

The Sunday School

BIBLE LESSON.

Abridged from Peloubet's Notes.

Third Quarter, 1901.

JULY TO SEPTEMBER.

ISAAC, THE PEACEMAKER.

Lesson IX. Sep. 1. Genesis 26: 12-25.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.—Matt. 5: 9.

EXPLANATORY.

I. HIS EARLY LIFE.—Isaac was born at Beersheba, B. C. 1896. His father, Abraham, was 100 years old, and his mother, Sarah, 90 years. His half-brother, Ishmael, the son of Hagar, was 13 or 14 years old at this time. Isaac was the son of promise, his birth having been foretold. He was the heir of the promises made to Abraham in the line of the blessings which were to bless all nations.

In our last lesson we considered Abraham's great act of faith in offering up his son. But it was impossible unless there had been a devoted self-surrender on the part of Isaac. "No one," says Professor Dods in The Expositor's Bible, "who has measured the strain that such sacrifice puts upon human nature, can withhold his tribute of cordial admiration for so rare a devotedness, and no one can fail to see that by this sacrifice Isaac became truly the heir of Abraham."

II. HIS MARRIAGE. Isaac was married when he was 40 years old. The arrangements were made by his father. The wedding was a beautiful idyl of olden time. Abraham's chief and confidential steward was sent north to the relatives he had left when he departed from Haran. The test that this Eliezer applied to know whether the maiden he saw was the one approved by God was not arbitrary, but an expression of her true character.

III. ISAAC, THE PEACEMAKER. Va. 12-25. Sarah, his mother, died three or four years before his marriage, at the age of 127, and was buried in the cave of Machpelah, near the Oaks of Mamre at Hebron, which Abraham bought for a burial-ground. Abraham lived thirty-eight years longer, and died B. C. 1812, at the age of 175, and was buried beside his wife.

16. AND ABIMELECH. A Philistine king at Gerar. GO FROM US. Because there was likely to be trouble from the Philistines, whose temper was against prosperous foreigners growing rich in their country. A modern example is the expulsion of the Jews from several countries of Europe for the same reasons.

17. ISAAC DEPARTED THENCE. Isaac was a man of peace. Though stronger than his enemies, he yielded his rights, for the sake of peace; and he found that "the meek shall inherit the earth." PRYCHED HIS TENT. "Encamped," referring sometimes to military encampment and to a more settled habitation than the common term for nomadic tenting. THE VALLEY OF GERAR. Or, the wady, the undulating of Gerar (thought to be the modern Wady esh Sheriah), a narrow plain through which runs a stream which would help to supply his need. This was on the way towards his home at Beersheba.

18. DUGGED . . . WELLS OF WATER. By opening those which Abraham had made in former times. Because he would have some rights in such wells, and because his father had chosen the best places for digging them.

19. DUGGED IN THE VALLEY. A new well was now dug by Isaac's servants. This was Isaac's right. OF SPRINGING WATER. Hebrew, of living waters; i. e., of running water, rare, and unusually precious for its cool freshness, and for being perennial.

20. THE HERDMEN OF GERAR DID STRIVE, etc. The Philistines claimed the

well because it was in their country, and Isaac's herdmen claimed it because they discovered and dug the well. CALLED THE NAME OF THE WELL, ESKK. That is, contention or strife.

21. ANOTHER WELL. . . . SITNAH. Hatred, spitefulness. From the same root with Sitnah is derived Satan, an adversary, or hater.

22. ANOTHER WELL; . . . THEY STROVE NOT. "Isaac left the valley. There was no longer any such claim possible." RIBBOTH. Room, "a name which appears to be preserved in Wady er Ribbaibeh (twenty-three miles southwest of Beersheba), near which is Wady esh Shutein, corresponding to Sitnah." He met the envy with patience, and removed from well to well. At last the Philistines desisted. Thus patience wears the world out. Endurance, meekness, the gospel spirit, this is the only true weapon against the world.

23. AND HE WENT . . . TO BEERSHEBA. The old paternal home, and so acknowledged by all. Many memories of his father and mother, his brother, his marriage, and own early life clustered around the old homestead and hallowed it.

