

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson XI. March 12, 1916.

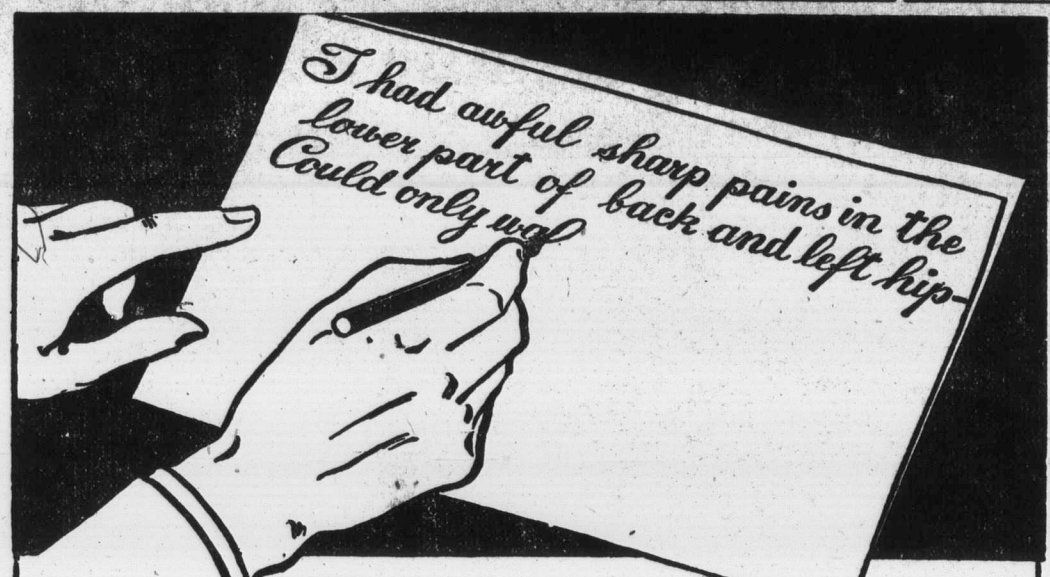
Heroes and Martyrs of Faith.—Heroes 11: 1-12: 2.

Commentary.—I. The nature of faith (11:1). I. Now.—The subject of faith is introduced in the discussion in the preceding chapter, and the writer stops here to consider the nature and operations of faith. Faith—Trust, unwavering confidence, a conviction that brings certainty. Substance.—The original word means basis or foundation. Things hoped for—One cannot truly hope for something unless there is a basis upon which the hope rests, otherwise he is indulging a false hope. What God has said in his word or the conviction that he gives by his Spirit furnishes something definite and positive for the faith to grasp. The submitting, trusting heart believes it. The evidence.—The demonstration or proof. A demonstration is equivalent to a certainty. When a proposition in mathematics is demonstrated, it is clearly shown that it cannot be otherwise. Things not seen—"Things not seen" are the realities of God and his universe outside the visible world, which are revealed to our higher intuitions by nature, by divine manifestation, or by the written record. The animal man, the sensualist, never thinks of or truly embraces these truths. The worldly forget them. The atheist denies them. And these are all incapable of that spiritual heroism recorded of the ancient worthies.—Whedon.

II. Examples of faith (11: 2-49). 2-31. It was because of their faith that the forefathers attained such excellence of character and accomplished such results that their names have come down to us connected with high honors. If they had failed to believe God, their names would have been unknown and unhonored. We know the beginnings of things because we believe what God has said. The faith of the Old Testament worthies led them to do something. Their faith was active. Because they believed God, they obeyed him, and great results followed. Their faith led them to take a course that seemed in many cases unwise and impracticable. They believed that God was able to do what was apparently impossible. The omission of these illustrious examples of faith would have been a loss to us of much of the inspiration which we now receive. What Christian has not been again and again encouraged by the example of Moses, who made a crisis seemingly against all reason, because he believed God! So many and so various are the examples of faith given in this chapter that they cover all possible circumstances in life.

