

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. © Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for July 25

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 12:21-28. GOLDEN TEXT—The Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself.—Deuteronomy 7:6. PRIMARY TOPIC—Ready for the Journey. JUNIOR TOPIC—Ready to Start Home. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How God Prepares a People. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Equipped for a New Era.

"Let my people go"—such was the word of the Lord to Pharaoh through Moses and Aaron. "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go"—thus hardened Pharaoh his heart. The issue was so drawn for one of the great struggles of history. On one side was a bold and mighty monarch with all the resources of the empire of Egypt, and on the other an unorganized multitude of slaves. No, wait, on the other side was Almighty God! The outcome was never in doubt and through the unspeakable horror of the plagues we come to consider the last of the ten, the death of the first-born, with which is joined the establishment of the Passover.

The Passover is of sufficient importance to justify careful study simply as the perpetual feast of Jews, but to the Christian it is also a most blessed and instructive type of Christ who is, according to Paul, "our passover" (I Cor. 5:7). Let no one who studies or teaches this lesson fail to point to "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

I. A Lamb Slain (v. 21). The sacrifice appears, a gentle, submissive lamb, a male without blemish, which is separated for the giving of its life that the first-born in Israel might be saved.

Notice that God's instructions were explicit, and were to be obeyed if there was to be redemption. There are those in our day who would substitute any and every other method of salvation for God's revealed plan. They talk about character development, the redemption of the social order, peace and politics, and forget the Lamb of God.

II. A Blood Salvation (v. 22, 23). The act of faith in marking the lintel and the doorposts with the blood, brought salvation to the families of Israel. Had they waited until they could reason out the philosophy of their promised redemption, or had they shrunk from the blood as their covering, their first-born would have been slain. It was when the destroying angel saw the blood that he passed over them.

Many there are in our time who speak disparagingly of the blood of Jesus Christ, but it is still the only way of redemption. "Without shedding of blood there is no remission." It ill befits an age that is so blasé and sophisticated as ours to attempt to cover its dislike for God's way of redemption by suddenly becoming too cultured and sensitive to hear of the blood of the Lamb of God shed on Calvary's tree for our cleansing from sin.

III. A Perpetual Memorial (v. 24-28).

God wants his people to remember. We, like Israel, are to remember the bondage from which we were delivered. Down through the ages the Jews have kept the Passover. Our Hebrew neighbors do it today. Let us honor them for their obedience to God's command and at the same time seek to point them to the One who is the true Passover, Jesus Christ.

IV. Christ Our Passover (I Cor. 5:7).

Let us add to the assigned lesson text this New Testament passage which speaks of our Lord Jesus Christ as "our passover . . . sacrificed for us."

The bondage in Egypt was terrible in its afflictions and sorrows, but far more serious is the bondage in which men find themselves under sin and the rule of Satan. Surely there is need of divine redemption, and there is none to bring it to us but the Lamb of God. He was the One who without spot or blemish (I Pet. 1:19) was able to offer himself in our behalf that in him we might find "redemption through his blood" (Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14).

"Is the blood upon the house of my life? Is the blood upon the doorpost of my dwelling place? Have I put up against the divine judgment some kind of self-protection? Verily, it will be swallowed up in the great visitation. In that time nothing will stand but the blood which God himself has chosen as a token and a memorial. 'The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanse us from all sin'" (Joseph Parker).

Labor and Patience Truth is to be costly to you—of labor and patience; and you are never to sell it, but to guard and to give.—Ruskin.

