

Daily Bible Reading

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TEXT—Give attention to reading.—1 Timothy 4:13.

How one shall read the Bible depends largely on what he is reading it for. The Bible is an all-around book, and serves many purposes, but it is well to have in mind some definite purpose in all one's reading.

There is the devotional use of the Bible. All strung instruments quickly get out of tune. The action of the atmosphere, and the constant vibration in playing, relaxes the strings so that they need to be retuned very often. No matter how good the violin is, it needs to be tuned every day, and often many times a day.

Man is like a violin. He soon gets out of tune with God. The wear and tear of life, and the demoralizing atmosphere which sin creates, so affects his disposition that he needs to be brought into harmony with God every morning. It is not surprising, when we consider the subtlety of sin, and the weakness of the flesh, rather than it is.

Strange that a harp of a thousand strings, should keep in tune so long.

Nothing will bring the believer into touch with God so soon as a little taste of the Divine Word. For devotional purposes the Psalms are perhaps the best, because they cover so wide a range of experience. Here we find aspiration and confession, joy and sorrow, adoration and praise. Here we behold the calm confidence which grows out of a sublime faith. "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Again we meet the bitter anguish which comes from ingratitude, or unrequited love, or the ecstasy of sin forgiven as in Psalm 32, or the passionate plea for mercy in Psalm 51, or the shout of triumph in Psalm 68. It is doubtful if there is any experience in life for which we cannot find a duplicate in the psalter, and, noting how the man after God's own heart behaved in similar emergencies, we are unconsciously led into the same feeling.

In the morning read Psalm 19, and at even Psalm 8. If you are going on a journey, Psalm 121 is appropriate. If it be Sunday, 122. If in perplexity, read Psalm 37. If you are grateful, choose, 105, or 106, or 107. If your heart needs searching, Psalm 139 will accomplish it. "O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me," and after a sublime description of God's omniscience, closing with the prayer which only an honest heart can utter: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." If it is comfort you need, you will find it in abundance in either of the following Psalms, 34, 91 or 103.

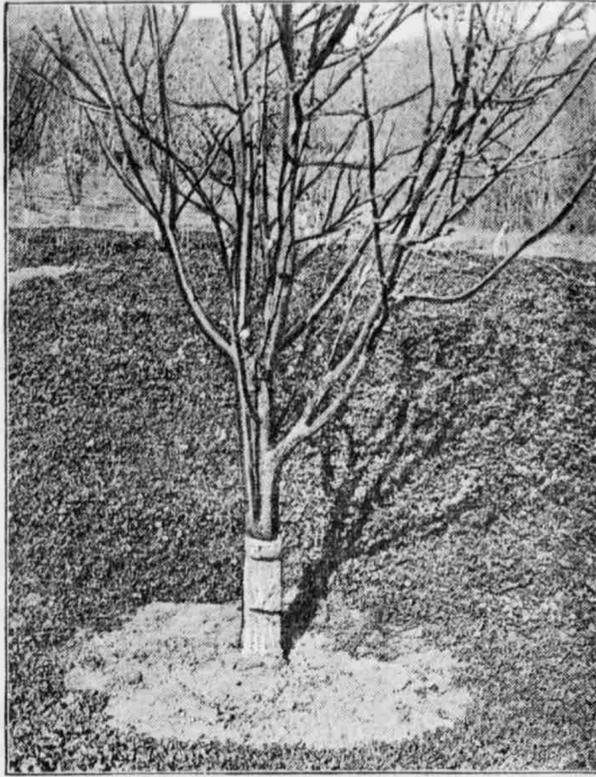
The gospels are also excellent for devotional reading because there we come in contact with the words and works of Jesus. We see how he lived in the home and by the wayside, in the carpenter's shop, and by the open grave. We see him in public life and in private ministry always the same, never hurried, nor worried, always thinking of others and never of himself. We see him playing with the children, watching the hens in the door yard, and the birds on the trees, the growing grains and fading flowers. In everything he saw God's love and care, and from all things natural he drew some spiritual lesson for his own and others' comfort.

If it be asked how much one should read at a time for devotional purposes, let me answer with an illustration. I once saw a picture of the disciples on the way to Emmaus. The master has just left them and the two are looking at each other in glad astonishment. One of them is holding both hands over his heart as he says with rapture, "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" He can almost feel his heart burn still as he recalls the memory of that blessed walk.

If you ask how long one shall read his Bible for devotional purposes, I answer, read until your heart burns, until your soul thrills with the consciousness of God's approval. You may read a chapter or a book or a single verse, no matter how much or how little, but read if you can, until you are consciously in touch with God, and then, with the father's morning kiss upon your lips, you are ready to meet the outside world.