32. What shall I more say.—The list of the heroes of faith is a long one. To recount the deeds of all the men and women of faith would include practically all of Old Testament history. Gideon.—Gideon, one of the judges of Israel, who delivered his people from the Midianites (Judges 6, 7). Barak.—Associated with Deborah he defeated the hosts of Jabin the Canaanite (Judges 4, 5). Samson.—The history of this judge is given in Judges 13-16. Jephthah.—The heroes of faith, mentioned in this verse, are not given in chronological order. Jephthah subdued the Ammonites and thus brought deliverance to Israel (Judges 11, 12). David.—The second king of Israel, Samuel.—The last of the judges, 33. Subdued kingdoms.—The conquest of Canaan and the victories won by David are alluded to. Wrought righteousness.—The decisions of the judges and the work of the prophets are properly included in working righteousness. Obtained promises.—While many promises were not fulfilled during the lifetime of the heroes of faith (v. 39), yet they realized the blessed fulfillment of some of them. Stopped the mouths of lions.—Samson, David, Daniel and Benaiah may be mentioned here (Judges 14, 5, 6; 1 Sam. 17, 34, 35; Dan. 6, 23; 2 Sam. 23, 20). 34. Quenched the violence of fire.—The Hebrew youths (Dan. 3). Escaped the edge of the sword.—David, Elijah and Elisha. Made strong.—Hezekiah (2 Kings 20, 5), and others. Turned to flight the armies of the aliens.—Joshua, the judges and David succeeded in defeating the enemies of Israel. 35. Women received their dead.—See 1 Kings 17, 22; 2 Kings 4, 32-35. Were tortured.—Literally, broken; the word "better resurrection"—They refused to save their lives by denying their faith. They looked forward to an eternal life with God. 36. Bonds and imprisonment.—Joseph, Jeremiah and Hanani may be named here.

37. They were stoned.—This was the Jewish mode of execution. Zechariah was stoned to death (2 Chron. 24: 20, 21). Sawn asunder.—Tradition says that Isaiah thus met his death. In sheepskins and goatskins.—There were heroes of faith who were clad in these coarse garments because of their poverty. 38. Of whom the world are not worthy.—The world considered that these heroes of faith were not worthy to live, but they were too good for their surroundings. "The Greeks would also admit the meaning that they outweighed in value the whole world."—Farrar. 39. These all.—Both those whose names are given and those designated by their deeds. Having obtained a good report through faith.—"Having had witness borne to them through their faith." R. V. Received not the promise.—The complete fulfillment of the promise was not realized while these heroes lived, and will not be realized until the resurrection; but they received specific blessings, as Abraham received the fulfillment of the promise regarding a son. 40. God having promised some better thing for us.—The apostle and those whom he addressed were living in the gospel age and were favored with higher privileges than those in any preceding age. They that without us should not be made perfect.—Believers before the flood, after the flood, under the law, and since the law, make but one church. The gospel dispensation is the last; and the church cannot be considered complete till the believers



Rheumatism and Lumbago

Mr. Wm. Parker, 105 Cayuga street, Brantford, Ont., tells in the following letter of his remarkable experience with Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills:—"My doctor treated me for some time for Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lumbago, but to no purpose, for I had to lay off work. The visiting officer of Sick Benefit called to see me and advised the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, stating that he had been cured of the same trouble by their use. I asked the druggist about them and he recommended them highly. Not being satisfied with this, I went back to my doctor, and when he said they were good I began their use. The promptness with which they enlivened the action of the kidneys and bowels was wonderful, and it was not long before I was rid of all my trouble. I had awful, sharp pains in the lower part of my back and left hip, and was so bad that I could only walk by hanging on to a chair or the wall. My wife had to lace my shoes. Only those who have had this ailment can realize the way I suffered. I am writing this letter to let people who have my trouble know of these pills. You are at liberty to use this letter, and if anyone interested will call or write to me I will give every detail."

When you have pains and aches put Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to the test. By enlivening the action of liver, kidneys and bowels they cleanse the system of all poisons, and thereby remove the cause of rheumatism, lumbago and other painful diseases.

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under all dispensations are gathered together. As the gospel is the last dispensation, the preceding believers cannot be consummated even in glory (11 the gospel church arrives in the heaven of heavens.—Clarke. III. Encouragements to faith (12:1, 2). 1. So great a cloud of witnesses.—The number of those who have witnessed to the reality and possibilities of faith, as well as to its rewards, is very great. The Hebrews were exhorted to let this great array of heroes of faith encourage them to steadfastness and success in the Christian life, just as in the race the runners were encouraged to do their best by the presence of a large number of spectators. Weight.—Whatever impedes progress, but more exactly, superfluous flesh. In the spiritual race it may include pride and every other hindrance. The sin which doth so easily beset us.—The well-circumstanced sin, the sin that clings closely about one, which would make spiritual progress impossible. Run with patience.—Endurance characterized the faith of all these heroes and patriarchs and he exhorts us to endure because Christ also endured the cross.—Cam. Bib. Race that is set before us.—The course that leads to heaven. 2. Author and finisher of our faith.—Jesus to whom we are indebted for all the good that can come to us. In Him our faith begins and He is the glorious object of it. Joy that was set before Him.—The joy of eternal triumph and of sitting at the right hand of God. Questions.—To whom is this epistle addressed? What is its purpose? How does the apostle describe faith? What notable examples of faith are given in this chapter? What did Gideon accomplish through faith? Who quenched the violence of fire? How is the enumeration of this array of heroes used for our encouragement? What are the conditions necessary to our running the Christian race successfully?

