

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 12

JEHOVAH YEARNS OVER ISRAEL.

LESSON TEXT—Hosea 11:1-11. GOLDEN TEXT—I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love.—Hosea 11:4.

A contemporary of Isaiah and Amos, Hosea continued to prophesy after the first captivity of the northern kingdom. His style is abrupt and figurative. Israel is Jehovah's adulterous wife, repudiated, but finally to be purified and restored. This lesson is a part of the second section of the book (4:1-13:6), which is a description of the sinful people.

I. "The Perverse Child," vv. 1-7. The "remnant" (ch. 6:1-3) had cried out for relief. (See Isa. 1:9; Rom. 2:5). Jehovah's reply (begins 6:4) is a severe arraignment of Israel's backsliding as contrasted with his grace. To understand this lesson read the entire book repeatedly. In verse 1 of the lesson Jehovah recalls to the nation the days of its childhood. Because of his great love (Deut. 7:7) he called them out of Egypt, the land of bondage, into Canaan, the land of blessing and liberty. Yet Israel sensed not its duty nor its obligation of gratitude. We are living under a greater obligation because of the greater redemption God has provided for us in the person of his Son. God here calls Israel "my son" (Ex. 4:22); we have the right to call ourselves sons (John 1:12; I. John 3:1-2). Matthew's gospel applies these words to him who alone was fully and in the true sense God's son. Jesus is the summary of the whole nation in that he alone fully realized God's purpose in Israel (Matt. 2:15).

As contrasted with what a son is or should be verse 2 gives a picture of Israel's wandering. The whole history of the nation is one of going after false gods. (I. Sam. 8:7-9 and many other references.) In those childhood days (v. 3) Jehovah taught them how to walk, and healed their hurts, "but they knew not"—God, as a tender Father, had watched over, taught, guided and healed (Ex. 19:14; Isa. 46:3; 63:9). Even so, in this present age God is a God of mercy and long suffering (Rom. 2:4), yet the mass of men "know not" what God is doing for them. In verse 4 the child has grown older and as mothers often tether a child lest it run away, so Jehovah endeavors to draw Israel to him with "cords of love." His cord of love now is the mighty power of Calvary (John 12:32). Jehovah not only drew but even sought to entice, for he "laid meat unto them"—Jesus will deliver us, for he bore our yoke (Matt. 11:28-30) and is for us the Bread of Life (John 6:35, 58). Love does not mean that the backslider shall be free from punishment. "Because they refused to return . . . the sword shall abide" (v. 5-6 and Heb. 12:6). Even so God did not permit them to go back to Egyptian bondage (v. 5). Israel was "bent to backsliding." In spite of the constant call to worship and serve him none "would exalt him."

II. The Pleading Parent, vv. 8-12. None can fathom the depths of the cry, "How shall I give thee up, How shall I deliver thee?" (v. 8). Israel would persist and still Jehovah pleads that perchance they would heed his cry (Jer. 9:7; Lam. 3:33). Admah and Zebolm were irretrievably overthrown with Sodom and Gomorrah (Deut. 29:33), shall Israel likewise perish? No! (v. 9) for "I am God, not man." God does not, like man, change—his covenants are not "scraps of paper," his love is everlasting (Nu. 23:19). It is not God but man who is responsible for his destruction. The "Holy One in the midst of thee" is there to save, not as an avenger. God has not come into our midst in wrath—God's passionate desire is to save not to destroy. His purposes are those of love and redemption and as with Israel of old, so in this age, he will carry out these purposes in spite of our backsliding (Rom. 11:28-29). Verses 10 and 11 are prophetic of the ultimate repentance and restoration of Israel—Judgment shall pass upon their foes (Joel 2:16) and those of the dispersion (see parallel Isa. 11:11-16) shall gather, as "doves to their windows," and be once more "in their houses," i. e., set up as a nation in their God-given land. Ephraim (v. 12) sought to give without or by casting off Jehovah (I. Cor. 4:8).

In Judah was the legal priesthood and the legitimate king, but the apostasy of Israel was more culpable because of the example of Judah which he had set at naught.

III. Promised Deliverance. In a most striking way Hosea fishes a note of hope and love through the cloud of gloom which hung over the nation as it drew closer to its doom, because the people refused to repent. Amos delivered his warning and returned to Judah.

