

PETER'S BROADENING VISION, LESSON TOPIC

Perception That God is no Respector of Persons Acquired Only After Series of Stirring Events

The International Uniform Sunday School Lesson for June 7, Peter's Broadening Vision—Acts 11:1-18.

By WM. E. GILROY, D.D. (Editor of The Congregationalist) "O! a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons," said Peter.

It required a great deal to bring him back to that perception—among other things, the vision that our lesson records. The vision was of animals, of four-footed beasts, and creeping things and fowls, let down from heaven in a great sheet.

Peter, who had heard his Master's words about brotherly love, and about the greatest of all as the one who served best, was still in spite of his experiences hardly free from the prejudices of his former religious life.

Secularism and bigotry are terrible things. They invade the very sanctities of a man's soul, and they pervert his kindest thoughts and his most generous impulses. He is not apt to interpret brotherly love as a mere thing to be exercised only within his own circle and not toward those of other groups.

Surely the worst of all pretensions and Pharisaic aristocracy is that which assumes that it is itself specially favored of God!

When will the world learn that God does not play favorites, that He gives to men responsibilities and duties, that from those to whom much is given much will be required and that all men have a share in His love and grace?

It is the same today. If we wonder that Peter, having known the Savior, and having had such remarkable experiences, came so slowly to realize that God is no respecter of persons, let us remember that despite the history of nineteen centuries of Christianity, the same sort of prejudices as were in Peter are found today within the very portals of the institution that calls itself the church of Christ.

Here is an incident, possibly not typical, but none the less of a sort by no means rare. An earnest minister became pastor of a church that professed to be a very haven of saints. It prided itself upon its orthodoxy and its devotion to the true gospel.

Many of the people had the pride of wealth and of social position. It was a church that had had what is called "prestige," but the character of its environment was changing. Its members were moving out towards the suburbs, and it was becoming surrounded with a boarding-house district.

Minister is rebuked. Probably there were more people in the district than there had ever been before, and the church had a real opportunity of ministering to the people.

The minister deplored the empty seats. He wanted to be reaching the people. He was a real minister of Christ.

He was neither a sensationist, nor a man of cheap and artificial ways. He was a man of culture and respectability.

But he went about the matter earnestly.



Text: Acts 11:1-18

And the apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.

And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem they that were of the circumcision contended with him.

Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,

I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. A certain vessel descended, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me;

Upon which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat.

But I said, Not so, Lord; for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.

But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

And this was done three times; and all were drawn up again into heaven.

And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me.

And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house;

And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;

Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shalt be saved.

And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, what was I, that I could withstand God?

When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

And he circumscribed the neighborhood, inviting people to come to church. They responded and on Sunday evening the seats were comfortably filled.

The minister thrilled with a new sense of success, and as he joined a little group of his members after the service, he remarked that it was due to see the seats filled.

"Yes," the members replied, "but we don't like it; they're hot our sort."

How Christ must weep over such a church, and over such Christians!

CHURCH WEDDING IS ASSAILED

Berkeley Rector Declares It Is Hypocrisy to Marry Couples In Edifices of Worship

By PHILIP J. SINNOTT (NEA Service Writer) BERKELEY, Calif., June 6.—The fashionable church wedding, used as a bid for social prestige is doomed, if the movement launched by Dr. W. R. G. Hodgkin, rector of fashionable St. Mark's church here is universally adopted.



Dr. W. R. G. Hodgkin

"There are too many people with no church interest whatsoever who want fashionable weddings and elaborate ceremonies. They think church influence adds social prestige to the event. And these same people never attend the church before—not after their nuptials."

Now that Dr. Hodgkin has started the ball rolling, he plans to have it brought before religious bodies and laymen all over the country, and give in as much general discussion as possible.

"In the end, it will be up to the state legislatures or congress to pass the necessary laws," he says. "But that is a legal matter—we have merely put the idea before the people."

After the civil service is performed, let the contracting parties come to the church if they desire, for its blessing. This has been the custom for years in Latin countries.

people's societies meet at 7 o'clock. Evening hour of worship is at 8 o'clock. At this hour the church will have as its guests the Modern Women of America and the Royal Neighbors. A memorial service will be held. The pastor will preach from the text: "If a man die will he live again?" The quartet will sing "Rock of Ages" (Buck) and the offertory solo "The Reckoning" (DeKoven) by Curtis Marsh.

