Butcher cattle, choice	8.25
Do., do. medium	7.50
Do., do. common	7.00
Butcher cows, choice	6.75
Do., do. medium	6.50
Do., do. canners	6.50
Do., bulls	6.00
Feeding steers	7.00
Stockers, choice	7.00
Do., light	6.00
Milkers, choice, each	60.00
Springers	40.00
Sheep, ewes	9.00
Bucks and culs	6.00
Lambs	15.25
Hogs, fed and watered	11.00
Calves	7.00

HIDES, SKINS, WOOL, ETC.

Deerskins—City butcher rates, green, flat, 18 1-2c per lb.; country hides, green, 16 to 18 1-2c per lb.; salt cured, 17 to 17 1-2c; part cured, 18 1-2 to 19c. Calveskins—City skins, green, flat, 20c per lb.; veal kip, 18c per lb.; country cured, 20 to 21c per lb.; part cured, 18 to 19c per lb.; deacons or bob calf, according to condition and take off, \$1.25 to \$1.50 each.

Horsehair—City take off, \$5 to \$5.50; country take off, \$4.50 to \$5.00; No. 2, \$3.50 to \$4.50.

Sheepskins—City sheepskins, \$2 to \$3; country sheepskins, \$2 to \$3.

Wool—City washed, 45 to 47c per lb.; washed rejections (burry, cotted, chaffy, etc.), 35 to 37c; unwashed fleece wool, 35 to 37c; 31 to 35c; northwestern unwashed, according to quality, 23 to 32c.

—Hillman's Weekly Market Report.

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG GRAIN OPTIONS.	
Wheat—Open. High. Low. Close.	
May	1.12 1.14 1.12 1.14
July	1.08 1.10 1.08 1.10
Oct.	1.04 1.06 1.04 1.06
May	0.42 0.42 0.42 0.42
July	0.42 0.42 0.42 0.42
Oct.	0.38 0.40 0.38 0.40
May	1.95 1.96 1.95 1.96
July	1.91 1.93 1.91 1.93

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET.	
Minneapolis—Wheat—May, \$1.18 to \$1.19	
July, \$1.16; No. 1 hard, \$1.21 No. 1	
Northern, \$1.18 to \$1.19; No. 2 do., \$1.13 to \$1.16	
Corn—May, \$1.18 to \$1.19; No. 2 do., \$1.13 to \$1.16	
Oats—No. 3 white, 42 to 42 1-2c; No. 3 red, 42 to 42 1-2c	
Barley—No. 2 to \$2.19; No. 3 to \$2.18	
Shipments, 61,920 barrels. Bran—\$12.25 to \$13.	

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET.	
Duluth—Wheat—No. 1 hard, \$1.18 1-2c; No. 2 do., \$1.11 1-2c to \$1.14 1-2c; No. 3 do., \$1.07 1-2c to \$1.10 1-2c; May, \$2.25 1-2c; July, \$2.18 1-2c.	

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Cattle, receipts 5,000.	
May 1st, 1st	7.00
Native beef steers	9.90
Stockers and feeders	8.25
Cows and heifers	8.35
Calves	7.50
Hogs, receipts 30,000.	
Market dull.	
Light	9.20
Mixed	9.30
Heavy	9.20
Rough	9.10
Pigs	7.10
Butch of calves	9.50
Sheep, receipts 8,000.	
Market steady.	
Wethers	8.50
Lambs, native	9.15

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffalo, N. Y. Despatch—Cattle receipts 125; steady.

Veals, receipts 500; active, \$4 to \$10.25. Hogs, receipts 2,500; active; heavy and mixed \$10 to \$10.65; Yorkers \$9 to \$10.65; pigs \$8.50 to \$8.75; roughs \$8.50 to \$9.00; stags \$6.50 to \$7.50.

Sheep and lambs, receipts 1,600 head; active and prices unchanged.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE.

Wheat, spot, steady.
No. 1 Manitoba—13s. 7d.
No. 2 Manitoba—13s. 4d.
No. 2 red western winter—11s. 8d.
No. 2 hard winter kull—11s. 4d.
American mixed—13s. 4d.
Northern Chicago—13s. 8d.
No. 2 hard winter choice—13s.
No. 1 hard winter—13s. 4d.
Flour, winter patents—6s. 6d.
Hops in London (Pacific Coast)—24 lbs. 1s. 15s.
Hans, short cut, 14 to 15 lbs.—5s.
Bacon, Cumberland cut, 25 to 30 lbs.—8s. 6d.
Short ribs, 16 to 24 lbs.—7s.
Clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs.—8s.
Long clear middles, light, 25 to 34 lbs.—8s.
Long clear middles, heavy, 35 to 50 lbs.—8s.
Short clear backs, 16 to 25 lbs.—8s.
Shoulders, square, 11 to 13 lbs.—8s.
Lard, prime western, in tierces, new—6s. 6d.—8s.
American, refined—7s.
Butter, finest 1 lb. 8s. in boxes—7s. 9d.
Cheese, Canadian, finest white, new—10s.
Colored—13s.
Tallow, Australian in London—56s. 6d.
Turpetine, spirits—5s. 6d.
Resin, common—20s.
Petroleum, refined—11 1-4d.
Lined Oil—4s. 6d.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK.

Butcher greens, best \$7 to \$8; good \$7.50 to \$8; fair \$7.25 medium \$6.50 to \$7; rough \$6 to \$6.75.
Butcher bulls \$6.25 to \$6.75; medium \$6 to \$6.75; common \$5.25; canners \$4 to \$5. Receipts 32,000.
Hogs, receipts 311 to \$11.50; rough and mixed \$10 to \$10.75; common \$10; sows \$7.75 to \$8. Receipts 600.
Sheep 6 to 8; lambs 9 to 12. Receipts 50.
Calves, milk fed 5 1-2 to 5 1-2. Receipts 1,200.

"The rain falls on the just and the unjust," quoted the good deacon. "Yes, on those who pray for it and on those who don't," snickered the backslider.