

SCHOLAR'S NOTES

(From International Question Book)

LESSON X—MARCH 8.

PAUL BEFORE FELIX—ACTS 24:10-27.

COMMIT VERSES 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT

A conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.—ACTS 24:16.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

A clear conscience, and hope toward God; a guilty conscience, and terror at judgment to come.

DAILY READINGS.

- M. Acts 24:10-27. T. Mark 6:14-20. X. Psal. 5:7-12. Th. John 9:1-14. F. 2 Tim. 1:10-12. Sa. John 3:17-22. Su. Prov. 11:29-34.

PLACE.—Caesarea, 47 miles north-west of Jerusalem. A residence of the Roman governor. The home of Philip, the evangelist, and Corneius, the centurion.

CHRISTIANITY.—Paul, having escaped from the numerous attempt upon his life at Jerusalem, by being brought to Caesarea, and great, is kept in prison for five days, till his accusers came from Jerusalem. They brought a lawyer with them, who made three charges against Paul: (1) of sedition, exciting a tumult; (2) of heresy, preaching a false religion; (3) of sacrilege, profaning the temple. The lesson begins with Paul's answer to these charges.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

13.—MANY YEARS A JUDGE—ABOUT SIX YEARS, annually long for a governor of Judaea. I LIKE MOORE'S CHEERFUL ANSWER—because Felix had opportunity to know the character of Paul's accusers, and also the good character of the Christians. 12. NEITHER IN THE TEMPLE DISPUTING—he here denies the charge of sedition. 14. BUT THIS I CONFESS, etc.—here he answers the charge of heresy, or founding a sect. First—let the charges be read by those. It was a sect only as the Sadducees and Pharisees were sects, and these were allowed by Herod, Herod, Nicodemus—the wise men of the school of God as the Jews. THIRD—he believed in the same Bible—FOURTH—he held the same hopes as the majority of his nation. AFTER—his office was 21 years since his conversion, and 30 since he went as a missionary. He now answers the charge of profaning the temple. FIRST—he came to help a nation by him, not to overturn it. SECOND—he brought the temple offerings for the Jews, and of purification. 18. PURIFIED IN THE TEMPLE—his trial and answer. He was not profane, but going through Jewish ceremonies. 19. I FEEL THAT 22. FELIX... HAVING MORE PERFECT KNOWLEDGE—He knew enough about these things to see that the charges would not hold. 24. DRUSILLA—she was the daughter of Herod Antipater, and the wife of Aziz, king of Emesa, whom she left to live with her. 25. TEMPERANCE—self-control, mastery over every passion and appetite. 27. AFTER TWO YEARS—Paul now had opportunity for his meditation for helping Luke to write the Gospel and the Acts.

QUESTIONS

INTRODUCTORY.—Why did Paul leave Jerusalem? Where did he go? How long after did his accusers come? Who argued the case for them before Felix? What three charges did he make against Paul?

SUBJECT.—AN APPROVING AND A CONDEMNING CONSCIENCE.

I. A GOOD CONSCIENCE (vs. 10-20)—How did Paul begin his answer? How would Felix's acquaintance with the Jewish law aid Paul?

THE FIRST CHARGE ANSWERED (vs. 14-16)—What was the first charge against Paul? What was the first answer?

THE SECOND CHARGE ANSWERED (vs. 14-16)—What was the second charge? What was Paul's first answer? Meaning of heresy? The word answered? Did he worship the same gods as the other Jews? What was the foundation of his religious belief? How was this another answer to the charge? What was his fourth answer? (v. 15) What is the Christian's hope? Is this far from the sterner? What other answer did he make to this charge? (v. 16) Meaning of "severe" in my self? Does it require training to live without offence?

THE THIRD CHARGE ANSWERED (v. 17-20)—What was the third charge? How did Paul explain his conduct? What was the answer to the charge? Was he to have come to accuse him? What did Felix do at the close of this trial? Why did he not give Paul his freedom? What favors did he grant him? What friends did Paul have in the city?