Hosea was a part of the nation which emphasizes such verses of his prophecy as the following: 6:1, 4; 6:11; 11:6, 6:4, 6:6, 2:15 and 10:12, which sound the message of hope like bulletins from the battle's front.

Verse 3 is the final summary for Israel and for us as well.

Th' Passin' o' Whiskers

By KIN HUBBARD



No Family Doctor Could Expect t' Enjoy th' Full Confidence an' Respect o' His Patients Unless He Had All th' Space on His Face Under Cultivation Except His Nose an' Forehead.

"It hain't been so many years ago since you could stand on th' corner an' come purty close t' guessin' ever feller's age who passed along by th' cut o' his jib," said Hon. Ex-Editor Cale Fluhart.

"O' course our estimates were based largely on th' length an' style o' whiskers. T'day whiskers are th' exception an' th' feller who throws himself on th' tender mercies of a capable barber can easily pass for thirty-two till he's seventy-nine.

"In th' ole days when whiskers wuz th' height o' ever feller's ambition nobuddy wuz ever taken seriously until they showed unmistakable evidence o' their ability t' grow a beard. After a feller raised a full set o' crisp, glossy whiskers, either red or black, he at once became eligible t' discuss th' most momentous questions, either national or international. Whiskers denoted a mature mind. Professional men cultivated them in large bunches. Sideburns wuz in high favor. Sometimes they were under control an' sometimes they were allowed t' follow their own inclinations. Full sets were all th' rage with medical men, an' no

family doctor could expect t' enjoy th' full confidence an' respect o' his patients unless he had all th' space on his face under cultivation except his nose an' forehead.

"Once in a while some feller wuz darin' enough t' wear a smooth face, but he wuz soon drowned out o' th' conversation. If a young, bare-faced squirt proposed t' a girl she would call him fer his presumption an' say: 'Begone! When you kin show me a neat, close-reefed, velvety mustache I'll talk business, but not until.'

"A few architects still stick t' th' ole-time Van Dykes an' we occasionally meet a government employee who stands defiantly under th' civil service laws wearin' a hedge. Th' trillin' arbutus, or Wild Bill mustache, is almost extinct. It wuz undermined above th' lip an' allowed t' droop from either corner o' th' mouth after th' fashion o' cypress moss. In some sections where land sells for eighty cents per acre we not infrequently meet human bein's wearin' a tangled mass interspersed with cowlicks."

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TODAY'S GIRL

By KIN HUBBARD



Is Ther a Photo o' a Youth Leanin' Agin th' Talcum Can on her Dresser? If Ther Is, Study th' Necktie an' Hair Cut Carefully Before It's Too Late.

When th' average mother gits t' reviewin' th' past she can't help comparin' th' pleasures an' opportunities o' t'day with th' slow gait o' common-place diversions o' her uneventful girlhood. So she sets on th' verandy in th' evenin' an' smiles an' quietly congratulates her daughter as th' tender striplin' hops int' a mouse colored six-cylinder Juggernaut an' spins away in a cloud o' cigarette smoke with some irresponsible pompadoured caterpillar. "Let th' poor child enjoy herself while she kin fer she'll be married soon enough." That's th' modern mother instinct croppin' out.

Th' mother o' t'day thinks that because she safely tided o'er th' wiles o' th' 1880 Lothario with his pink gum drops an' yellor-buggy that her daughter is too smart t' be carried away by a shepherd's plaid suit an' caviar an' lobster t' music.

Our girls are growin' up too fast. We no longer see th' meekness that used t' lurk under th' long lashes o' Miss Sixteen. Th' sweetness too, has vanished. Th' rambos flush that once enveloped her face at th' slightest slip o' th' tongue is off th' job. Th' miss o' t'day is interestin' but not girlish.

But after all ther is much t' admire in th' new girl's pluck—her effort t' be self-sustainin' an' her aversion t' dishwater. We love t' see her goin' down town t' work, when th' economic conditions demand it, with a spoon box full o' angel food. We love t' see her homeward bound with her nose erect after th' business worries o' th' day. But we miss th' ole indescribable somethin' about th' girl in her teens

that used t' make us stutter an' tremble in her presence. We wonder if she's gittin' all th' home trainin' that's comin' t' her. T'day th' charm o' girlhood is jist as liable t' git rubbed off under th' soft glow o' th' parlor lamp er among th' tango dancers at a week-end party as in th' factory er under th' careful scrutiny o' th' pompous floorwalker.

