

## \* The Sunday School \*

### BIBLE LESSON

Abridged from Peloubet's Notes.

Fourth Quarter.

THE LOST SHEEP, AND LOST COIN.

Lesson III. October 21. Luke 15: 1-10.

Read Luke 14: 25-35.

Commit Verses 4-7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.—Luke 15: 10.

EXPLANATORY.

I. THE CRITICS.—Vs. 1, 2. 1. THEN DREW NEAR UNTO HIM. "Were drawing near"; the imperfect tense denoting continued and habitual action. It was evidently a movement widespread and deep."

What Attracted Sinners to Jesus? 1. Jesus did not attract by palliating their sin or overlooking it. He never pandered in any degree to wrong any person or class. Nor did he gain any favor with the publicans by avoiding the Pharisees. He ate with a chief Pharisee as freely as with a publican. Both classes were sinners, and he came to save both.

2. AND THE PHARISEES AND SCRIBES. These were equally sinners with the publicans, only in another way. SAYING, THIS MAN RECEIVETH SINNERS, AND EATETH WITH THEM. The substance of their charge was not that he "taught" sinners, but that he "ate" with them, that is, mingled with them on terms of social equality. The Pharisees could not understand how Jesus could be at home in such company.

II. A GROUP OF PARABLES.—Jesus answered the criticism by three parables, expressing three aspects of the great and glorious truth which illuminates the world, while incidentally it was the answer to their complaints, showing why and when it was one's duty to receive sinners.

III. THE SAFE FLOCK, AND THE SAFE COIN.—Vs. 3, 4, 8, 4. WHAT MAN OF YOU. "There is not a single one of you who accuse me here, who does not act exactly like me in similar circumstances." Your own conduct in other things answers your complaints. HAVING AN HUNDRED SHEEP. Enough, but not so many but that each one could be under the personal watch and care of the shepherd.

8. RATHER THAT WOMAN HAVING TEN PIERCES OF SILVER. Each "piece" was a drachma (Greek) or denarius (Latin), translated "penny" in the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10: 35), and in the parable of the laborers (Matt. 20: 2). It was worth about 17 cents, but relatively far more valuable then, as a drachma was the price of a day's labor.

IV. THE LOST SHEEP, AND THE LOST

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ALL DAY SUNDAY

She Thought about a Food that Would Agree with Her.

An unnatural appetite for rich and improper food is really kept alive by the use of such foods, whereas a change to healthful, nourishing, and scientifically made food, will correct the unnatural appetite. A little woman up at Peekskill, N. Y., Margaret Smith, P. O. Box 193, says:—"I was such a sufferer from dyspepsia that life was a burden. I could hardly keep from eating all sorts of pastry, cakes, and other rich foods, although they did not agree with me, nor in fact did any sort of food. I become low spirited and discouraged, was too weak to work and very seriously troubled with palpitation of the heart."

"Drugs seemed to make me worse rather than better. A friend said one day: 'I believe Grape-Nuts would cure you,' explaining that the food was made with great care and intended for the prevention and relief of diseases that were brought about by improper food."

"That was Saturday night, and all day Sunday I kept thinking about Grape-Nuts, and the first thing Monday morning I sent for a package. I had it in my mind that the food would look like nuts, and was disappointed when I found it had to be eaten with a spoon. However, I followed the directions and made a meal of Grape-Nuts and milk, which I found to be delicious, and for the first time in months, I suffered no distress after eating."

"I at once began to feel hopeful that I might be cured at last. Since that day I have used Grape-Nuts constantly, morning and night and have steadily improved in health, until now I am as well as I ever was in my life; weigh 10 pounds more than I did a year ago, have no palpitation of the heart and can work all day long."

"At supper I have Grape-Nuts mixed with soft-boiled eggs. I make my dinner on any kind of food I desire. One of the best things about this cure by proper food is that I no longer have any desire for the rich, indigestible rubbish of which I used to be so fond."

COIN.—Vs. 4, 8, 4. IF HE LOOSE ONE OF THEM. This is the type (1) of the human race, who fell from paradise, and have been wandering since in the wilds of sin, lost and helpless without a Saviour; (2) of the sinner going away from a loving Shepherd and the green pastures and still waters he provides, wandering at his own will after forbidden delights, till he is lost in the wilderness of sin and surrounded by a thousand dangers, suffering from hunger and thirst, unable to find the way back, yet sure to perish unless he does.

8. IF SHE LOSE ONE PIECE. "The coin being lost suggests that in sinful man the image of his Maker has gone out of sight, and the great purpose of his being has been frustrated. The coin so long as lost is of no use to the maker; similarly the sinner does no good in the world. Yet he is not absolutely worthless. The coin, though lost, has still a value. If it can be recovered it will be worth as much as ever. It may be blackened with rust, or soiled with mud, or covered over with dust, but it is still silver, with traces of the superscription and image that gave it currency."

Note that the lost sheep is still a sheep; the lost coin is still precious, with something of the image of God upon it. The obligation to be a true sheep and a useful coin is still upon them. And Jesus still provides for them, loves them, and desires their return.

V. SEEKING THE LOST.—V. 4, 8, 4. LEAVE THE NINETY AND NINE IN THE WILDERNESS. Not a desert, but wide, grassy pastures, though not inhabited. These were not neglected, but were in the pasture, guarded and guided by the under shepherds, and safely folded; but the shepherd himself went after the lost. This could not be entrusted to any other. AND GO AFTER THAT WHICH IS LOST, UNTIL HE FIND IT. In Palestine "at any moment sheep are liable to be swept away by some mountain torrent, or carried off by hill robbers, or torn by wolves. At any moment their protector may have to save them by a personal hazard."