I. A CONDEMNING CONSCIENCE (vs. 21-27)—About what did Felix have interviews with Paul? What was his object? How could he expect money from Paul? What was the subject of Paul's discourse before Felix and Drusilla? What is temperance? Were his accusers guilty? What was the effect upon them? Why should Felix be terrified before Paul? How did Felix attempt to quiet his conscience? Did the convenient season ever come? How does an excuse harden us in sin? How long did Paul remain at Caesarea? What may he have been doing? Was this rest of any advantage to Paul?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

- I. The charges against Christianity by unbelievers are best answered by the simple facts. II. The Christian's life is full of hope. III. The Christian must exercise and train himself in virtue, as a soldier in arms, or an artist in art. IV. Paul convinced men of sin by preaching the Gospel. V. The conscience of the sinner makes him tremble when he thinks of his sins. VI. The folly of putting off repentance till a more convenient season. VII. Even in prison one need not be useless.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Feb. 24, 1885.

Flour has decreased in price about ten cents a barrel, and the market on both continents is quiet and a decline is looked for. In England values have weakened during the week, and there is less business doing. Chicago is very dull and prices are not greatly changed. We quote—Wheat at 78½¢ March, 83½¢ May. Corn is quoted at 38½¢ March and 41½¢ May.

The local wheat market is nominally higher and stagnant. We quote Canada Red Winter, 92c to 93c; White, 90c to 91c; Spring 90c to 91c; Peas, 72c to 73c; Oats, 32c. Barley, 50c to 60c. Corn 56c.

FOUR—During the week there has been a break in prices, but it has not helped business. The quotations are—Superior Extra, \$4.00 to \$4.05; Extra Superfine, \$3.90 Fancy \$3.75; Spring Extra \$3.70; Superfine, \$3.40 to \$3.45; Strong Bakers' (Canadian), \$4.00 to \$4.30; Strong Bakers' (American), \$4.50 to \$5.00; Fine, \$3.25; Middlings, \$3.05; Pollards, \$2.80 to \$2.90; Ontario bags, (bags included) Medium, \$1.90 to \$2.00; Spring Extra, \$1.80 to \$1.90; Superfine, \$1.60 to \$1.70; City Bags, (delivered), \$2.25.

MEALS unchanged.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Both butter and cheese are quiet and unchanged. We quote as follows:—Creamery, 20c to 23c; Eastern Townships, 15c to 19c; Western, 11c to 15c. Cheese is unchanged at 11c to 12½¢ for September and October, and 8c to 11½¢ for other makes.

Hogs, held stock are selling at 10c to 20c, and 10½c to 17c for lamed.

HOG PRODUCTS are very quiet. We quote:—Western Mers Pork \$15.50 to \$15.75; Hams, city cured, 12½c to 13½c; Bacon, 12½c to 13c; Lard, western, in keys, 10½c to 10½c do., Canadian, 10½c; Tallow, common refined, 7c to 8c.

ASHES are very weak, Pots selling at \$3.55 to \$3.60 as to tares.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The farmers' market is again assuming a busy aspect after the meagre attendance caused by the great storm. The country roads are still unfavorable for drawing heavy loads over them owing to the numerous cahots in the more drifted parts. The quantity of grain and hay offered is increasing and prices are gradually lowering, but have not yet become as low as they were before the great storm. There has been considerable advance in the price of onions and cabbages owing to the improved demand from the United States. There are no changes in the prices of dressed hogs, beef quarters, dressed poultry and butter, but while old eggs are declining in value, fresh laid eggs are rather higher than they were two weeks ago. Oats are 75c to 85c per bag; peas, 75c to 85c per bushel; beans \$1.50 to \$1.80 do.; potatoes 35c to 45c per bag; turnips, carrots, and beets, 40c to 70c per bushel; onions 75c to \$1.00 do.; cabbages 75c to \$1.20 per barrel; butter 14c to 50c per lb; eggs 15c to 40c per dozen; apples \$2.50 to \$2.25 per barrel; dressed hogs 6½c to 7½c per lb.; mutton carcasses 6½c to 7½c do.; young turkeys 9c to 14c per lb.; geese 7c to 10c do.; fowls 8c to 12c do; ducks 12c to 15c do; hay \$6.00 to \$9.00 per 100 bundles.