24. THE LORD APPEARED UNTO HIM. In what way we know not, but probably as in other appearances to his people. THE GOD OF ABRAHAM. "God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." "Therefore he is assured that Abraham is not lost by death, nor God's covenant with him lost. This is the same person as the Angel of the Covenant, who appeared to Moses in Horeb, in the burning bush (see Ex. 3: 2), and is, therefore, the Messiah. Abraham was the man of faith, Isaac was the man of endurance, and Jacob was the man of prayer." FEAR NOT. As a man of peace, unwilling to strive or fight, he may have feared that his enemies would take advantage of his good disposition, and injure him. God bids him to have no fear so long as he is serving God, and doing right. ABRAHAM'S SAKK. This is the actual working of the household covenant. The covenant is now renewed. Isaac has given up rights and property and home for the sake of peace, and shown that he has the same kind of faith as Abraham had shown.

25. (1) HE BUILT AN ALTAR THERE. For sacrifice and worship. He had the permanent institutions of religion, with the thought of forgiveness, consecration, prayer, and worship. (2) AND PITCHED HIS TENT THERE. Made a permanent abode for his household. (3) DUGGED A WELL. A perennial supply. It was in addition to the one Abraham dug. "Two wells still exist at this place, attesting the correctness of the record." Here Abimelech came, led on, doubtless, by the admirable character of Isaac, and proposed a covenant between them, which was sealed by an oath. Hence the place renewed its name "Sheba," an oath, or "Beersheba," well of the oath.

READING THE WORD.

No small part of the public worship of the church is to be found in the reading of God's word. We all know how the sympathetic, intelligent, appreciative, discriminating reading of some portion of that word, such as the Twenty-third Psalm, or the Fourteenth of John, or the First chapter of Colossians has impressed us, and silenced us, and brought us into a worshipful mood. "I had two sermons preached to me the other day," one said recently in our hearing, "and one was in the reading of the Scripture selection." Some of those who may chance to read this article may have read Ralph Connor's "Sky Pilot," and they will recall how the young preacher in that home of the "old-timer" out on the isolated ranch read after due introduction all the story of the Wondrous Life from Bethlehem to Calvary, and they will recall how that little audience sat spellbound not only by the unfolding of the narrative, but as well by the skill and pathos and sympathy of the reader.

We are inclined to think that among the average ministry there is not enough attention given to this part of public worship. The passage to be read should be selected with care, with reference to the theme to be discussed, and the general spirit sought to be created in the service. Inflection should be studied, and the points of emphasis, and changes in tone, determined by the character of the different portions of the passage read. Should there be comment? Rarely, we fancy, and only by one who is master of it in brevity and point and suggestiveness. Any comment, in our mind, in the reading of the Lord's word, of Ephesians, or the Twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew, would be for most to attempt to gild gold, and to succeed only in imposing

HOW TO TREAT



He knows that success only comes from deep thought and conscientious care given each sufferer. No two patients can be treated alike. For previous conditions, parentage, age, sex, occupation, all bear upon each case.

Dr. Sproule is a writer of note among medical men, and in a late contribution says: "Catarrh, as I have shown, is due to the presence of a foreign germ. These germs fill the air in summer as well as in winter. They are thus constantly entering the system. During the summer because of the thinner state of the blood, they do not cause so much mucus, and their presence is not recognized, although it may be felt, in a general languor, and in a tendency to stomach and liver trouble."

"But, concurrently with the return of cold weather, and the consequent thickening of the blood, the old symptoms return, and the sufferers imagine that they have caught a fresh cold. I hold, therefore, that summer is one of the most favorable times for eradicating Catarrh from the system. The sluggish condition of the germs makes them easy victims, and after proper treatment the patient finds himself able to face the rigors of the next winter boldly and unharmed."

No one who during the previous winter has had Catarrh Trouble should be allowed to enter upon the next winter without having cleansed the disease from his system."

Catarrh of the Head and Throat. Catarrh of the Bronchial Tubes.

The most prevalent form of catarrh, and results from neglected colds.

Do you spit up slime?
Are your eyes watery?
Does your nose feel itchy?
Does your nose discharge?
Do you sneeze a good deal?
Do crusts form in the nose?
Do you have pain across the eyes?
Does your breath smell offensive?
Is your hearing beginning to fail?
Are you losing your sense of smell?
Do you have up phlegm in the morning?
Are there buzzing noises in your ears?
Do you have pains across the front of your head?
Do you feel dropping in back part of throat?
If you have some of the above symptoms your disease is catarrh of the head and throat.