PRACTICAL SURVEY. I. Called forth tried witnesses. A. Portrayed the perfect Example. I. Called forth tried witnesses. In the closing of chapter ten the apostle spoke of faith as the principle of spiritual life and the spring of patient endurance. He had been a student of the recorded experience of his devout ancestors. He recalled the most glorious names of Jewish history to confirm his brethren in their fidelity to the Lord Jesus Christ. His design was to convince them that in trusting Christ and bearing and enduring all things for him, they were exercising the same principle which made the elders of the Jewish nation the men they were. Those ancient worthies labored under great disadvantage in the extent of their privileges compared with the Christian Hebrews of Paul's day, and yet their confidence in God's promise was vigorous and persistent, valiant and victorious. Each hero mentioned was commended for some distinguished excellence and every one for his faith. Abel "obtained witness"; Enoch received a "testimony"; Abraham "looked for a city." All were persuaded that there was reality in God's promises and that they would be fulfilled. The first ex-

ample of faith which the apostle cited was Abel, who lost his life for his faith. In him we see faith as the root of godliness. He was intimately acquainted with God, in constant fellowship with him, full of confidence in him, engaged in service for him and was commended by him. He translated his convictions into actions. His character was extraordinarily and his reward was correspondingly extraordinary. In Noah we see faith as the principle of separation from the life and destiny of the ungodly. His purity and piety were conspicuous and commendable by reason of the terrible corruption and violence which were universal in his age. His faith is set before us in a very remarkable course of action. He had simply God's word and his faith rested upon that. Abraham's faith rested on a divine call, on a divine purpose, on divine guidance. He believed that God had a right to his promises however unlikely or even impossible their fulfillment might appear to him. He attentively heard, heartily believed, promptly obeyed. His faith was shown in his emigration, in his lifelong pilgrimage, during protracted childlessness and in the sacrifice of his son. His faith was sorely tried and sublimely triumphant. Jacob believed in God. He was blessed in worldly circumstances, purified and ennobled in his character. Joseph had a grim assurance that a great future awaited his family. His faith rested upon God who had so wonderfully led and richly blessed him. That assurance formed a fitting conclusion to a life of distinguished piety. None of the heroes of faith in this illustrious group was more eminent than Moses. Being himself the only free Hebrew of his time he occupied the unique position of having it within his power to make a life choice. His choice was made intelligently, deliberately and with decision. It was determined by his faith in Christ, in the future of his people, and in the realities of the unseen and eternal world.

II. Portrayed the perfect Example. The Christian Hebrews needed "like precious faith" with the ancient worthies to enable them to discharge the duties and endure the sufferings to which they were called in connection with their Christian discipleship. The apostle probably had in mind the sin of apostasy, the danger to which the Hebrew Christians were exposed, of drifting back into Judaism. He gathered up the practical lessons to be derived from an historical demonstration of the power of faith, and summoned them to the exercise of like faith, making their paramount duty the putting aside of everything external and internal which would tend to failure in the concentration of purpose and singleness of aim. Paul referred to Jesus as their great example, viewed in his humiliation and exultation as the author and finisher of faith. He surpassed all others in faith and obedience. The Hebrew Christians were to be guided and made victorious through him. T. R. A. Needs hath no laws.—Skeller

