

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Lesson V. July 29, 1917.
God's Gracious Invitation.—Isaiah 55: 1-13.

Commentary.—1. The invitation extended (vs. 1-5)—1. ho—This word is used to call attention to something of great importance. He who sounds forth the word realized the dire need of those to whom he speaks, and longs to have their souls satisfied, every one that thirsteth—All those who thirst for the living waters are included in the call. Physical thirst is an intense longing. The agony of those who are dying from the lack of water is indescribable. Come ye to the waters—Salvation is brought to a place where we all have access to it, but we must come. There is something for us to do. The fountain is opened and everything is ready, but we must individually take the steps that lead to it. The grace of God is frequently spoken of in the scriptures under the figure of water. Water is purifying and satisfying in its nature and is abundant. He that hath no money—in Oriental cities it is a common sight to see a water-seller with a goatskin bottle of water upon his back, going along the street offering water for sale. We need no money to procure salvation, wine and milk—The unfettered juice of the grape is said to contain thirty per cent. more nourishment than milk. Milk contains all the food elements essential to the sustenance and growth of the body. The saving and keeping grace of God is presented under the figures of objects that are of great value and that are highly esteemed, without price—Salvation cannot be purchased with money. While it is of priceless value, it is absolutely free. It can be obtained by the rich and the poor on equal terms. All must come to the great Source; all must come with penitence, submission and faith, and all who meet these conditions will find satisfaction.

2. wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread—The prophet gently rebukes those who are spending money and labor for the vanities of this life when they can secure salvation and spiritual joys "without money and without price." The condition of Israel then was the same as is that of those who are giving themselves up to pleasure, hearken diligently unto me—Isaiah insists upon gaining the attention of the people, for he has a message of great importance. The Lord has for them the highest good. Their souls may be abundantly satisfied. 3. incline your ear—Pay careful attention. Hear, and your soul shall live—There are conditions which we must meet if we would have spiritual and eternal life. They who hear and heed God's gracious invitation secure soul life, an everlasting covenant—God made a covenant with Abraham and his posterity that promised great temporal and spiritual blessings. There was included in the covenant the coming of the Christ, through whom all the nations of the world would be blessed, sure mercies of David—The mercies which God had promised to David. If Israel would turn fully to him these blessings would be bestowed upon them. 4. I have given him—Jehovah had promised the Messiah to Israel and to all the world, and it is of him the prophet speaks under the term David. Jesus was promised as the great Teacher and the Captain of our salvation. 5. thou—The Israelitish nation. Through Israel other nations were to be blessed, shall call a nation that thou knowest not—The nation here mentioned refers to the peoples who would enter the way of the Messiah and denter his kingdom. It would include the Christian in all ages, nations that knew not thee—Gentiles shall run unto thee—Shall be attracted to thee, because of the... Holy One of Israel—Jesus through individuals and nations to himself, through Israel came the law, and through Israel came also the gospel of Jesus Christ, he hath glorified thee—"The Holy One of Israel" put great honor upon Israel and granted unnumbered blessings to the nation.

II. Conditions to be met (vs. 6, 7.) 6. Seek ye the Lord—The invitation to partake of the benefits of the gospel has been extended, and the prophet proceeds to make clear what conditions are to be met. It is necessary for us to seek the Lord if we would find him. There must be a whole-hearted seeking, for only that kind of seeking will be rewarded (Jer. 29:13). While he may be found—These words very clearly declare that there is a time when one can find the Lord, and just as clearly declare that the time will come when he can not find him. A persistent rejection of God's offer of salvation will result in the final withdrawal of the Holy Spirit. Call ye upon him—An earnest seeker after God will send forth a heart cry to him. While he is near—The figure used is expressive. It represents one who is in dire need of help, and there is one who is abundantly able to help, passing along within hailing distance, but he will soon be beyond the reach of the perishing one's voice. It is wise for the needy one to call for help at once. 7. Let the wicked forsake his way—In connection with seeking the Lord and calling upon him, there must be a forsaking of sin. The wicked are in the wrong way. Their lives are evil. There can be no pardon for them until they give up their sins. Unrighteous man his thoughts—Not only must he forsake his outward sins, but must also give up his evil desires. "We are to forsake sin; that is the human side of salvation; but there must be a divine side, since no sinner can forsake sin in his own strength." Return unto the Lord—One must not only turn away from all sin, but he must definitely and determinedly turn to the Lord. He will have mercy, abundantly pardon—This gracious promise will be fulfilled in the case of every sinner that meets the conditions here mentioned.

