

**Improved Uniform International LESSON**

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**Lesson for May 13**

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**THE TRAGEDY OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM**

LESSON TEXT—1 Kings 12:26-30; 19:1-4, 13b-18; II Kings 17:7, 8.  
GOLDEN TEXT—O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.—Psalm 34:3.

Nations as well as people come to crossroads in their history, and taking the wrong road then means future disaster. Solomon had built up a great national prosperity, but at the expense of heavy taxes. He had forgotten God, and was succeeded by a son who followed in his footsteps.

Offered an opportunity to ease the burden of the people (I Kings 12:14), Rehoboam in his folly made it greater, and the nation was divided. The ten northern tribes, which were henceforth to be known as Israel, followed Jeroboam, and the two southern tribes under Rehoboam became the kingdom of Judah.

Jeroboam started with God's favor, and might have led his people aright, but instead he became the king whose name stood for wickedness (see II Kings 15:18). The story of that downfall is a sad picture of unbelief and failure.

**I. Religion Meets Politics (I Kings 12:26-30).**

Jerusalem, now in the rival kingdom of Judah, was the center of Hebrew worship. While the people of Israel were free to go there to worship, Jeroboam saw that it might lead to their being led away from him. It was a shrewd political deduction, but it left God out of the picture.

He established new centers of worship, where calves of gold were set up. They were probably intended to be a symbol of God, but they bespeak the folly of mixing worldly things with the things of God. They become an abomination and a snare.

The people responded to the apparent interest of the king in their welfare, and worshiped at the most convenient place. Religion had met politics, and had let politics take the upper hand.

Someone has suggested that when we begin to find ways to make our religion easy, we can be certain that it is the enemy of our souls who is at work. When Satan begins to be solicitous about our welfare and suggest that it is too far to go to church, or that the weather is too cold (or too warm), etc., etc., we should be on guard.

Religious ease was a big step downward for Israel, and it can be for any other nation. Where does America stand in that important matter?

**II. A Queen Meets a Prophet (I Kings 19:1-4, 13b-18).**

Elijah under the mighty hand of God had defied the wicked king, Ahab, and his more wicked queen, Jezebel; yes, and all the prophets of Baal, and had been gloriously victorious (I Kings 18:17-41).

The queen, who was devilish in her wickedness and determination to destroy the worship of the true God, threatened the prophet. He who had met the challenge of the hundreds of prophets fled in fear before the relentless hatred of this venomous woman.

The prophet felt that all was lost, but God revealed to him that even in that dark day there were many who were still true to Him (v. 18). It is a precious and encouraging bit of light in an otherwise dark scene.

Our main interest in this lesson is not the experience of the prophet, but in seeing the cause of Israel's downfall. Here we see one great reason—every king of Israel was a wicked man. Some were better and some worse, but all of them forgot God.

A nation is on the downward path when its rulers forget God. What about our own nation? What about the elected representatives of the people? Do we choose men for public office because of their Christian faith and character, or on the basis of political expediency or affiliation?

**III. A Nation Meets Its Doom (II Kings 17:7, 8).**

The hour had struck when God's heavy hand of judgment had to fall on Israel, the northern kingdom of 10 tribes. Verse 6 of this chapter relates their carrying away into captivity to Assyria, and verses 7-9 tell us the reason for that judgment.

Ingratitude for God's blessing (v. 7) led to the worship of other gods (v. 8). They knew God's hatred for the sin of idolatry, and His judgment upon those who walked in that way, but they went right on.

Note in verse 9 that these things were done "secretly." "The same thing is true today of many who profess to be the people of God. The line of demarcation between the church and the world is not clearly drawn. We do well to note carefully the outcome of this course of procedure on Israel's part (vv. 6, 18). The fact that Israel did these things secretly did not hide them from the eyes of Jehovah (Ps. 139:1, 2; Heb. 4:13)" (John W. Bradbury).

**Star Dust**

STAGE SCREEN RADIO  
Released by Western Newspaper Union.