an increased profit of 40 cents per head by the use of corn silage. Corn silage without dry roughage was not as satisfactory as when fed in combination with hay or straw. The lambs were harder to keep on food and made less rapid gain when no dry roughage was fed. The addition of oat straw greatly improved the ration and proved more economical than the addition of clover hay. Clover hay was slightly superior to alfalfa hay as roughage for fattening lambs. There was no difference in the quantity of feed eaten by lambs on the two rations, but the rate of gain was more rapid and the cost of grain was less when clover hay, instead of alfalfa, was fed. There was a greater profit when clover hay was fed. The use of cottonseed meal in a ration of corn, corn silage and clover hay was economical. The rate of gain was higher, the cost of grain was less and the profit per head was increased by the use of the cottonseed meal. The lambs fed a ration of corn, corn silage and clover hay returned a profit of \$1.04 per head; those fed corn, seven parts; cottonseed meal, one part; corn silage, and clover hay returned a profit of \$1.15 per head, and those fed a ration of corn, four parts; cottonseed meal, one part; corn silage and clover hay returned a profit of \$1.32 per head. The addition of oats to a ration of corn, corn silage and clover hay decreased the rate of gain, increased the cost of gain and decreased the profit per head. Lambs fed corn alone as grain returned a profit of \$1.04 per head as compared with 87 cents per head when oats were added to the ration.

Lambs fed in a well ventilated barn ate the same quantity of feed and gained practically the same number of pounds in weight as others fed the same ration in an open shed. The lambs fed in the barn did not develop into firm-fleshed animals as those fed in the open shed and were not as valuable for selling purposes. There was a difference of 10 cents per hundred pounds in selling value and a difference of ten cents per head in profit in favor of feeding in an open field.

RESULTS AT NEBRASKA. The ration composed of shell corn and alfalfa hay gave somewhat the best results, although shelled corn, alfalfa hay and corn silage proved to be and alfalfa and feeding the two as a mixture was not profitable. The gains were scarcely as great as where the whole grain and whole hay were fed, and the cost of grinding made the feed considerably more expensive. The feeding of a poor grade of alfalfa hay, namely, typical first cutting, off-comparison hay, with shelled corn, in comparison with the feeding of a good, clean grade of leafy alfalfa with shelled corn, indicated that the former was not nearly as valuable as the latter in producing mutton. In fact, the good hay proved to be twice the value of the poor hay.

The daily amount of feed consumed and the net profit in each lot was as follows: Lot No. 1—1.49 pounds of ground corn, 0.596 pound of ground alfalfa and 0.725 pound of silage. Net profit 88 cents. Lot No. 2—1.57 pounds of ground corn and 0.845 pound ground alfalfa. Net profit, 80 cents. Lot No. 3—1.444 pounds shelled corn and 0.94 pound good alfalfa hay. Net profit, \$1.10. Lot No. 4—1.45 pounds shelled corn, 0.812 pound alfalfa and 6.483 pound silage. Net profit, \$1.10. Lot No. 5—1.472 pounds shelled corn and 0.90 pound poor alfalfa. Net profit, 93 cents.

FARM NEWS AND VIEWS. That more farmers are keeping their hogs on clover pasture in summer, and in light, clean well-ventilated pens in winter, is given as a reason for the greater prevalence of hog health during the past year. And it is undoubtedly correct. The practice of selling calves, yearlings and other cattle by weight has become common in the Eastern States, where a few years ago it was the custom of the cattle buyer to visit the farms, inspect the herds and select the stock he wanted at so much per head, basing the price on his own estimates of weight. Under this system the drover took no chances, and the farmer usually lost out in the deal. The only business-like method of selling cattle, sheep or hogs is by actual weight, and the farmer should be on hand to see the weighing done.

"The secret of the farmers' success is, 'We have learned to feed ourselves.' The man who expects to harvest a full crop will not wait until planting time to plow. It looks as though the year 1916 will prove another year of exceptionally high prices for cattle. London Cable.—The Daily News learns that the inner circle of the Cabinet will recommend the incorporation in the budget of announcement that German imports will be prohibited after the war, and also that measures will be taken, probably in the nature of preferential duties, for the purpose of encouraging exports from the British colonies to the countries to be reached. No decision is likely to be reached in the matter, adds the newspaper, until it has been considered by the entire Cabinet, as well as by the economic conference of the Allies, the forthcoming meeting of which Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in his speech at the Guildhall yesterday.

The true greatness of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of the individual.—Charles Sumner.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

Table with columns for Farmers' Market and Wholesale. Items include Apples, Potatoes, Butter, Eggs, etc.

LIVE STOCK.

Table with columns for Export cattle, choice, etc. Items include Export cattle, choice, 700, 800, etc.

OTHER MARKETS.

Table with columns for Winnipeg Grain Options. Items include Wheat, Open, High, Low, Close.