What is your daughter readin'? "Vanity Fair" er "Deserted on Her Wedding Morn." Is she singin' "Sweet Genevieve" er "Mingle Your Eyebrows With Mine"? Does she leave anythin' fer th' imagination when she dresses up? What is she playin' on th' pianer? "In th' Gloamin'" er "At th' Devil's Ball"? Does she sigh fer a Shakespearean revival er is she lookin' forward t' a musical show? Is ther a photo o' a youth leanin' agin th' talcum can on her dresser? If ther is, study th' necktie an' hair cut carefully before it's too late.

Father is th' one t' talk t' daughter. He knows what's goin' on downtown. Let him ferget his business fer an' hour er so an' take th' little girl that only yesterday set on his knee an' asked t' see his gold tooth out under th' willow tree near th' pump an' tell her that when an automobile goin' forty miles an hour hits a telephone pole ther is no appeal—that a gown o' gray radium silk with green stripes an' trimmin's o' green charmeuse is as nothin' t' a clear conscience, an' that many a heavy heart beats behind a pair o' perfect eyebrows.

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LEFT THE ARTIST GUESSING

"How" and "Why" the Two Great Questions Which the Years Were Called Upon to Solve.

Ernest Lawson, the impressionist, joined a group of fellow artists one day, and, blushing with pleasure, announced:

"Say, fellows, I think perhaps at last I am really arrive. I have just been up to the Metropolitan museum and I found an old lady copying my picture."

"Why don't you buy it from her, sign it and sell it at a profit?" coldly remarked one of Mr. Lawson's rivals, entirely unmoved by the eventment.

"Perhaps he pays the old lady to copy his picture for the sake of the 'ad,'" remarked another.

"Say, what's to prevent a fellow from going up there and copying his own picture?" said an academician, getting excited at last. "There's no law again it, is there?"

"One might learn something even at that," replied Lawson. "Often when you see one of your pictures after a few years you wonder how you did it; also why you did it!"

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of J. C. Watson in Use For Over 30 Years.

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High Self-Esteem. "Well, if that Watson isn't the most conceited, self-satisfied, self—" "Yes, I've heard you say something of that kind before. What's started you off this time?"

"He just sent a telegram of congratulation to his mother." "Well?" "Today's his birthday."—Everybody's Magazine.

WONDERFUL HOW QUICKLY RESINOL STOPS ITCHING

To those who have endured for years the itching torments of eczema or other such skin-eruptions, the relief that the first use of Resinol ointment and Resinol soap gives is perfectly incredible. After all the suffering they went through and all the useless treatments they spent good money for, they cannot believe anything so simple, mild and inexpensive can stop the itching and burning INSTANTLY! And they find it still more wonderful that the improvement is permanent and that Resinol really drives away the eruption completely in a very short time. Perhaps there is a pleasant surprise like this in store for you. Resinol ointment and Resinol soap are sold by all druggists.—Adv.

All He Needed. A lady told me, as a true story of a soldier's wit, that a soldier in a hospital on recovering consciousness said: "Nurse, what is this on my head?" "Vinegar cloths," she replied. "You have had fever." After a pause: "And what is this on my chest?" "A mustard plaster. You have had pneumonia."

"And what is this at my feet?" "Salt bags. You have had frost-bite." A soldier from the next bed looked up and said: "Hang a pepperbox to his nose, nurse, then he will be a cruet."—The Strand.

Important to All Women Readers of This Paper

Thousands upon thousands of women have kidney or bladder trouble and never suspect it.

Women's complaints often prove to be nothing else but kidney trouble, or the result of kidney or bladder disease. If the kidneys are not in a healthy condition, they may cause the other organs to become diseased.

You may suffer a great deal with pain in the back, bearing-down feelings, headache and loss of ambition. Poor health makes you nervous, irritable and may be despondent; it makes any one so.

But hundreds of women claim that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, by restoring health to the kidneys, proved to be just the remedy needed to overcome such conditions.