8. DOTH NOT LIGHT A CANDLE (lamp). "Most of the native houses are without glass windows, and are very dark when shut up. AND SWEEP THE HOUSE. If the piece of money has dropped on a rush-covered floor, and lie concealed beneath the straw and debris of weeks, these must be removed before the rays of a candle can reveal the coin. Business, cares, pleasures overlay the soul. AND SEEK DILIGENTLY. "What we call feminine virtues and graces are needed for the deliverance of souls that have fallen,—patience, and diligence, and minute observation,—not less than what we think of as the more manly qualities of courage, and enterprise, and endurance."

VI. FINDING AND RESTORING.—Vs. 4, 5, 9, 4. UNTIL HE FIND IT. "A hint of what is the patience and perseverance of Christ, and what should be the patience and perseverance of the Christian."

5. HE LAYETH IT ON HIS SHOULDERS. "A familiar practise with shepherds when the creature is sick, fatigued, or in any way unable to travel on his own feet." REJOICING. "Alike in the retrieval of his own loss, and in the rescue of his sheep from danger and distress."

6. WHEN HE COMETH HOME. Home among God's loving children, home in the conscious love of his Father; home under the care and protection of God; home in a state of safety; home in the church.

VII. REJOICING OVER THE FOUND.—Vs. 5, 7, 9, 10. CALLETH TOGETHER HIS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. The disciples, all the good who are interested in the salvation of men, and are working for it, the angels and the saints in heaven.

7. I SAY UNTO YOU. Who are complaining because I seek to save the publicans and sinners. Whatever you may think, the angels rejoice. Perhaps this should make you inquire whether you are so good and heavenly as you imagine. JOY SHALL BE IN HEAVEN OVER ONE SINNER THAT REPENTETH. Repenting is the sign of restoration. He that has repented has come back home to God. MORE THAN OVER NINETY AND NINE. See under v. 4. God has joy and delight in the ninety and nine, as is expressed abundantly in the Scriptures. But the redemption of a soul from eternal sin and danger awakens new emotions of joy such as had not been known before. Angels and saints in heaven forget themselves in the joy of seeing souls saved.

Milk as a Medicine.

The last quart of the milking, or the "strippings" taken immediately after milking, before it has parted with any of the animal heat, is the most valuable thing known to build up a person who is thin and emaciated from any disease. My theory for years has been that the "strippings" was nearly all cream, which I have demonstrated to be a fact. I also believe that when taken immediately after milking, while it contained all the animal heat, and before any change had taken place,

that it would be absorbed at once into the circulation without going through the ordinary process of digestion. This I have also found to be true. I direct my patients to begin with half a pint and gradually increase the quantity, until, at the end of a week, they are taking a quart at a time, or as much as they can possibly drink without causing too much discomfort. This should be followed up regularly twice a day. I have known of many persons who could not drink the cold milk, or even milk which had stood for an hour or two, and yet these persons could drink a quart immediately after milking without the slightest derangement of the digestive organs.—B. J. Rendall, M. D., in New York Observer.

What Happened to Lloyd's Toad.

Lloyd was fond of all the creatures that lived in the garden, from the robins, high up in the apple-tree, to the little ants which built their home in the gravel walks. He was always careful not to harm any of them, but some of them he thought more interesting than others. There was a toad which he called his own, and he fed it with crumbs every day. He liked to watch it as it hopped about among the plants, darting out its bright red tongue to catch any small insects that came in its way.

One day Lloyd ran to his mother in the greatest excitement.

"My toad is trying to get his skin off!" he cried.

And it was true. When Lloyd and his mother reached the toad, they saw him pulling his skin up over his head, in much the way that a little girl would take off her high-necked, long-sleeved apron, only it was harder work for him to do it. But he tugged bravely away with his forefeet until he was free, and then what a bright new coat he displayed!

Lloyd was delighted, and he asked many questions about toads and the way in which they change their coats, and after that he was more fond of his toad than ever.—Our Little Ones.

Attention has already been called to the extraordinary recoveries from bullet wounds sustained during the course of the

South African campaign which, when at first falling under observation, were regarded as fatal. The curious case has just been recorded of Trooper L. A. Palmer, of the Australian Horse, who nearly six months ago was wounded by a Mauser bullet in the head, and after a stay in various South African hospitals was invalided home to Europe. A few days ago in London, at the University College Hospital, Mr. Horsley, the well-known surgeon, took a Roentgen ray photograph of the bullet apparently embedded in the brain of the subject, and succeeded in extracting it. Trooper Palmer was fit enough to accompany the colonials in their trip to Windsor, and so far as can be expected he has recovered from his injury.

A Hackensack, N. J., jury has decided that the automobile is not a nuisance. The decision was given in a damage suit where an automobile owner was sued because a horse was frightened when at a distance of 275 feet from the automobile and ran away, throwing a lady out of a carriage.

Victoria County News: Henry McGillan leaves on Monday to work for John Hopkins at Morrison's Camp at Seven Islands, on the St. John river. Mr. McGillan, who is an expert saw-filer, says that quite a number of our lumbermen are beginning to use saws for cutting trees. When the saws are properly sharpened, the work can be done much quicker, and a great saving of lumber—and the best of it—can be made, as they cut so much nearer to the ground than in chopping.

An untold amount of real humiliation and suffering is inflicted upon men and women striving to serve God in the church by a lack of appreciation of their point of view. Put yourself in their places. Would not you resent being an object of disapproval, or when the case is bettered an object of charity? Would you enjoy feeling that your hat, your coat, your dress and your children's clothes were matters of comment, and that the parish felt that the money paid your husband must be spent to please it and not yourself?—"A Minister's Wife," in the October Ladies' Home Journal.

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