LIVESTOCK MARKET.

The supplies of beef cattle have increased considerably of late, but, with an improvement in the demand for shipment to Britain, where prices have advanced considerably of late, prices continue higher than they were two or three weeks ago. Choice butchers' cattle and good large shipping steers sell at about 5c per lb.; rough steers and fat cows at 4c to 4½c do and leanish animals from 3c to 4c do. Calves are plentiful but few of them are good, and while the best bring pretty high rates, some of the smallest and leanest sell at less than \$2 each. There is a slight advance in the price of good sheep, especially good lambs, some of which sell for \$6. Common and inferior milch cows are more plentiful, and are dull of sale, but good milkers are still in demand at pretty high rates. There has been a considerable number of horses sold of late for shipment to the United States, but the prices paid are considerably lower than was the case a year ago.

New York, Feb. 23, 1885.

GRAIN.—Wheat, 90½¢ Feb.; 90½¢ Mar.; 92½¢ April; 93½¢ May; 94½¢ June. Corn, 53½¢ Feb.; 50½¢ March; 49½¢ April; 49½¢ May. Rye, quiet, 63½¢. Oats, higher 35½¢ Feb. 36½¢ March, 36½¢ May. Peas nominal.

FLOUR.—We quote:—Spring Wheat—Superfine, \$2.70 to \$2.80; Low Extra, \$3.05 to \$3.20; Clear, \$3.80 to \$4.75; Straight \$4.00 to \$5.00; Patent, \$4.65 to \$5.70. Winter Wheat—Superfine, \$2.75 to \$2.85; Low Extra, \$3.05 to \$3.35; Clear (R and A.), \$4.25 to \$4.50; Straight (R and A.), \$4.25 to \$5.30; Patent, \$4.65 to \$5.70; Straight (White Wheat), \$4.35 to \$5.25; Low Extra (City Mills), \$3.10 to \$3.25; West India, sacks, \$3.40 to \$3.70; barrels, West India, \$4.65; Patent, \$4.70 to \$5.75; South America, \$4.85 to \$5.00; Patent \$4.75 to \$5.40. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.50 to \$4.60; Family, \$4.75 to \$5.40; Patent, \$4.75 to \$5.65. Rye Flour—Fine to superfine, \$2.40 to \$3.60.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.10 to \$3.25 in bbls; oatmeal, \$5.00 to \$5.90 per bbl.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter unchanged. Creamery, ordinary to select 15c to 26c. Half firkins, ordinary to best 16c to 26c; Welsh tubs 10c to 25c; Western ordinary factory, to choice imitation creamery, 9c to 26c. Cheese, state factory, ordinary to fall cream, 3½c to 12½c. Ohio flats, fair to choice 6c to 11½c; Skims 1c to 3c.

ONLY ONE MISNOMER.

In Philadelphia a man by the name of Shanks teaches dancing, one Drinkwater inconsistently keeps a saloon, Black is a coal merchant, and Saylor is a mariner. Painter is an artist, Law practices his name, Birch teaches, and Lamb sells beef.

NEW HEADLINE by an Avaricious Butler.—"Welcome the coming, bleed the parting guest."—Punch.

HERBET MELIORS.—"Have you got 'Mosses in Egypt'?"—No, miss. We've got 'Ehrens on the Rhine.'"—Punch.

"CULINARY FRENCH" is an extraordinary language, and it may be studied to advantage at public dinners, and on the mezzos of clubs and restaurants. The other day was seen on a club bill of fare, "Soi frais de blaiter sur toast." The author of this must have been a bold man, to whom no language had terrors.

TALL CAVALIERS have the best chance with the ladies because the latter are generally in favor of hyacinth.

IT IS CLAIMED by some medical men that smoking weakens the eyelight. Maybe it does, but just see how it strengthens the breath.

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