By VIRGINIA VALE

**RADIO**, which so often looks to the movies, theaters and cafes for its stars, has glanced at its own front parlor and brought out Georgia Gibbs for the summer replacement of "Hall of Fame" on Sunday nights. Georgia, who got her start on the air a few years ago, has gone straight ahead as a singer; she's appeared on the Jimmy Durante-Gary Moore show



GEORGIA GIBBS

since its inception. But now she's branching out as a songstress-of-ceremonies; she is being co-starred with Paul Whitman over the Blue Network.

Don DeFore (of Paramount's "You Came Along") plans to take a busman's holiday this summer in his home town, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He'll do some acting in a play for the Sinclair Memorial Church's drama group. The rest of the cast consists of his brother and his three sisters. And the director is his mother. If acting doesn't actually run in that family it certainly has a good start!

When he was a Mack Sennett star, about 29 years ago, Chester Conklin used to pick up a youngster who had no car and drive him to the studio; the lad worked for \$5 a day, with a three-day-a-week guarantee. His name was Eddie Sutherland, and, as director of RKO's "Having Wonderful Crime," he was delighted when he found a role suited to Conklin, and signed him.

When George Marshall, director of "Murder, He Says," started in pictures 33 years ago, he shared a room with two other \$3-per-day actors. But they all changed professions—the others were William Seiter and Frank Lloyd, also directors, and good ones.

Gig Young, the promising young actor who took a "rain check" with Warner Bros. for duty with the coast guard in the South Pacific, came back on furlough and added his bit to the list of how-small-the-world-is stories. He met a marine officer named Obringer on Guadalcanal, and asked him if he knew Roy Obringer of Warners' legal department. "Sure," said the other. "He's my father."

Harriet O'Rourke, soprano soloist of "Steel Horizons," has a parrot, Sammy, who's the envy of her singing friends. Sammy practices right along with Harriet, and has developed a good ear for music—she says he squawks whenever she makes a mistake.

What Charles Boyer did for the movies, Jerry Wayne, star of his own show in Hollywood, will do for the stage. He'll appear with Joan Roberts in a new musical, "Marinka," a musical version of the film, "Mayerling," in the role of "Prince Rudolph."

It's becoming an old story to Dinah Shore, this business of being named the No. 1 radio songstress of the nation, in a newspaper poll. So far this season it's happened 11 times—but to Dinah it's still pretty thrilling.

Probably the most carefully guarded plot in Hollywood was that of "Notorious," Ingrid Bergman's picture, which Alfred Hitchcock will direct for David O. Selznick. Hitchcock and Ben Hecht wrote most of the story in a hotel room in New York. Only they and Selznick knew for some time what sort of role Miss Bergman would play.

Among the many accomplishments of Felix Mills, band leader on "The Man Called X"—the summer replacement for the Bob Hope show—is the ability to play every instrument in the band. He can also read music upside down—though just why, he can't say.

**ODDS AND ENDS**—The "tall tales" submitted by wounded servicemen and featured on the Kate Smith hour will eventually appear in book form. . . . Frankie Carle says he knows he's a success—he got a fan letter asking him to lend the sender \$1,000. . . . One of the extras in Columbia's "The Fighting Guardsman" is Gertrude Astor, who was Thomas Meighan's leading lady about 25 years ago. . . . Johnny Muck Brown, Monogram Western star, is making a personal appearance tour of southern theaters. . . . Ozzie Nelson, costar of "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" over CBS, has another picture on the way: Paramount's "People Are Funny."

**HOUSEHOLD MEMOS... by Lynn Chambers**

**Vegetables Rescue Luncheon Time From Doldrums**



Creamy rice, tinged red with tomatoes and garnished with eggs, peeks through this pretty loaf dish and flirts with winter-weary appetites.

If you have any luncheon obligations, take care of them during the spring. You have the fresh colors of spring flowers to help out your table motif and a gardenful of fresh fruit and crisp green vegetables. Yes, give your luncheons in spring.