III. Inducements offered (vs. 8-13.) 8. My thoughts are not your thoughts—While man would be inclined to let a grievous offender perish rather than extend mercy to him, God offers full

pardon to every repenting sinner, no matter how far he may have gone into sin. 9. As the heavens are higher than the earth—The heavens which hang over the earth—The heavens where hang the sun, the moon and the stars extend an unmeasured distance above the earth, so God's thoughts of love and mercy toward us are immeasurably greater than ours for our fellow men. 10. As the rain cometh down, etc.—In the material world the Lord sends the rain and the snow to provide moisture for the growth of all vegetation that may mature and supply the physical needs of mankind. Not a drop of water falls of accomplishing its mission. 11. So shall my word be—God's warnings, threatenings, instructions, and promises are sent forth with a definite purpose. They are intended to bless the world. They will not fail. Some may reject that word and the penalty of its rejection will be paid in accordance with that word. Others will receive it and receive all the blessings which are promised in it. God's word will accomplish his design in giving it and will prosper in spite of all opposition. 12, 13. The deliverance from Babylonian captivity would be an occasion of great rejoicing, and all nature would seem to be in an ecstasy of joy; but this gladness well typifies the blessedness of the kingdom which Christ would set up in the fullness of time. The subjects of this kingdom are infinitely more prosperous and happy than are they who are outside. They have an enduring consciousness of their relation to the King and they have righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Questions.—Who was Isaiah and when did he prophesy? What invitation is extended? To whom is it extended? For what wine and milk stand as symbols? What rebuke is given in the second verse? What are the conditions upon which one may obtain salvation? In what sense do God's thoughts differ from ours? How is the efficacy of God's word illustrated? What figures are used to show the value of Christ's kingdom?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.
Topic.—Spiritual Transformation.
I. The great need of humanity.
II. The revealed plan of God.

1. The great need of humanity. This very memorable chapter may be called God's own gospel sermon. It is an invitation from Jehovah to hearken diligently unto him and to find peace in him. The voice of Jehovah, the God of truth, of love, of all patience and consolation, invites, entreats, expostulates. The chapter sets forth the nature of true repentance and saving faith. It shows how vastly important it is to have right ideas of God since character and conduct are shaped according to one's thoughts of him. This chapter gives a biblical picture of a sinful man when he realizes his soul's needs, lost in the desert, parched by thirst, faint with hunger, deceived by the mirage, ready to perish. All unregenerate souls are said to be thirsting with more or less intensity for that which they have not. The call is for a return to God, to first repentance, to natural courses of conduct. There is a contrast between the blessings offered and those for which men so laboriously toil. There is a foolish course to be avoided and a wise method to be pursued. To incline the ear and hearken diligently unto God is to follow the divine teachings as to the aim and method of life. The covenant here mentioned is one in which God promises to bestow freely upon his children a variety of the greatest and most needed blessings. The contents of the covenant are the same as the mercies promised to David and his house. Nothing necessary is left unsaid to the inquiring soul. The whole fact of human responsibility and divine promise concerning man's salvation is set forth. The teaching here is that man has lost the Lord. The appalling fact is that he is unconscious of the terrible catastrophe which has befallen him. In the central verse of the chapter is the gateway from the desert to the garden, "Let the wicked forsake his way." Repentance is enjoined as a condition of pardon.