First Unitarian. East Eleventh avenue at Ferry St. Morning service at 10:45 o'clock. Special Children's Day service, in which the songs of the children will be sung. It will be a service for both children and adults with two brief discourses by the pastor, Frank Fay Eddy, one on "Gentleman into Goose," on the tale of Christopher Ward by that title. The other talk will be upon "Teaching Religion" in which the perplexities of child training in religion will be considered from the point of view of a religious liberal.

First Congregational. Fred J. Clark, minister. No evening service tonight. 9:45 Sunday school, 11 a. m. sermon: "Building a Highway to God Through the Intellectual, Affections, and Will." Music: Anthem, "Jesus Only" Hotel. Duet, "Rejoice and Be Glad." Frank Jur and Henry Karpenstein. This will be your last chance to hear Mr. Jur before he leaves for New York.

First Baptist. Corner of Eighth and Pearl streets, Charles E. Dunham, pastor. Arah Hoyt Rae, music director. Bible school meets at 9:45. W. R. Lord, superintendent. Morning worship at 11 o'clock. The subject of the pastor's sermon is: "The Highway—Whence, Whither?" The music will be furnished by the High School Glee Club. The citizens of Springfield are cordially invited to attend this service. The church school meets at 9:45 with Mrs. Ida Gantz as superintendent. Good leaders for all ages. The Epworth League meets at 7 p. m. The morning worship at 11 o'clock, with a scriptural exposition. Midweek service at 7:30, Thursday evenings. All at "The Church of the Cordial Welcome."

Creswell Methodist. As the Bible has been the age-long bone of contention and weapon of bigotry and hate, would it have been better to have never had the written Word to quarrel over? This will be the question discussed at the Creswell Methodist church morning service. The evening subject will be "Hero Worship versus Divine Worship."

Grace Lutheran. Corner 11th avenue, east and Ferry streets, R. Trautman, pastor. Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Divine service 11 a. m. with sermon on the subject, "The Holy Trinity." A cordial welcome to worship with us.

Church of God. Third and Monroe streets, Mamie Hiscoper, pastor. Bible school 10 a. m. E. A. Eagles, superintendent. A. C. Head, assistant. Classes for all ages. Services at 11 a. m. A missionary program will be given of songs, readings and short talks on foreign fields. Young people's meetings at 7:15. All young people are welcome. Preaching service at 8 p. m. The pastor will speak on the subject, "How to Increase Your Spiritual Life." Mid-week prayer meeting Thursday, 8 p. m. Come and enjoy the worship of God with us. Where the stranger does not feel strange.

Central Presbyterian. Corner 10th and Pearl, Rev. A. H. Saunders, minister. Pastor John R. Siefert, choir director. Mrs. Ruth Davis (Clever, organist. Sunday school at 9:45. H. A. Sauls, general superintendent. We have well organized departments for the tiny tots, intermediates, seniors and older people, the classes with capable teachers in charge. Visit our primary department or take your place in a class in the other departments, and you will be interested and helped for the problems of the coming week. Reception worship at 11 o'clock with recognition of new members and communion. The pastor's theme will be "Liberty—The Gift of Christ." The chorale choir will sing "We Would See Jesus" (Marsten) and "Bless the Lord O My Soul" (Ippolitoff-Ivanoff). Senior C. E. will hold a senior farewell meeting on the banks of the Willamette at 1839 Garden street. Junior C. E. at 4:30. Westminster League at 6:30. No evening service on account of the Baccalaureate service at the Methodist church at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock with the pastor leading. Subject for discussion: "The Feeding of the Five Thousand, or How Jesus Satisfied." You are urged to attend all of these services, and to make this your church home.

International Bible Students Association. Meets Sunday 2:30 p. m. at 1551 High street. Subjects relating to the fulfilling of Bible prophecy is at hand regarding all earthly governments. Daniel second and twelfth chapters. Nebuchadnezzar permitted by God to rule for a definite period of time. Why was Daniel able to interpret the dream? What is "the stone cut out without hands"? Do the scriptures teach the human soul is indestructible? What is the difference between human souls and brute souls? Eccl. 3:18-20.

