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# "SALADA"

27 Years in Public Service.



Lesson V. Feb. 1st.  
Peter and John in Samaria.  
Print. 8: 4-8, 14-25.

COMMENTARY—I. A revival in Samaria (vs. 4-13). 4. Therefore—As a result of the persecution that arose in Jerusalem, scattered abroad—See v. 1. Went every where preaching the word—They were true to the spirit of the Gospel. They did not go complaining or bemoaning their condition as exiles, but they availed themselves of the opportunity to declare the truths of the Gospel. Thus the Lord overruled the wicked schemes of men to the advancement of His kingdom. 5.—Philip—One of the seven deacons, or helpers, appointed to assist in the temporal affairs of the early church (Acts 6: 1-6). Went down to the City of Samaria—"Down" not from higher grounds, but from the more eminent capital.—Wheldon. Some texts read, "A city of Samaria." It was doubtless the chief city of the region of Samaria, and probably the one rebuilt by Herod the Great on the hill occupied by the ancient city of Samaria. Preached Christ unto them—Philip's message was a direct one. He began at once to proclaim Christ as the Messiah and preached his death and resurrection and set Him forth as the world's only Saviour. The people of Samaria had a mixed religion, partly Israelitish and partly pagan. The Gospel was adapted to their needs. 6. The people—"The multitude"—R. V. With one accord—The people were of one mind in giving attention to the message brought them by Philip. 7. Unclean spirits—Unclean spirits possessed the demons, using their minds and bodies as they would. Those who had unclean spirits are mentioned in a class by themselves, distinguished from that were diseased. Crying with loud voice, came out—The unclean spirits were unwilling to give up possession of their victims and expressed their unwillingness in cries, but they were in contact with a superior power and "came out." Palees—Some of those who were healed had been suffering from paralysis. Were healed—by divine power through the followers of Jesus as instruments. 8. Great joy in that city—The joy was twofold. There was the joy that came as a result of believing in Jesus, and there was joy because of relief from physical and spiritual maladies. 9-12. The people of the city had been under the influence of Simon the sorcerer, who had amazed them by the unusual and remarkable things he did. It is likely that he was a juggler and the people thought that what he did was by supernatural power.

II. The mission of Peter and John there (vs. 14-25). 14. Sent... Peter and John—The report came to the apostles at Jerusalem that Samaria had received the gospel from Philip. The twelve apostles were at Jerusalem and they chose Peter and John to go to Samaria to see the character of the work and to be instrumental in the Samaritans receiving the Holy Spirit. 15. Prayed for them—The apostles clearly recognized and acknowledged the fact that they could not bestow the gift of the Holy Spirit and that God alone could do it. 16. As yet he was fallen upon none of them—It is evident that the people of Samaria who "had received the work of God" were inwardly changed into new creatures in Christ, they had not received the word of God" were inwardly changed into new creatures in Christ, they had not received the fullness of the Spirit nor the peculiar and special gifts that the baptism brings with it. Baptized in the name—"Baptized into the name"—R. V. 17. Laid their hands on them—By this act there was an apparent connection between the Giver and the recipient of the Spirit. 18. When Simon saw—Something actually took place when these believers received the Holy Spirit. There were manifestations of the Spirit's presence and power that appealed to Simon. Offered them money—Simon was worldly in his nature. He thought that money would do anything, and the offer of money to Peter and John would induce them to impart to him the miraculous gift. 19. That he may receive the Holy Ghost—Simon did not think in spiritual terms. The sorcerer desired to have a supernatural addition to the powers he possessed that he might make a great display by his accomplishments. 20. Thy money perish with thee—Peter discerned the low-mindedness of Simon and administered a severe rebuke. Both money and earthly ambition are perishable, and unless Simon should repent, he would perish eternally. Money can not purchase the gift of the Holy Spirit. 21. Thy heart is not right—He had the advantage of hearing the gospel, yet his heart was unchanged. His course is trying to procure spiritual power to be used for personal, worldly advantage was strongly condemned. His course has given rise to the word simony, which means the disposition and effort to buy ecclesiastical preferment. 22. Repent—and pray—Though Simon's sin was great, Peter showed him that he could find forgiveness through repentance and prayer. 23. In the gall of bitterness—Simon's heart was corrupt. As gall represents the essence of bitterness, so the sin of his heart was superlative. His moral nature was poisoned by sin and was bound hand and foot by his master, Satan. 24. Pray ye to the Lord for me—Simon's eyes were opened, at least in part, to the enormity of his sin, and to the penalty under which he was living. He was

not offering money now for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be used to make a display, but he was begging for prayer that mercy might be shown him. 25. Returned to Jerusalem—Peter and John had completed their mission in the city of Samaria and on their way back to Jerusalem preached in many Samaritan villages.

