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### Lesson for August 15 GOD GIVES LAWS TO A

NATION.

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 20:1-17.
GOLDEN TEXT—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind . . . Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self.
Matt. 22:37, 39.

PRIMARY TOPIC—God's Good Laws.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Before the Mount

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC-Why a Nation Needs Laws.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—
Basic Laws for a Nation's Life.

Basic laws have been laid down by God for the orderly administra-tion of his universe. Men see them clearly in the physical universe, although at times they do not recognize the One who created all things.

Physical laws are of great importance, but of even deeper significance are the moral and spiritual laws which control the human life. There is in the world a moral lawa distinction between right and wrong—which man may ignore only to his own sorrow, and which he cannot abrogate or destroy. All laws of men which are true and right are founded on this underlying moral law, and are in reality simply a development and interpretation of "God's Code of Morals"-the Ten Commandments.

These commandments given to Israel at Mt. Sinai are worthy of careful study on the part of every reader. They may be grouped under two divisions.

I. A True View of God (vv. 1-11). The first and most important question to be asked regarding any law is, "By whom was it estab-lished?" Legislation by an unauthorized person or organization has no power over others. Who gave the ten commandments? Verse 1 tells us words." "God spake all these

Men sneer at theology as being out - moded, but the fact is that Christian doctrine is the only safe foundation for Christian character. Unless my view of God is right, my life will be wrong. Until I know him I will not appreciate the authority

of his law. 1. Whom to worship (vv. 2-5). There can be but one true God, and he alone is to be worshiped. He is a personal being, ready to enter into communion with each one of us. No image can take his place.

2. How to worship (vv. 6, 7). We are to love him and keep his commandments. There is to be no sham about this, for no matter how sweet and pious may be the praise and prayer of a man, he has taken the Lord's name in vain unless he keeps the Lord's commandments by holy

living.
3. When to worship (vv. 8-11).
God has ordained that man should not incessantly bear the burden of toil. He is to have a day of rest and a time for worhip, undisturbed by the duties and responsibilities of daily labor. America needs a mighty stirring up about the desecration of the Lord's day.

II. A Right Relationship to Man (vv. 12-17).

To be right with God means that we will also be right with our fellow man.

1. Family life (v. 12). The fifth commandment has to do with the relation between child and parent. There is a plain and direct command that father and mother should be honored. Only in respect and obedience to parents can the child possibly find true and proper development.

2. Physical life (vv. 13, 14). God is interested in our bodies. Already we have noted his provision for a day of rest each week. Now we are reminded of the sanctity of human life. "Thou shalt not kill," and remember there are many other ways to kill a man than by shooting him. Dr. Wilbur M. Smith makes a telling point by reminding us that we may kill others by selling them tainted food, intoxicating liquors, or "dope;" by neglect of duty, by careless driving, by failing to provide employees with sanitary and healthful surroundings.

There is another way that the body may be destroyed-by its misuse in adulterous living.

3. Social life (vv. 15-17). "Thou shalt not steal" — and remember any dishonest appropriation of what does not belong to you is stealingcall it what you will. And "false witness"—how it has honeycombed our very civilization. Not a little of it is found within the church, more shame upon us! Lastly, we come to "covetousness"—which has been called one of "the respectable sins of nice people." It is subtle and often hidden. Let us root it out of our own lives by God's grace.

## Enthusiasm in Work

Enthusiasm is the element of success in everything. It is the light that leads and the strength that lifts men on and up in the great struggles of scientific pursuits and of professional labor. It robs endurance of difficulty, and makes a pleasure of duty.-Bishop Doane.

A Translation

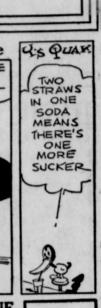
Let us learn what death is. It is simply a translation; not a state, but an act; not a condition, but a

# THE SUNNY SIDE OF LIFE

Clean Comics That Will Amuse Both Old and Young



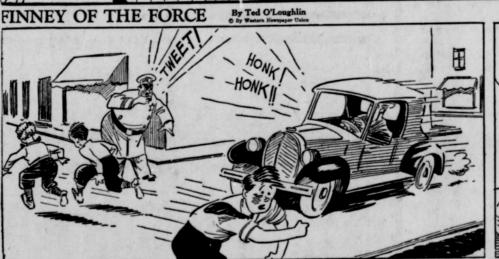


























his mother was both surprised and pleased when he came home with the announcement: "I got a hundred this morning." "That's lovely, dear," she said, as she kissed the boy tenderly. "What was it in?" she asked.

"Fifty in composition and fifty in grammar."-Army & Navy Journal.

The Hard Way

ertion in the classroom. Therefore

Sammy was not prone to overex-

## Emergency

A doctor had an urgent phone call from a gentleman saying his small son had swallowed his fountain pen. "All right! I'll come at once," plied the doctor. "What are you doing in the meantime?"

Whereupon came the unexpected answer, "Using a pencil."

"See that man? He looks honest, but he defrauded me of half a million."

"Impossible." "Yes, he refused me the hand of his daughter."