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET. Minneapolis—Wheat—May \$1.10; July \$1.05; No. 1 hard \$1.14; No. 1 Northern, \$1.14 to \$1.14 1/4; No. 2, \$1.07 to \$1.11 1/4. Corn—No. 3 \$1.10; No. 2 to 75c. Oats—No. 3 \$1.10 to \$1.10 1/4. Flour—Unchanged; shipmills, 68.75 barrels. Bran—\$18 to \$19.

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET. Duluth.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, \$1.13; No. 1 Northern, \$1.10 to \$1.12. Lined—Cash and May, \$2.28 3/4; July, \$2.28 1/2.

LONDON WOOL AUCTION. London.—A miscellaneous selection of 7,700 bales was offered at the wool auction sales to-day. The demand was slow and prices tended in buyers' favor except for good secured merinos. A sale of sheepskins was also held here. There was a fair demand for the 1,100 bales offered. Prices ranged from unchanged to five per cent. lower.

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK. East Buffalo, Despatch—Cattle receipts 100 head; active and strong. Hogs, receipts 75 head; active and steady, \$4.00 to \$4.25. Hogs, receipts 2,500 head; active; heavy and mixed \$5.75 to \$6.00; yorkers \$5.00 to \$5.50; pigs \$3.75 to \$4.00; stags \$5.50 to \$6.50. Sheep and lambs, receipts 2,400 head; steady; sheep active, lambs slow, prices unchanged.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK. Cattle, receipts 4,000. Market strong. Steers, native, 7.25 to 7.50. Stockers and feeders, 5.75 to 6.00. Cows and heifers, 3.25 to 3.50. Calves, 8.50 to 8.75. Hogs, receipts 20,000. Market strong. Light, 9.00 to 9.25. Mixed, 8.75 to 9.00. Heavy, 8.50 to 8.75. Tough, 8.00 to 8.25. Pigs, 3.75 to 4.00. Bulk of sales, 8.25 to 8.50. Sheep, receipts 8,000. Market strong. Wethers, 7.00 to 7.50. Lambs, native, 9.25 to 11.25.

MONTREAL LIVE STOCK. Butcher steers head \$7 to \$8.50; good \$6.50 to \$7; fair to \$5.50; \$5.75 to \$6.00; butcher bulls, best \$5.75 to \$6.25; medium \$5.25 to \$5.75; canners \$4 to \$5. Butcher cows, best \$5.25 good \$4; fair \$3.75; rough \$4.25 to \$5.50; canners \$3 to \$3.50; receipts 100. Sheep 5 to 7; lambs 8 to 9 1/2. Receipts ten. Hogs, selects 10 to 16.75; roughs and mixed \$9.25 to \$9.50; common \$9; \$8.75 to \$7.75. Receipts 300. Calves, milk fed, 8 to 9 1/2; grass fed 4 1/2 to 5 1/2. Receipts 200.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE. Wheat, spot firm. No. 1 Manitoba, 46s. 6d. No. 2 Manitoba, 46s. 6d. No. 3 red western winter—13s. 1d. Corn, spot quiet. American mixed, new—11s. 1d. Flour, winter patents—81s. 6d. Hops in London (trading Coast)—4s. 1s. to 4s. 2s. Beans, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs.—29s. Bacon, Cumberland cut, 25 to 29 lbs.—7s. Short ribs, 16 to 24 lbs.—71s. Clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs.—88s. Long clear middles, light, 25 to 24 lbs.—75s. Long clear middles, heavy, 35 to 40 lbs.—76s. Short clear backs, 16 to 20 lbs.—72s. Shoulder, square, 11 to 13 lbs.—90s. Lard, prime western, in tierces, new—68s. 6d. American, refined—62s. Cheese, Canadian, finest white, new—97s. Colored—99s. Australian in London—50s. Turpentine, spirits—45s. Resin, common—25s. Petroleum, refined—10 1/4d. Lined oil—75s. Cotton Seed Oil, bull refined, spot—46s. 6d.

JUST PLAIN LIE.

Sir E. Grey On German Charge of Armed Liners.

London, Cable.—Sir Edward Grey, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, authorized for publication the following statement:—"The assumption apparently made by the German Government that all British merchant ships are armed is entirely incorrect. Practically all British merchant ships employed in trade between the United States of America and the United Kingdom have hitherto been unarmed. The claim, therefore, made by the German Government to sink all British merchant ships at sight because of their armament is one which cannot possibly be justified. This is clearly proved by the statement issued last night giving a list of British and neutral unarmed merchant ships which have been torpedoed by German submarines without warning."