II. The revealed plan of God. After the glorious gospel invitations, expostulations and exhortations follows the declaration, "Behold, I have given Him." There is no gospel apart from our Lord Jesus Christ. He is God's witness revealing the truth. He is a "commander" because He has power to enforce His proclamations. He is a witness qualified to act as a "witness to the people" because of his perfect knowledge of the whole counsel of God. The gospel is the exhibition and bestowment of all those blessings which were promised to David as the type of Christ. They are "sure" as res respite the foundation from which they were derived, the love and compassion of the holy and eternal One. There is nothing in which God's thoughts and ways are more clearly seen to be higher than man's. He is the one who is yielding to God's that man finds difficulty when he undertakes to seek the Lord. God looks with tenderness and questioning pity upon His erring people. He calls them to reflect upon their own ways and tell Him why they spend their time and destroy their power in vain pursuits, when life is given for the purpose of growth in wisdom, experience and divine likeness in character, and earth is the school in which they are to be trained and educated for highest worship and noblest service. Through the varying scenes of life there continues the one purpose of God in Christ Jesus, to redeem man and reconstruct human society. The great purpose of God can not fail. Isaiah described a gospel through which success is guaranteed, a gospel full of grace and encouragement, revealing divine provision for man's necessity with full assurance of a complete transformation in the heart and life into which it comes. The gracious invitation, "Come," is universal, full and free. Christ is the all-sufficient supply of every thirst of the soul. There is transformation through obedience to the divine plan, which is complete, perfect and infallible. The laws of Christianity are as eternal as the laws of nature. The world of God is sent for the enlightenment, convincing, converting and commanding of mankind to mould character and regenerate life.—T.R.A.

The arms are fair when the intent of bearing them is just.—Shakespeare.

BANG GO SAXPENCE

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SUNDAY AT HOME

Beneath thy wing.

Be thou a bird, and trust, the autumn come,
That through the pathless air
Thou shalt find otherwhere,
Unerring, home.

BE THOU A BIRD, MY SOUL.

Be thou a bird, my soul, and mount
and soar
Out of thy wilderness,
Till earth grows less and less,
Heaven more and more.

Be thou a bird, and mount, and soar,
and sing,
Till all the earth shall be
Vibrant with ecstasy

JOINT HEIRS WITH CHRIST.

If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.—Thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God

through Christ.—Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me.

He that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations.—To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

SHADOW.

On a sundial in the old land you will find the words, "I tell the time in every shining hour." When the sun is obscured, or there is a fog, there is no time recorded. Paul tells us the law had a shadow of good things to come. A shadow means darkness, obscurity, seclusion, defined limit, unreality.

The Mosaic economy was only a dark, obscure representation of Christ, who was the substance of the legal types and shadows. A scaffold is a temporary structure to support workmen. It hides the proportions of the building inside. It is very wonderful to think of this architecture coming from the mind of God, revealed to Moses in the mount, constituted to be

MAKING POULTRY PAY

SEASONABLE HINTS.

Because you have your "stock" chickens all hatched that does not say that you should stop. Remember the shortage of meat and hatch! hatch! hatch!

Ducks make rapid growth and the late hatched ones do well provided they are given plenty of shade.

Geese also grow rapidly and they are the cheapest raised of all the fowl.

Keep a sharp lookout for foxes, skunks, hawks, crows and all other furred or feathered enemies of the young chicks. Don't even be too trusting with the family cat. "Scarecrows" are useful and may be made of cloth streamers or bits of tin or glass dangling from poles or string stretched across the poultry yards. Tray all four footed marauders and knock them on the heads or shoot them.

Get rid of all your surplus Leghorn cockerels as soon as they reach broiler age—about a pound and a quarter to a pound and a half makes good broilers.

WEED OUT THE MALE BIRDS.
(Experimental Farms Note.)

The worker bees put their house in order by killing off all the male bees as soon as their services are no longer required. What a great benefit it would be to the poultry producer and the poultry market consumer if the hens of the flock would likewise dispose of the male birds in those flocks that are indifferently managed. The worker bee permits no star boarder to loaf around and consume the product of her labor. The hen is not like the bee in asserting her rights. If she were, then her verdict would be, "Roster you must die."