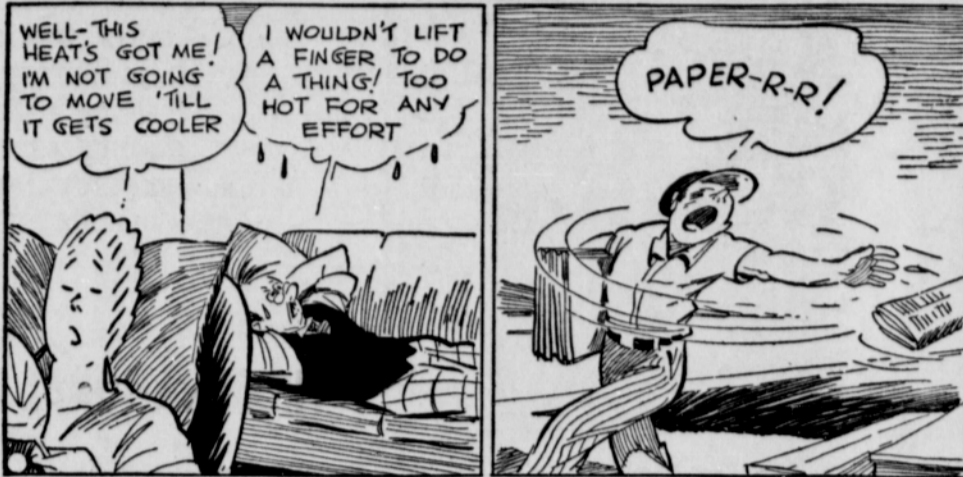
Judging Another's Sorrow One can never be the judge of another's grief. That which is a sorrow to one, to another is joy.

Follow Our Convictions Never swerve in your conduct from your honest convictions.—Horace Bushnell.

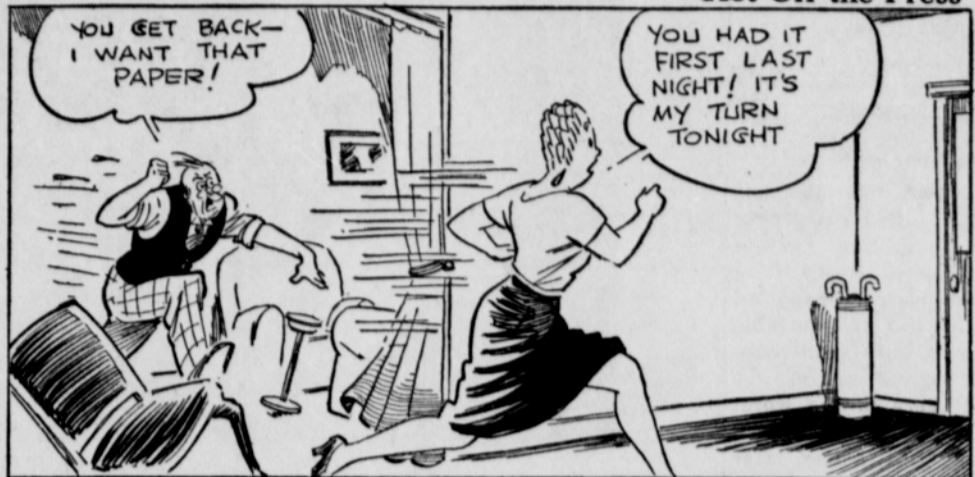
Fun for the Whole Family

THE FEATHERHEADS

By Osborne



Hot Off the Press



Us Quax



'SMATTER POP— Migosh, Maw! That's What You Wanted!

By C. M. PAYNE



MESCAL IKE

By S. L. HUNTLEY



Those Pesky Tourists Again



FINNEY OF THE FORCE

By Ted O'Loughlin



(Smart) Crackers and Jam



BRONC PEELER — Skeptical Pete

By FRED HARMAN



The Curse of Progress



Auntie Septie?

"Never, never, never," said the teacher, "kiss animals. Can anybody tell me the dangers of such a practice?" Susie's hand shot up. "I can, teacher," she cried. "My Auntie used to kiss her pet Peke!" Teacher smiled encouragingly. "Well—?" "The Peke died!"

Easy Way

"Stop!" thundered the man in the barber's chair who was having his hair trimmed. "Why do you insist upon telling me those horrible, blood-curdling stories?" "I'm sorry, sir," said the barber, "but when I tell stories like that, the hair stands up on end and makes it much easier to cut, sir."

Exactly

Cook (to assistant on entering galley and seeing stew had boiled over) —I told you to notice when the stew boiled over. Assistant—I did, sir. It boiled over at exactly 10:31.—U. S. N. A. Log.

TUB SINGING

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