III. Philip and the Ethiopian (vs. 26-39). Philip's work was finished in Samaria and he was divinely directed to go southward to the road leading from Jerusalem to Gaza. The people of Samaria had received the gospel through him and he was to instruct an inquirer in the way of life and that convert would carry the glorious gospel into far Ethiopia. Philip's prompt obedience brought him at the actual moment to the Gaza road to meet the Ethiopian official, who was seeking after God. Philip's ministry opened

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his eyes and his heart was touched as he listened to the story of Jesus. At the Ethiopian's request Philip baptized him and he went on his way rejoicing, while Philip was caught by the spirit and went preaching on his way to Caesarea.

Questions—What led many Christians to leave Jerusalem? Who remained in the city? Who was Philip? Where did he go to preach the gospel? What were the effects of his preaching? Why was there joy in Samaria? What did Peter and John do in Samaria? Who was Simon? What request did he make of Peter and John? What reply did Peter make? What request did Simon make later? Whither did the Lord send Philip from Samaria?

#### PRACTICAL SURVEY.

- Topic—Commercializing religion.
- I. Evil overruled for good.
- II. The gospel extended.
- III. Religious commercialism.

I. Evil overruled for good. Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Ethiopia mark the successive steps of world evangelism commanded and foretold by Jesus (Mark 16: 15; Acts 1: 8). The martyrdom of Stephen was the signal for an outbreak of bitter persecution against the rapidly enlarging Christian church. The spirit of antagonism which slumbered in the high priest and his confederates was kindled into a fierce conflagration. Christianity awakens the noblest impulses or excites the worst passions of men. It either kills or saves. The instrument of this anti-Christian crusade was Saul, whose fiery opposition was later transformed into equally intense and insatiable gospel zeal. The flames of persecution burned with consuming fury, sparing none who bore the hated name of Christ (Acts 26: 10, 11). However, the word of Christ was not rebound. The effort at extinction resulted in extension. The fire, though scattered, was not extinguished. "They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." New conflagrations and congregations

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sprang up everywhere. The highest good is often evolved from the greatest evil. God makes the wrath of man to praise him. Men become the unconscious and unwitting agents of his gracious purposes. The clanix of sin at Calvary consummated a redemption which embraced even the stained agents of its unspeakable tragedy. The end of Stephen's career was the commencement of Saul's, and he who made havoc of the church was the man who said, "Feed the church of God." The church, like Sinai's flaming bush, burns unconsumed.

II. The gospel extended. The Philip whose successful evangelism with the multitude and the individual the lesson records was not the apostle, but the deacon of that name (Acts 6: 5) and a colleague of the first martyr. Christ's departing servants always find successors. Philip found Samaria diseased, possessed, deluded. He "preached Christ unto them." The effectiveness of the message was attested by miracles of spiritual and physical healing. Here as ever it was the "power of God unto salvation." Always the tares sprang up with the wheat. Observing the people falling from him, Simon followed in their wake and became a stony-ground hearer. In every revival there are those who are only superficially or selfishly moved. It is one thing to accept the rites of Christianity and another to become morally regenerated.

III. Religious commercialism. Simon and the circumstances of the lesson have imparted an unenviable fame to the actor and give a permanent title to religious commercialism. Simony stands for all attempts to purchase spiritual functions or gifts. Numbers can be turned into a market able commodity. The scriptural fraternity of Simon are Elymas (Acts 13: 6), and the vagabond Jews of Ephesus (Acts 19: 13). The great declines which have darkened Christian history have



## IF YOUR BABY'S

Present diet is not allowing him to make the progress he should, it is time to give him MOTHER'S OWN INFANT TABLETS to correct that intestinal indigestion.  
"These Tablets are Nature's Remedy for Children."  
Sold by all Druggists or sent direct on receipt of price, 25c per box—Address Mothers Own Medicine Co., Toronto, Ont.

originated in religious commercialism of some form. The range of money value is very narrow. The highest gifts are not purchasable. The true things of life, love, truth, honor, are not subject to the accidents of life nor are they in the market.  
W. H. C.