There are over two million five hundred thousand roosters of the various breeds of chickens kept for breeding purposes by the people of our country. Of this vast army perhaps one hundred and fifty thousand have a right to live for another year of service. One hundred and fifty thousand may be good enough as individuals and in breeding to be used in the increase of their kind. What of the two million three hundred and fifty thousand that are usually permitted to live, birds that consume feed, worry the hens and reduce the quality of market eggs?

The function of the rooster is to develop and distribute germ cells, during a short period of three months, February, March and April. These germ cells should be distributed only to such eggs laying individuals as are desired to perpetuate the breed. The germ cell is a living organism capable of starting a chain of development and here is where the mischief lies if they are distributed where they do not serve their proper function in race perpetuation.

peratures will start incubation. Eggs in the first stage of decay are not desirable for human food.

It is an easy matter to prevent the fertilization of eggs. If the male bird is just an ordinary one, an axe and a block of wood will prevent further mischief. If the male bird is possessed of such merit as would warrant his being boarded for a year to be used in the next season's breeding operations, then give him an enclosure of his own and see that he stays in it.

The cost of the feed consumed by an ordinary rooster is about twenty cents a month. Can you afford it? If you keep poultry with profit as your object, can you afford to keep a star boarder for nine months and perhaps having him doing mischief all the time?

The two million, three hundred and fifty thousand odd, unnecessary male birds are costing the country about three and a half million dollars per year while enjoying life. These unnecessary birds are at the same time doing about ten million dollars' damage to the egg-producing business. If every person owning a rooster would manage him as a male bird should be managed, the poultry industry would be benefited by additional profits many millions of dollars.

DANDELIONS.

Gardeners tell us that the best way to get rid of dandelions is to cut the plant below the crown. That may be very true, but it is a most tedious job trying to clean a lawn of dandelions unless there is some other incentive given. This may be furnished by using the dandelions for feed for the chickens and poultry. Both chicks and poultry are exceedingly fond of them and they are one of the best green foods that can be given.

A WHEATLESS RATION.

At the present time it should be the aim of every one to economize on the use of wheat to as great an extent as possible. Now that such a large have been drawn from production famine will inevitably come unless the greatest care is exercised. The authorities would be quite justified in forbidding the use of milling grades of wheat for stock feeding so as to hold it for human consumption. At the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Experiments have been carried on to show that it is possible to feed fowl without the use of wheat and still show results that which wheat is fed.

Thirty white Leghorn pullets have been on the test for a year and a half and in their pullet year they averaged 147.3 eggs each. This is not a phenomenal record but it is a good record and one that is very much above the average throughout the country. This pen averaged during the first sixteen weeks of its record year 28.5 eggs which shows that the ration has produced no bad effects.

a skeleton, a scaffolding, a temporary veil, hiding, hinting, foreshadowing the sublime palace which angels and saints will ever behold and enjoy.

Who does not sympathize with the devout Jew, whose satisfaction was great when he saw the divinely appointed temple, services with priests, and offerings and sacrifices of praise? To think of this being mere scaffolding, destined to disappear, was a dream not to be tolerated, and yet, when challenged by the ruling, angry class about his authority, he replied, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will build it up."

No wonder they said, "What can we do with this man? He wears a peasant's garb; he has neither money nor title, nor prestige; he has no sword, no uniform, no sign of royalty, no learning; he is not of the priesthood; he is a root out of a dry ground. What pretensions are these? He springs like the grass, Forty and six years was this temple in building," was their plea for permanence, and yet we learn that this humble, mysterious Man was given the task to demolish this scaffolding and make plain and clear the building not made with hands.

Men may ask, To what purpose is this waste? There is no waste. Was the destruction of the temple an accident? God meets with no accidents. Was the mission of Christ a failure? Only to the blunt, the sordid and the bigoted, only to the politician and the bigot, only to the man of the world whose portion is in this life.

The mighty past is only a monument to the greatness of man, preliminary to his grandeur, a preparation for his exaltation. The greatness of a man's power is the measure of his surrender. He who gives all receives all, and out of the empty tomb of Christ there rises an enduring glory, which shall yield good things to come.