A group of feminine guests won't expect the hearty substantial affair that a male gathering would, so you can lay aside the ration book and concentrate on point-free foods. There are eggs, plentiful in spring, asparagus, tomatoes, greens, strawberries and rhubarb. All make colorful and delectable eating.

Your table will be pretty carried out in the delicate shades of green and pale pink, green and yellow, or pale blue gray and yellow. Do have flowers if it's all possible because they make for freshness and gaiety. Or, work out an attractive arrangement in fruit. A fresh pineapple surrounded with oranges and shiny apples draped with grapes is effective.

My first suggestion is for a scalloped dish of eggs and tomatoes which is a pretty blending of white, yellow and touches of green and red.

**\*Scalloped Eggs and Tomatoes. (Serves 6 to 8)**

- 1 1/2 cups scallions or small onions
- 4 tablespoons butter or substitute
- 2 cups cooked tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon marjoram
- 1/2 teaspoon celery seed
- 2 cups boiled rice
- 2 hard-cooked eggs, sliced
- 1/4 cup grated American cheese

Cook the sliced scallions in butter or substitute until they are about tender. Mix together tomatoes, salt, marjoram, celery seed and cooked scallions. Place half of the boiled rice in the bottom of a well-greased loaf pan; cover with tomato and scallion mixture and with a layer of sliced eggs. Place the re-

**Lynn Says:**

**Wife-Savers:** To remove thread from vacuum cleaner, run a scissors lengthwise between bristles and cut the threads off. Brush cut pieces out.

Setting curtain tiebacks? Use a window shade as a marker to get both sides done evenly.

Shine the stove by wiping it carefully with a piece of waxed paper.

To rip seams from garments, use a pair of tweezers for pulling out the shorter threads.

Shine dull glassware by rubbing a cut piece of lemon over it.

If bureau drawers stick, rub soap on bottom and sides. This helps the drawers to slide out easily.

It is easier to clean a room if you pick up all odds and ends first, then remove all small items like knickknacks, papers and magazines, pictures, lamps and other decorations.

To remove glue stains from washable articles, rub the stains well with warm water applied with a soft sponge or brush.

To clean painted walls, wash carefully with sponge dipped in warm sudsy water or solution of wallpaper cleaner. Wipe off the soil with a cloth and repeat until walls are cleaned. Rinse with sponge dipped in lukewarm water. Wipe dry. Walls should not be repainted until perfectly dry.

Cotton flannel cloths or rags are ideal for cleaning and polishing silverware. Keep several on hand and wash often in suds and water.

Keep all cleaning materials, cloths, etc., together in a small cart or box with handle. This can be carted from room to room as you clean and saves the time you would spend in getting each item from the cleaning closet.

**Lynn Chambers' Point-Saving Luncheon**

- Grapefruit-Cranberry Juice
- \*Scalloped Eggs and Tomatoes
- Shredded Lettuce and Green Pepper Salad
- Bran-Raisin Muffins Spread
- Citrus Chiffon Pie Beverage
- \*Recipe given.

mainder of the rice over the other ingredients in the dish; cover with sliced eggs and top with grated American cheese. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees) about 30 minutes. Garnish with parsley and serve piping hot from the same dish.

**Tomato-Bacon Luncheon. (Serves 4)**

- 4 firm ripe tomatoes
- 3 tablespoons butter or salad oil
- 1/2 pound fresh mushrooms
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 cup cream
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 8 toast triangles
- 8 slices bacon, broiled

Cut tomatoes in 1/2-inch slices and brown on both sides in butter or oil. Remove from pan and fry mushrooms, green pepper about five minutes. Remove vegetables from pan, add cream to drippings, bring to a boil and season. Arrange vegetables on top of toast. Cover with sauce and top each toast triangle with a slice of bacon.

The above is good when served with a cantaloupe salad, and ice cream with toasted almonds.