### AN ALASKAN LAKE.

#### A Glimpse of a Northern Land Among the Mountains.

Rising almost sheer from the sea, at the point where the southward-trending strip of Alaska bordering British Columbia on the Pacific, turning a corner, suddenly widens into the tremendous territory whose shores are washed by the Northern Pacific, Behring Sea, and the Arctic Ocean, is a group of great mountains. They include among others not even mapped or named, Mt. Logan, 19,500 feet; Mt. St. Elias, 18,000 feet; Mt. Cook, nearly the same height, and Mt. Fairweather, 15,250 feet, all expectedly more or less volcanic.

They are known as the Mt. St. Elias range, some 70 miles in total length, of which Mt. Logan, some distance inland from the sea, is the northern outpost. Forty miles north and east of the towering height of the lonely waters, lying amid the heights of encircling mountains as a mere dewdrop in a titanic crinkle of the continental surface, is the fifty-mile length of Lake Klushne, once reputed source of the Yukon, flowing from it 1,200 miles or more north, north-west and southwest to Behring Sea. Barely 350 miles south of the Arctic circle, southern boundary of perpetual snow and ice, it is compassed about with mountain ranges and peaks rising abruptly from its waters. Amid the close-holding heights lie snowfields and glaciers uncounted, from whose caverned fronts issue the silvery threads, seen from afar so delicately, liquidly cobwebby, through the blue dusk of alpine ravines, whose numberless flowings and torrential unions with the lifting of the sudden northern summer feed the lake and its tributaries to the Yukon, main and tributary streams alike, the ultima thule of gold hunters since the roaring Klondike days of '96. The shores of the lake are bare of vegetation, save for the dwarf birch and the hardy northern willow, tundra grasses and juncos brush.

This is not to say that there are not flowers throughout the Yukon and in the north generally, for there are many. In addition to fruit-bearing flowers of many native berries, the ground is gay, wherever soil and exposure serve, with species of flowers, though to the present very scantily described, often not mentioned at all. Many of them are peculiar only to these regions. This floral wealth persists and has been noted to points far up within the Arctic circle. Its beaches are rocket-strewn and shingly, bare of drift, so that even perpetual silence of the unpeopled north, sternly isolate, untouched by human presence, save for at long intervals a casual Indian or passing prospector, Lake Klushne has in its beauty of that hardy, expressed, indefinable, but none less deeply felt nature which, conscious of it or not,

is a main factor in holding the prospector or other man of the open places in his wandering ways, in the mountain wildernesses of the extreme Northwest alike.  
When at evening the clouds hang low, hiding the peaks, and upward fling their fringed banners than on round and changing swell throw back the copery light of sundown; when the mountain sides below are all but lost in a flood of light pouring through some great cleft, the distant shore the darker beneath it, while the ruffled water respondent becomes a sheet of liquid fire, at such a moment of concentrated stern splendor is perceived in some measure the attraction of the unpeopled places of the earth for those who nomadically dwell far from the gathered cities.

#### Death of a Pearl.

Pearls are almost the only precious gems which are subject to decay, and this happens very rarely. When disease attacks a pearl it turns color and after a time it crumbles away. The most valuable pearl ever known is supposed to have become diseased. It belonged to a Russian millionaire who kept it carefully locked in a casket and refused to show it to even his most intimate friends. One day some jewelers expert revealed upon him to let them see the precious gem. When he opened the casket he was dismayed to find that the pearl had been attacked by disease and was already changing color. Soon afterward a heap of white powder was all that was left of the jewel.

#### Thinks Swearing All Right

Providing the provocation equals the offence of Jones stepping on Smith's corns. Far better to use Putnam's Corn Extractor—it does cure corns and warts in one day without pain. Try "Putnam's," free from acids, and painless, prices 25c at all dealers.

#### I AM THE ENEMY OF MANKIND.

I have destroyed more lives than all the wars of the world.  
I ate more than a billion dollars each year.  
I tear homes asunder; I snatch babes from mothers' breasts.  
I am more powerful than the combined armies and navies of the world.  
I have burdened mankind since the dawn of history.  
I spread misery and desolation. Innocent children are my special prey.  
I bring pain, sickness, yet few seek to escape me.  
I destroy and maim; I give nothing, but take all.  
I destroy health and wreck homes.  
I am relentless, the rich and the poor alike I seek. Both weak and strong, old and young are my victims.  
I cause commerce to stand still; I depopulate cities and destroy nations.  
I AM PREVENTABLE DISEASE.  
(U. S. Public Health Service.)