Two worlds are ours; 'tis only sin forbids us to descry.

The mystic heaven and earth within, Plain as the sea and sky.

The late H. T. Miller.

Wigg—I don't see how that fellow Skinnum can be laughing all the time. He's so crooked. Wagg—Yes, he can't even keep a straight face.

PAPER CONTAINERS FOR HONEY.

We have received the following comment from Mr. Morley Pettit, Provincial Apiarist, on Mr. Sladen's article entitled "An attractive paper container for honey," that appeared in our issue of June 16:

"I consider that Mr. Sladen's work in this line is very opportune, as present indications are that tin will be practically beyond the reach of beekeepers by another year, unless we should be favored by the unexpected but much desired early and favorable conclusion of the war.

"Beekeepers have been experimenting with paper honey containers for many years. These may be divided broadly into two classes, the container which is filled before the honey granulates, and the cardboard box wrapping placed about bricks of honey cut with wires from honey which has already granulated and become hard."

"There are two serious objections to either form of honey package for retail. The first and greatest of these is the fact that the general buying public, particularly of Ontario, does not care for granulated honey and will buy much more readily expected in small packages where the honey is well and carefully liquefied before selling. If beekeepers are compelled through necessity to force granulated honey on the consumers of Ontario, it will be a serious detriment to the sale of honey. The second objection to the paper package is the fact that when stored for several months, particularly in warm or damp places, granulated honey becomes soft and in paper packages would become less attractive, if not unsaleable. In other words, the honey would not have anything like the keeping qualities that it has in a tin or glass container.

"You will note that I have referred to the sale of honey in Ontario. While it may be positively stated that well liquefied extracted honey sells more readily to classes of buyers in Ontario, it seems that in the Western Provinces the preference is for honey in the granulated form. This is very doubtless because they have not had well liquefied honey offered them. But since they do buy it readily a satisfactory paper or wooden container would be very acceptable for Western shipment. In addition to the small package, a 5 lb. and a 10 lb. container are also much to be desired.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

FARMERS' MARKET.

Dairy produce—		
Butter, choice dairy	\$0.38	29.40
Eggs, new-laid, doz.	0.35	0.40
Cheese, lb.	0.30	0.30
Do., fancy, lb.	0.30	0.32
Dressed poultry—		
Turkeys, lb.	0.39	0.32
Fowl, lb.	0.25	0.25
Spring chickens	0.40	0.40
Fruits—		
Rhubarb, 3 bunches	0.00	0.15
Strawberries, box	0.12	0.15
Vegetables—		
Asparagus, Can. bunch	0.07	0.08
Beans, new, small measure	0.00	0.20
Peas, new, 3 bunch	0.00	0.10
Cucumbers, each	0.02	0.20
Caulliflower, Can. each	0.12	0.20
Carrots, new, bundle	0.05	0.10
Celery, per bunch	0.12	0.12
Cabbages, each	0.12	0.20
Horseradish, lb.	0.00	0.15
Leeks, bunch	0.00	0.35
Lettuce, doz. bchs.	0.20	0.30
Do., head, doz.	0.00	0.50
Onions, bundle	0.00	0.10
Do., small bkt.	0.00	0.10
Do., Bermuda, box	0.50	0.60
Peas, Can. 5-qt. bkt.	0.00	0.40
Do., 11-qt. bkt.	0.00	0.45
Potatoes, per bag, old	0.00	2.00
Do., new, bag	0.00	4.50
Do., new, peck	0.00	0.50
Do., small measure	0.00	0.20
Radishes, 2 bunches	0.00	0.60
Snap, new, peck	0.12	0.20
Sage, bunch	0.00	0.60
Savory, bunch	0.00	0.10
Turnips, new, bunch	0.05	0.10
Tomatoes, lb.	0.00	0.10
Do., bkt.	0.10	0.50

MEATS—WHOLESALE.