Some people feel that they cannot spare the time for the morning watch, but I question whether any child of God can afford to do without it. Our souls need to be fed daily as well as our bodies, and the Bible is the soul's proper food. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

CLEANING UP THE ORCHARD IN THE FALL



Apple Tree Wrapped With Paper to Protect Against Rabbits and Mice.

(By I. J. MATHEWS, Michigan Agricultural College.)

One job about the farm that should not be put off until spring is cleaning up the orchard. If this is put off until later, one of the greatest benefits which may accrue from it will be lost. I refer to that host of orchard pests and diseases that live over winter in piles of rubbish and decaying apples. Those limbs that have been pruned off and thrown to one side and which are now in dry condition, are just the shelter under which these orchard pests can remain dormant through the cold blasts of winter and come forth in the spring, hale and hearty, ready to attack the first shoots and buds of the apples that appear.

If there is nothing to burn but old branches and tree prunings, then burning is a good and satisfactory way of getting rid of this rubbish. But where weeds have been cut in the orchard and piled up outside the area covered by the tree limbs, it would certainly be a waste of valuable plant food to burn this material. There is just one of two things to do in the disposition of this material. To burn it means that all the plant foods, except the minerals are lost. In the face of our shortage in the potash supply, this, of course, should be saved, but why not

save the nitrogen and phosphates also?

If the ground is plowed, by all means take this decaying mass and put it in the bottoms of the furrows. In all probability, these pests will never hatch out there, and even if they did they could not get up through the soil in the spring. Some men who do not have a great many trees collect this rubbish and put it about the base of the trees. The heap is covered with dirt. This excludes the air and in the deepening process so much heat is generated that all these dormant forms of insect life are killed. I have seen this heating, however, result in a scalded trunk for the apple tree.

By all means the old limbs should be burned up and if the land is plowed, the other refuse should be plowed under, but as to whether it would pay to compost this old rubbish where the land is not plowed is a question that will be largely determined by the amount of rubbish, the number of trees and the cost of labor in doing it. Where there is only a small amount of this refuse, it may be easier and less expensive to keep the pests down by spraying, but where there is a whole lot of it, it should certainly be drawn away or otherwise disposed of before the snow comes on.

TILLAGE INFLUENCES FERTILITY OF SOILS

More Food Is Made Available for Growing Trees—Cover Crop Protects the Roots.

The effect of tillage and cover crops on the orchard are similar in some respects, but tillage adds nothing to the amount of plant food in the soil, though it influences the fertility of the land so that more food is made available for the growing trees. A well-managed system of cover crops will accomplish all that tillage can and at the same time add to the store of the plant food that will be available for the trees.

Fruit trees are often injured by root freezing during the winters. In the northern latitudes this is one of the most important reasons for keeping the soil covered in the winter. The influence of a cover crop in protecting the roots from frost is very important.

On soil that is rolling or on hillsides it will be found almost impossible to maintain any degree of fertility in the orchard without the use of cover crops. It will not only prevent the soil from washing away, but will also hold the fertilizers from washing and prevent the leaves from blowing away.

The saving of plant food is also an important function of a cover crop. When the cold weather arrests the growth of trees there is considerable available plant food that may be wasted on account of the trees not being able to consume it at that time. This may be saved by the cover crop and held until such a time as it is desired to have it give it up or when the cover crop decays in the following spring.

The ideal system of managing orchard lands in the northern and middle states is perhaps most nearly approached when the soil is stirred in the early spring, as early as practicable and as deep as it can be and not injure the roots; cultivate in this manner until the trees are budded, then seeded with a cover crop which will grow until autumn and be turned under the following spring, and the same method practiced again.

In some sections of the apple country a cover crop is used the year that the trees are due to produce a large crop, so as to form a bed for the apples to fall upon and keep them clean and free from mud

COMMERCIAL VALUE OF STABLE MANURE

Humus Supplied the Soils is Worth More Than Accompanying Food Elements.

What is the real commercial value of common stable manure? Three constituents of this waste are much sought for and command good prices in the world's market today. Our fellow farmers back East are paying about 20 cents a pound for nitrogen, four cents for phosphoric acid, and five cents for potash in commercial fertilizers, that have not nearly the value the same food elements have when found in stable manure.

The humus supplied the soils by manure is worth even more than the accompanying food elements, because humus is the master key that unlocks the potential fertility in our soils. Some day we will be found going to the store to buy this same fertility we are now wasting. It will come higher, and no master key will be found in the sack. Farmers in New York are paying today at the rate of not less than \$2.50 for the sacked condensed plant food contained in one ton of the manure that now outrages our sense of beauty and presents us with swarms of flies. Just add the freight and don't be behind the times and forget the up-to-date profits.