If you had some of the above symptoms last winter, and were only cured by warm weather, rest assured that the Catarrh still lurks within. It will not fall to come forth again at the next approach of cold weather. Take it now, while it can be so easily cured. Cut out the above symptoms, mark them, and send them with information as to your present condition of general health to Catarrh Specialist Sproule (Graduate Dublin University, Ireland, formerly surgeon British Royal Naval Service), 7 to 13 Doane Street, Boston. He will diagnose your case free.

draw upon the pure metal. Such passages read, as we have already said, intelligently, quietly, impressively, sympathetically, will carry their own message and will do their own work and will help in the service of worship as they were intended to help, and ought to help. They constitute pre-eminently the message of God to the people, and in its delivery there should be no impediment formed by needless imperfect rendering or by discordant human intrusion.—The Commonwealth.

Missouri, Kansas and Texas passenger train No. 3, south-bound, was held up at Caney Switch, I. T., at 1.30 a. m., Tuesday, by five men. Every passenger was robbed. On the express car both safes were blown open with dynamite and the contents secured. The baggage car was practically wrecked. The amount stolen is not yet known, although the robbers got some valuable booty.

At Halifax, Tuesday, J. Walter Allison, of Dartmouth, and M. T. Foster and A. B. Crosby were nominated by the Liberal Conservative convention as candidates for the House Assembly for Halifax city and county.



Praises Pyramid Pile Cure.

Mrs. Aaron Medron, of Savannah, Ga., writes: "I had piles and rectal trouble for years until it was unbearable any longer. As I had often seen Pyramid Pile Cure advertised I determined to try it and for two years have never ceased to congratulate myself that I did so for I have been entirely cured of rectal troubles and two packages of the Pyramid did it."

The Pyramid Pile Cure contains no cocaine, opium nor any injurious drug whatever, and is absolutely safe, painless and never fails to cure piles in any form.

Druggists sell full sized treatment of this remedy for 50 cents.

CATARRH

Dr. Sproule was born about forty years ago, in the North of Ireland, of the sturdy, intelligent Scotch, Irish, Presbyterian stock. To the received is doubtless due much of his subsequent marvelous success.

He early determined to become a Specialist in Chronic Diseases. This idea he held in mind during the six years of his stay at Trinity College, Dublin; then while travelling as Surgeon in the British Royal Naval Service, and still later, while working in the great hospitals of the world and among his private patients. As a result he stands today pre-eminent as a master in all forms of Chronic Disease.

Since coming to America he has devoted himself largely to that curse of this land, the Consumption-breeder Catarrh. Always alert and energetic, he works from morning till night over his vast correspondence; diagnosing, prescribing, sympathizing, curing.

For previous conditions, parentage, age, sex, occupation, all bear upon each case.

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Catarrh of the Head and Throat. Catarrh of the Bronchial Tubes.

The most prevalent form of catarrh, and results from neglected colds.

When catarrh of the head and throat is left unchecked it extends down the wind-pipe into the bronchial tubes, and in time attacks the lungs and develops into catarrhal consumption.
Do you take cold easily?
Is your breathing too quick?
Do you raise frothy material?
Is your voice hoarse and husky?
Have you a dry, hacking cough?
Do you feel worn out on rising?
Do you feel all stuffed up?
Are you gradually losing strength?
Have you a disgust for fatty food?
Have you a sense of weight on chest?
Have you a scratchy feeling in throat?
Do you cough worse at night and morning?
Do you get short of breath when walking?
If you have any of these symptoms you have catarrh of the bronchial tubes.

If you had some of the above symptoms last winter, and were only cured by warm weather, rest assured that the Catarrh still lurks within. It will not fall to come forth again at the next approach of cold weather. Take it now, while it can be so easily cured. Cut out the above symptoms, mark them, and send them with information as to your present condition of general health to Catarrh Specialist Sproule (Graduate Dublin University, Ireland, formerly surgeon British Royal Naval Service), 7 to 13 Doane Street, Boston. He will diagnose your case free.

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DYSPEPSIA, BILIOUSNESS, CONSTIPATION, HEADACHE, SALT RHEUM, SCROFULA, HEARTBURN, SOUR STOMACH, DIZZINESS, DROPSY, RHEUMATISM, SKIN DISEASES.



FAVORABLY KNOWN SINCE 1826. BELLS HAVE FURNISHED 25,000. CHURCH SCHOOLS & OTHER PURCHASERS. MENELY & CO. WEST-TROY, N.Y. GENUINE.

Pernod's abate the factory, at P. ontarlier, one of the largest in France, was struck by lightning Monday during a violent storm, and completely destroyed.

Edward W. Burt and Norman F. Hessel-tine, of Boston, returned this week from a three hundred mile canoe trip through Maine and New Brunswick and report much large game and splendid fishing.