First Christian. Oak and Eleventh streets, E. V. Stivers, pastor. Sunday services at this church are of special interest. We are anxious about our Sunday school, and hope to see a good attendance. The closing of the Bible university means that several of the young people will be away, hence the need of loyalty on the part of those at home. Sunday morning we are to have the pleasure of hearing Hon. William Morrow, M. L. C. Adelaide, South Australia, deliver the morning message. Mr. Morrow delivered the commencement address last Monday evening and those who heard him will know something of the message we will receive on Sunday. We are urging a large attendance for this service, for it will be your last opportunity to hear him, as he and Mrs. Morrow leave on the 12:10 train on their homeward journey. Miss Hazel White is the soloist Sunday morning. Sunday evening the Children's Day program will be given. This program consists of nine or ten tableaux given by members of the Sunday school, directed by Mrs. Harold E. Knott. It will be an outstanding program, and will be very interesting. Our invitation is extended to all who are interested in such an entertainment. The time is at 8 o'clock. The offering for the evening will be given to foreign missions.

St. Mary's Catholic. 10th and Lincoln streets, Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara, pastor. Sunday, June 7th: The summer schedule for morning services will go into effect the first Sunday in June. Mass will be celebrated on Sundays at 7:30 a. m. and 9:30 a. m. during June, July, and August.

BUGS



Donut, Davis Standard Bread company; 10-11, program, Bern's Mountain crags; 11-12, Ame Lyman's Coconut Grove dance orchestra, from Ambassador hotel; 12-2 a. m., Wurlitzer Night Hawks.

KTCL, Seattle, Wash., 305.9 meters—7:30 p. m., Simond Saw & Steel company studio program; 9-10, Western Auto Supply company studio program.

KJL, Seattle, Wash., 384.4 meters—6:30 p. m., "What's Doing at the Theaters"; 7-8:25, Puget Sound Savings & Loan association musical; 8:20-8:30, U. S. weather reports;

KFI, Los Angeles, Cal., 467 meters—5:30-6 p. m., Examiner's half hour for Shriners; 6-6:15, McDaniel's nightly doings; 6:45-7, radiatorial air; 7-8, Examiner popular program, directed Jean Jacques; 8-9, Dan McFarland, organist; 9-10, Matie Williams, contralto; Georgie McCune Field, reader; Thelma Snyder Turner, pianist; Donald Williams, baritone; 10-11, pupils of E. X. Arens in vocal numbers.

KFOA, Seattle, Wash., 454.3 meters—7:45-9 p. m., Sherman, Clay & Co.; 8:20-10, Times program; 10-11, Eddie Harkness and his orchestra.

KFWB, Hollywood, Cal., 252 meters—7:45-9 p. m., program, Star Motor Car company; 9-10, program, Crane company; 10-11, Warner Bros. hour of fun, Charlie Wellman, entertainer.

KHL, Los Angeles, Cal., 405.2 meters—5:30-6 p. m., Leighton's Arcade cafeteria orchestra, Jack Cronshaw, leader; 6-6:30, Art Hickman's Biltmore hotel concert orchestra, Edward Fitzpatrick, director; 6:30-7:30, little stories American history, Professor Walter Kylvester Hertzog, Richard Hendrick, screen juvenile; Uncle John; 8-10, Pueblo Indian Shrine band, Colorado Springs Alkali temple; 8-9, W. Prossy, pianist; 10-11, Art Hickman's Biltmore hotel dance orchestra, Earl Burgess, leader; 11-12, Shriners' hour, with Shrine band and chanters.

KLN, Oakland, Cal., 508.2 meters—6-7 p. m., organ recital; 7:45-9:45, studio program; 9:45-10:30, Sweet's ballroom.