DESTROY INSECTS BY THE FALL CLEAN-UP

Plowing Is Generally Recognized as Good Method for the Prevention of Injury.

In the war against farm and orchard pests a fall clean-up is a good means of attack.

Fall plowing is generally recognized as a good method for the prevention of insect injury; but rubbish left in piles along fences, or in the orchard, or garden, make the best kind of winter quarters for insect pests in various stages.

Trash of this kind should be cleared away and burned. Burning will destroy any insects among the rubbish.

FARM POULTRY

WASHING MACHINE FOR EGGS

Increased Profits Made by Putting Product of Hens in Neat and Attractive Packages.

It has been found by those who handle foodstuffs that it pays to put the goods up in attractive shape or packages. It is no uncommon thing to see vegetables tied up in ribbons, and fruit, which formerly traveled in barrels, is now packed in small boxes resembling confectionery in the way they are handled. The same applies



Washing Eggs.

to the fruit of the henery. An egg farmer who gets a reputation for the quality and appearance of his eggs will always get a premium above the price for his product, and this increased price makes it worth while for him to exercise the necessary care. Such persons not only examine each egg before it is shipped, but they are also washed by hand, in order that they present an immaculate appearance when placed on view. The machine shown in the accompanying cut has been recently patented for the purpose of washing eggs. It does the work as well as if done by hand and much more rapidly.

FOWL WITH LARGE APPETITE

May Be Picked Out on Roost at Night by Size of Crop—Judge Capacity by Shape of Body.

The hen with a large appetite can be picked out on the roost at night by the size of the crop. The capacity of a bird may be judged by the shape of the body. The jointed ribs allow the rear part of the body to expand downward, taking on a wedge-shape, as the digestive system and reproductive organs demand more room. This spread may be judged by the distance between the rear end of the breast bone and the pelvic bones. A bird spread from heavy production should not be confused with one spread from being overfat.

The high producer invariably shows what we might term as quality, that is, soft, pliable skin over breast bone and abdominal cavity.

The skin of the nonproducer or the bird out of condition will have a hard leathery or drawn feeling.

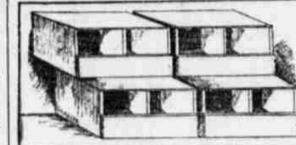
While the shape of the overfat hen may indicate capacity, the body cavity is filled with fat rather than organs of digestion and production, and the skin is lacking in that quality which appears in the high producer.

MAKE NEST BOXES MOVABLE

Easy Opportunity Afforded to Give House Thorough Cleaning and Fight Injurious Vermin.

Everything in the henhouse should be movable—nests, roosts, dust boxes, etc. This gives an easy chance to fight vermin, and also to give the house a thorough cleaning. The old practice of nailing nests, roosts and all fixtures to the building was a bad mistake, and there is no wonder that lice reigned supreme.

T. W. VARE, Hammon, N. J., has



Common-Sense Nest Boxes.

a novel nest method. Ordinary boxes are used; these are so placed that the lower box provides a platform for the upper nest, upon which the hens can easily alight. These nests are readily taken outdoors and thoroughly cleaned. The illustration gives the idea very clearly.—Farm Journal.

HARD WORK HANDLING DUCKS

Easier to Care for Fowls in Large Flocks Than Small—Grower Turns His Money Quickly.

Ducks can be handled in large numbers better than most other fowls and the grower turns his money quickly for by the end of summer he is cleaned out, having only a few scores or many hundreds of breeders to carry through the winter (the number depending on the size of his business). Yet the work is exceedingly exacting and most arduous while the busy season lasts.

Pelvic Bones of Best Layers.

The best layers usually have slender, pliable pelvic bones, while the poor layers have hard, rigid bones even though they are spread during production.

Horticultural Advice

SCIENCE IN HANDLING FRUIT

Grower May Secure High Prices for Product by Exercising Care in Sorting and Packing.

A great saving may be effected by the scientific handling of fruit of all kinds. In this case "science" means right knowledge and care. The fruit grower cannot always sell direct to the consumer, but he can, by sorting and carefully packing his product, get a much better price when selling to the retail dealer than he can if he follows the old-fashioned methods of dumping everything into boxes, baskets and barrels regardless of size and condition. The shrewd dealer will make the most of the bad condition of the stuff offered him, beating down the grower to the lowest possible price and then add to his profits by the work of a few boys in the basement who are instructed in the art of cleaning and repacking. The grower, himself, could get this added profit if he



Dumping Apples into Barrels Without Sorting Gives Middleman Greater Profits, Because He Grades and Sorts.

would only take a little more trouble in preparing his fruit for market.