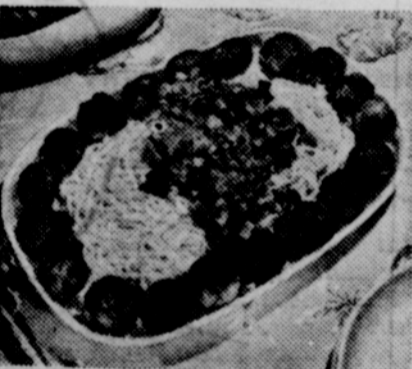
If you tire of potato salad readily, I'd suggest you give yourself a different treat with a macaroni salad, molded to be pretty as a picture and garnished cleverly with deviled eggs ornamented with pimiento:

**Macaroni Salad. (Serves 8 to 10)**

- 1/2 pound elbow macaroni
- 4 cups tomato juice
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons unflavored gelatin in 1/2 cup cold water
- 1 cup diced chicken or ham or flaked salmon or tuna fish
- 1/2 cup diced celery
- 1/2 cup canned peas or diced green pepper.

Cook macaroni in boiling, salted water until tender. Drain. Rinse with cold water and allow to cool. Heat the tomato juice to boiling. Add gelatin which has been dissolved in the cold water. Cool mixture. Then add other ingredients and place in oiled mold. Refrigerate until set. Unmold and serve garnished with deviled eggs, pimiento and cucumber slices.

The dessert for the above main dish salad can be hearty. You might like applesauce cake with chocolate icing, icebox cake or lemon meringue pie.



Meatless is the description for this spaghetti with its vegetable balls that taste like meat and a savory sauce also made of vegetables.

Have you gone vegetarian enough to eat your spaghetti that way? Then you'll like this recipe which makes a tasty dish but still saves points:

**Vegetarian Spaghetti. (Serves 6 to 8)**

- 1/2 pound spaghetti

Cook the spaghetti in boiling, salted water until tender; drain. In the meantime make up the following mixture:

- 1 onion, medium
- 1 green pepper
- 4 carrots
- 4 stalks celery
- 1/2 to 1 cup ground cooked meat, poultry or fish, if desired.

Grind vegetables and then blend with ground meat, poultry or flaked fish. Mix 1 egg and 1 cup fine dry bread crumbs into mixture. Shape into balls and fry in hot fat or drippings. Remove and drain, then place on top of vegetable sauce made as follows:

- 3 tablespoons drippings or oil
- 1/4 cup onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup green pepper
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup mushrooms (optional)
- 2 cups canned tomatoes

Cook the onion, green pepper, celery and mushrooms in hot drippings until lightly browned. Then add tomatoes and cook until thickened. Serve by heaping spaghetti on platter, garnish with vegetable balls and pour sauce over all.

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**ASK ME ANOTHER? A General Quiz**

**The Questions**

1. Where is the longest canal in the world?
2. Are congressmen required by law to attend any session of congress?
3. Who calls "track" in the sports world when he wants people out of his way?
4. What man signed his correspondence and paintings with the figure of a butterfly?
5. Will food cook more quickly in vigorously or gently boiling water?
6. Sinology is the study of what?
7. What is a milksop?
8. What stadium has the largest seating capacity in the United States?
9. What bird has the swiftest flight for short distances?
10. Approximately how far does the earth travel each day on its journey around the sun?

**The Answers**

1. In China. It is 2,100 miles long and was completed in 1350 after 600 years.
2. No.
3. A skier.
4. James Whistler.
5. The same.
6. Chinese language and culture.
7. A weak man.
8. Soldier field, Chicago (150,000).
9. Humming bird.
10. 1,601,604 miles.

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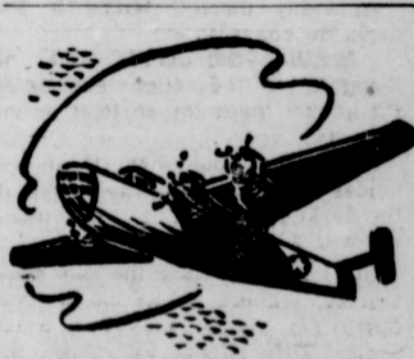
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