KNX, Hollywood, Cal., 336.9 meters—5:30-6:15 p. m., Wurlitzer pipe organ studio, Sid Ziff's sports talk; 6:15-6:30, travel talk, W. F. Alder; 6:30-7:30, program, Beverly Hills nurseries; 7:30-8, program of musical games, Eastern Outfitting company; 8-9, West Coast theaters, by remote control; 9-10, Order of the Optimist

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At The Churches Sunday

Fairmount Christian. Seaside and Columbia streets. Song services of the bible school begins at 9:45 a. m. Classes for different ages. Live lessons and discussions. Morning communion, and sermon at 11. To learn more of God's will, and to worship him in our objective, C. E. meets at 7 p. m., followed by regular church services at 8. Sermon topic: "Delivering from the webs of salvation." Always a welcome for strangers and friends. Minister, R. L. Dunn.

Fairmount Presbyterian. Villard and Fifteenth streets, Rev. E. L. Winterberger, minister. J. G. Swan, superintendent bible school. Mrs. Donald Young, music director. You will find here a plain, evangelistic, optimistic, broadminded, thoroughly scriptural gospel message, for every-day life in this twentieth century. The people are cordial and will be pleased to see you and have you join with us in worship, Sunday morning Mr. Ravner and Mrs. Young will sing a duet. The bible school is well equipped and doing good work. We invite parents and their children, students and their friends. All are welcome.

Emmaus Lutheran. On Second avenue, near Blair boulevard, Henry Iversen, pastor. Sunday school at 10 o'clock. Morning worship in the Danish language and Holy Communion services at 11 o'clock, and services in the afternoon at two o'clock. Bring your lunch and stay for the afternoon picnic. Coffee will be served by the Ladies aid. The Dorcas Needle club will meet Wednesday evening at the home of Miss Jennie Christensen. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Bible Standard. At 707 Pearl street, Fred L. Herzshub, pastor. Mrs. Alfaretta Wood, assistant pastor. Miss Iurita Wood, musical director. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Vician Dennis, superintendent. Classes for all ages, from grandpa and grandmas to the infant, with teachers that know their bible. Sunday, June 7, we have the ordinance of the lord's supper after the regular 11 o'clock sermon. All are invited to this service. The Crusaders meet at 5:30 with a very special subject. All young people cordially invited. Beginning Monday night under the auspices of the Bible Standard work-

Evangelist Miss Mary Ayres, of Anacapa, will commence a series of revival meetings which will continue as the lord will. Miss Ayres will be assisted by Mrs. Mabel Iernberger, as singing evangelist. Mrs. Iernberger is from Dr. Twinner's foresquare work in San Jose, California, and is highly spoken of as a soloist. Everybody welcome to these meetings. We consider the people of Eugene are highly favored in having these talented and spiritual women with them. Come out and hear them. Reception of members Sunday morning at 11.

First Methodist Episcopal. J. Frank Haas, minister. Instead of the regular preaching service Sunday morning, a Children's day program will be rendered as follows: Eleven o'clock—Prelude, Sunday school orchestra; Hymn, Congregation; Prayer, Mr. Temple; Song, "Sing Gladly of Faith." By the entire school; Recitation, Betty Jane Hart; Song, The beginners' department; Recitation, Holbrook Conklin; Song, The primary department; Exercise, Primary girls; Exercise, Primary boys; Song, By boys and girls of the primary department; Offertory and offering; Recitation, Blanche Osburn; Song, Three primary girls; Recitation, By primary boys; Recitation, By a primary boy; Talk, "Our School." Dr. Hunt, superintendent; Song, The junior department; Recitation, Dorothy Johnson; Song, "Herds of the king." By Kenneth Fleming and Junior boys; Recitation, A junior girl; Five minute talk, The pastor, system, Sunday school choir; Benediction. Young people's meetings at 7. High school baccalaureate sermon at 8.

First Church of Christ, Scientist. Corner of Twelfth and Oak streets. Sunday morning service at 11 o'clock. Wednesday evening testimonial meeting at 8 o'clock. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. The reading room at 312 McMoran and Washburne building, corner of Eighth and Willamette streets, is open daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, at all hours. The library is in attendance from 12 until 4:30. The subject of the lesson sermon for Sunday is "God the Only Cause and Creator." All are cordially invited to attend the church services and visit the reading room.

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