A good kidney medicine, possessing real healing and curative value, should be a blessing to thousands of nervous, over-worked women.

Many send for a sample bottle to see what Swamp-Root, the great Kidney, Liver and Bladder Remedy will do for them. Every reader of this paper, who has not already tried it, by enclosing ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., may receive sample-size bottle by Parcel Post. You can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar-size bottles at all drug stores.—Adv.

Sim Hecke always refers to Halley's as Heckel's comet, and claims that his great-grandfather discovered it.

SUDDEN DEATH

Caused by Disease of the Kidneys. The close connection which exists between the heart and the kidneys is well known nowadays. As soon as kidneys are diseased, arterial tension is increased and the heart functions are attacked. When the kidneys no longer pour forth waste, uræmic poisoning occurs, and the person dies and the cause is often given as heart disease, or disease of brain or lungs.

It is a good insurance against such a risk to send 10 cents for a large trial package of Dr. Pierce's. Also send a sample of your water. This will be examined without charge by expert chemists at Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y. When you suffer from backache, frequent or scanty urine, rheumatic pains here or there, or that constant tired, worn-out feeling, it's time to write Dr. Pierce, describe your symptoms and get his medical opinion, without charge—absolutely free. This "Anuric" of Dr. Pierce's is 37 times more active than lithia, for it dissolves uric acid in the system, as hot water does sugar.

Simply ask for Dr. Pierce's Anuric Tablets. There can be no imitation. Every package of "Anuric" is sure to be Dr. Pierce's. You will find the signature on the package just as you do on Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, the ever-famous friend to ailing women.

Worry is a frequent cause and sometimes a symptom of kidney disease. Thousands have testified to immediate relief from these symptoms after using Dr. Pierce's Anuric Tablets for the kidneys and backache.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes weak women strong, sick women well. No alcohol. Sold in tablets or liquid.

Watch Your Colts

For Coughs, Colds and Distemper, and at the first symptoms of any such ailment, give small doses of that wonderful remedy, now the most used in existence.

Consumers may order direct from the manufacturers. Send remittance with \$1.00 in a bottle, \$2.00 and fill the dozen, delivery free. SPOHN MEDICAL CO., MFRS., GOSHEN, IND., U. S. A.

Making It Swim. There is a story told that some years ago the keeper of the lighthouse on Tory Island (an Englishman) got married to a London girl, and his wife had, among other effects, a piano sent after her to her new home. By and by the news reached the island that the instrument was on the mainland, and two islanders were dispatched in a lugger to fetch it across. The lighthouse keeper and his wife were waiting the arrival of the piano which was to brighten the long winter evenings; but to their disappointment they saw the boat returning without the instrument.

"Where is the piano?" shouted the lighthouse keeper when the lugger had had got within hailing distance.

"It's all right," replied one of the boatmen; "sure we're towin' it behind us!"

Finance. "I'm trying to economize this year, but my wife and daughters are determined to go to Florida for the winter."

"What are you going to do about it?" "Well, seeing they've all combined against me, I suppose I'll have to negotiate a loan for the allies."

Reminiscent. "I took my father to see that new musical comedy last night."

"How did he enjoy it?" "Very much indeed! He said the jokes took him right back to the days of his childhood."

It is also well to remember that there is no special distinction in being a fool.

There are a good many jokes, but the one on the hungry wolf that kills a sheep is about the best of the lot.



Don't Shiver in Chilly Rooms

The discomfort of spending the early days of fall in chilly, unheated rooms is nothing to the danger to health. It lowers the vitality and invites colds and pneumonia; if there are young children or old people in the family the risk of illness is doubled. It also is unnecessary when the NEW PERFECTION Heater instantly banishes frosty chill and makes the living room a place of genial comfort.

Carry it with you from room to room and have heat to dress by in the morning and in the bathroom. After the wick fires are lighted, use the NEW PERFECTION in rooms that are hard to heat; in the night, if anyone is sick; wherever and whenever you want a warm room quickly—by simply striking a match.

At the Panama-Pacific Exposition the NEW PERFECTION Heater—a sweeping victory. Your dealer has the NEW PERFECTION Oil Heater on exhibition. Look for the triangle for warmth, comfort and good cheer. He will be glad to show you the different models.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (Indiana), CHICAGO, U. S. A.

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