#### TONY.

"Would you like me to insert a half-tone picture of yourself?" asked the interviewer.  
"Certainly not," replied Mrs. Newrich.  
"I don't wish it to look as if the question of expense was considered in the slightest. Let it be a whole tone or nothing."—Boston Transcript.

## Notable Further Progress of the Union Bank of Canada

Assets Built Up to \$175,000,000 and \$2,000,000 Added to Reserve Fund—Bank's Position Strongest in Its History—1425 Now Shareholders.

With assets built up to a total of \$175,000,000 and \$2,000,000 added to the Reserve bringing that fund to a total of \$2,500,000, the 53rd annual report of the Union Bank of Canada discloses that the Bank is in the strongest position in its history. Significant extensions throughout Canada and abroad, aimed to assist in the fullest possible development of growing Canadian communities through the enlargement of their banking accommodations are announced.  
The Union Bank of Canada's impressive figures are all the more gratifying having full regard for the vicissitudes of the reconstruction period through which the country has been passing.  
The total deposits have reached \$135,500,000. Of this amount interest-bearing deposits which actually represent the savings of the nation, show a satisfactory increase of \$15,900,000 in the year. This substantial gain was recorded in spite of heavy withdrawals for public participation in the Victory Loan of 1919. Subscriptions passing through the Union Bank of Canada amounted to \$2,700,000 a great proportion of which was directly withdrawn from deposits.  
Current loans in Canada total \$45,500,000 compared with \$1,000,000 a gain of \$12,000,000 or 15 per cent. This substantial sum will indicate that the Union Bank of Canada is doing its part toward meeting increased demand for loans from the Canadian public.  
During 1919 the branch bank system was expanded to a total of 39 branches, 25 being opened in the year.  
Every endeavor has been put forward to make comfortable re-establishment of the returned soldiers. 288 members of the staff enlisted for overseas service, 123 said the supreme sacrifice; 130 have not reported for duty but 603 have been absorbed into the Bank again. Each of these returned officers has been re-instated at an increased salary.  
The President, Mr. John Galt, and General Manager, Mr. H. B. Shaw, made a strong plea for national and individual thrift based upon the country's necessity of liquidating huge war debts. "Trade conditions in Canada are good,"



MR. H. B. SHAW

General Manager, who returned the strongest report in the Union Bank of Canada's History.

said Mr. Galt. "We are getting high prices for our products. It is a time however when we should put forth every effort to increase production and build up reserves against lean years that are sure to come. The war is not paid for. Part of the price will be hard times, though they may not yet be in sight. If we are wise we will prepare for them."

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As to your trouble? Have you some skin eruption that is stubborn, has resisted treatment? Is there a nervous condition which does not improve in spite of rest, diet and medicine. Are you going down hill steadily? ARE YOU NERVOUS and despondent, weak and debilitated; tired mornings; no ambition—lifeless; memory gone; easily fatigued; excitable and irritable; lack of energy and confidence? Is there failing power, a drain on the system? Consult the old reliable specialists.

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Weak and relaxed state of the body, nervousness, despondency, poor memory, lack of will power, timid, irritable disposition, diminished power of application, energy and concentration, fear of impending danger or misfortune, drowsiness and tendency to sleep, unsteady, sleep, dark rings under eyes, weakness or pain in back, lumberg, dyspepsia, constipation, headache, loss of weight, insomnia. Dr. Ward gives you the benefit of 25 years' continuous practice in the treatment of all chronic, nervous, blood and skin diseases. The above symptoms and many others not mentioned, show plainly that something is wrong with your physical condition and that you need expert attention.

Men, why suffer longer? Let me make you a vigorous man. Let me restore your physical condition to full manhood. Don't be a weakling any longer. Make up your mind to come to me, and I will give the best treatment known to science—the one successful treatment based on the experience of 25 years in treating men and their ailments.

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Do you realize that you have only one life to live—do you realize that you are missing most of that life by ill health? A life worth living is a healthy life. Neglect of one's health has put many a man in his grave.

I have been telling men these things for many years but still there are thousands of victims who, for various reasons, have not had the good sense to come and get well.

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