Some associations of fruit and vegetable growers have adopted this plan, and made certain brands famous.

The fruit sold under these various brands is carefully selected and packed under the supervision of the manager employed by the growers, and packages are guaranteed to be up to standard in every way.

As most of the apples grown in this country are sent to market in barrels, it may be well to set down here some rules adopted by the best associations of fruit growers for the barreling of the fruit.

In the first place the apples are taken from the trees and placed in baskets or bags slung around the shoulders of the pickers, and some very careful growers insist that the pickers wear gloves, in order that their fingernails may not cut the fruit. It is a well-known fact now that a tiny abrasion made by the fingernail will often admit harmful bacteria which will, in a short time, destroy the apple.

The apples are then brought to the packing tables, which are covered with canvas or burlap under which is a padding of moss or straw in order to prevent bruising. The greatest care is taken to prevent the apples from falling from the table, or against one another in a way to cause the slightest bruise. The fruit is rapidly sorted into their proper grade and the package—whatever the form of packing may be—labeled with the growers' name. A barrel properly packed can be shipped long distances without injury to the fruit.

All good apple growers now understand that apples keep better if they are allowed to ripen upon the trees and it is seldom that green fruit is picked. Of course always there is just the right day when the apples should be taken from the tree, and this can be learned only by close observation and experience.

MAKE SUCCESS IN ORCHARDS

Growers Should Note That Thorough Tillage Is Most Profitable Method of Soil Management.

(By DR. E. H. JENKINS, Director, Connecticut Experiment Station.)

Certain sod orchards under special conditions, such as heavy manure mulching, together with some pasturing to keep the grass down, give good results—perhaps as good as clean cultivation. But the skillful fruit grower can expect more than the law of averages will give. And even the general grower should note that thorough tillage is the most profitable method of soil management.

BUSINESS IN CANADA IS GOOD

Successful Crops and Big Yields Help the Railway.

The remarkable fields that are reported of the wheat crop of Western Canada for 1915 bear out the estimate of an average yield over the three western provinces of upward of 25 bushels per acre. There is no portion of that great west of 24,000 square miles in which the crop was not good and the yields abundant. An American farmer who was induced to place under cultivation land that he had been holding for five years for speculative purposes and higher prices, says that he made the price of the land out of this year's crop of oats. No doubt, others, too, who took the advice of the Department of the Interior to cultivate the unoccupied land, have done as well.

But the story of the great crop that Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta produced this year is best told in the language of the railways in the added cars that it has been necessary to place in commission, the extra trains required to be run, the increased tonnage of the grain steamers.

It is found that railway earnings continue to improve.

The C. P. R. earnings for the second week of October showed an increase of \$762,000 over last year, the total being only \$310,000 below the gross earnings of the corresponding week of 1913, when the Western wheat crop made a new record for that date.

The increase in C. P. R. earnings for the corresponding week of that year was only \$351,000, or less than half of the increase reported this year. The grain movement in the West within the past two weeks has taxed the resources of the Canadian roads as never before, despite their increased facilities. The C. P. R. is handling 2,000 cars per day, a new record. The G. T. R. and the C. N. R. are also making new shipment records. The other day the W. Grant Morden, of the Canada Steamships Company, the largest freighter of the Canadian fleet on the Upper Lakes, brought down a cargo of 476,315 bushels, a new record for Canadian shipping. Records are "going by the board" in all directions this fall, due to Canada's record crop. The largest Canadian wheat movement through the port of New York ever known is reported for the period up to October 15th, when since shipments of the new crop began in August, 4,265,791 bushels have been reloaded for England, France and Italy. This is over half as much as was shipped of American wheat from the same port in the same period. And, be it remembered, Montreal, not New York, is the main export gateway for Canadian wheat. New York gets the overflow in competition with Montreal.—Advertisement.

He Pleas'd the Baby.

Restaurant Patron (caustically)—I am glad to see your baby has shut up, madam.

Mother—Yes, sir. You are the only thing that's pleased him since he saw the animals at the zoo.—Puck.

For a really fine coffee at a moderate price, drink Denison's Seminole Brand, 35¢ the lb., in sealed cans. Only one merchant in each town sells Seminole. If your grocer isn't the one, write the Denison Coffee Co., Chicago, for a souvenir and the name of your Seminole dealer. Buy the 3 lb. Canister Can for \$1.00.—Adv.

It isn't so difficult for the average man to stay married after he gets used to it.

It is seldom that the husband and wife both entertain affection for another woman.

The Idea of "Preparedness"

is a splendid one for the person to follow whose stomach is weak, liver inactive and bowels clogged. You can greatly assist these organs and prevent much suffering by the timely use of

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