Beef, forequarters, cwt.	\$14.00	\$16.00
Do., hindquarters	18.00	20.00
Calves, choice	16.00	17.00
Do., common	12.00	13.00
Veal, common, cwt.	9.50	11.00
Do., medium	12.50	14.00
Do., prime	15.00	16.00
Heavy hogs	16.00	18.00
Snop hogs	21.50	22.50
Mutton, heavy	10.00	12.00
Do., light	10.00	12.00
Abattoir hogs	21.50	22.50
Lambs, lb.	0.21	0.23
Do., Spring, lb.	0.22	0.25

SUGAR MARKET.

Local wholesale quotations on Canadian refined sugar, Toronto delivery, 100 lb. cwt.	
St. Lawrence, granulated	100 lbs. \$3.34
Lantic, granulated	100 lbs. \$3.34
Royal Acadia, granulated	100 lbs. \$3.34
Keupath, granulated	100 lbs. \$3.34
Dominion crystal	100 lbs. \$3.34
No. 1 yellow, all refiners	100 lbs. \$3.34
No. 2 yellow	100 lbs. \$3.34
No. 3 yellow	100 lbs. \$3.34
Dark yellow	100 lbs. \$3.34

TORONTO CATTLE MARKETS.

Receipts—541 cattle; 257 calves; 1,384 hogs; 328 sheep.	
Export cattle, choice	11.00 11.50
Butcher cattle, choice	11.00 11.75
Butcher cattle, medium	9.50 10.00
Butcher cattle, common	8.50 9.00
Butcher cows, choice	8.00 8.85
Butcher cows, medium	7.00 7.50
Butcher cows, canners	5.00 6.00
Butcher bulls	7.00 7.50
Feeding steers	8.50 9.00
Stockers, choice	8.00 8.30
Stokers, light	7.25 7.55
Milkers, choice, each	40.00 120.00
Springers, choice, each	40.00 120.00
Sheep, ewes	8.00 9.50
Buck and culls	6.00 7.00
Lambs	14.00 15.50
Hogs, fed and watered	15.75
Calves	7.00 15.00

OTHER MARKETS.

WINNIPEG GRAIN EXCHANGE.

Wheat—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Oct.	2.00			
Nov.	0.74%	0.74%	0.73%	0.73%
Dec.	0.64%	0.64%	0.63%	0.64%
Jan.	0.60%	0.60%	0.59%	0.59%
Feb.	0.59%	0.59%	0.58%	0.58%
Mar.	0.58%	0.58%	0.57%	0.57%
Apr.	0.57%	0.57%	0.56%	0.56%
May	0.56%	0.56%	0.55%	0.55%
June	0.55%	0.55%	0.54%	0.54%
July	0.54%	0.54%	0.53%	0.53%
Aug.	0.53%	0.53%	0.52%	0.52%
Sept.	0.52%	0.52%	0.51%	0.51%
Oct.	0.51%	0.51%	0.50%	0.50%
Nov.	0.50%	0.50%	0.49%	0.49%
Dec.	0.49%	0.49%	0.48%	0.48%

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET.

Minneapolis—Wheat, July closed, \$2.45	
1-2; September closed \$1.56; Cash—No. 1	
hard, \$2.75; No. 1 Northern, \$2.60 to \$2.70;	
No. 2 do., \$2.50 to \$2.60; Corn, No. 3 white,	
14-14 1/2 to 15-1 1/2; Flour unchanged Bran,	
\$1.00 to \$1.00.	

DULUTH GRAIN MARKET.

Deeves	8 35	14 00
Western	8 65	14 00
and feeders	9 25	14 00
ows and heifers	5 30	11 25
elays	9 50	14 00
PORK, receipts 29,000.		
Market slow.		
Light	14 39	15 25
Fixed	14 15	15 50
Heavy	14 07	15 50
Tough	14 00	14 25
Culk	14 25	14 25
ough of sales	14 45	15 25
Sheep, receipts 5,000.		
Market firm.		
Others	7 75	11 00
Lamb, native	9 50	15 50
2533	10 00	15 50
thoeroff	in	so on t.s.