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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETINGS

News of Interest to Church Goes By a Writer Who is An Authority on Religious Subjects. The International Lesson for Next Sunday.

OVERPOWERING THE POWERS.

The International Sunday School Lesson for March 13 is, "What Manner of Man is This, That Even the Winds and the Sea Obey Him?" Matthew 8:23-34.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

People are puzzled today by the powers that are shaping society. They see forces at work to increase the cost of living, to increase the restlessness of life, to increase thoughtfulness, materialism and irreverence. Consternation is the word which perhaps best expresses the state of a large part of the public mind. For this reason the most harrowing schemes of remedy find a hearing; and the demagogue grows fat in the land. Even religion is running to secondary remedies. Listen to the admonitions that arise in the discussion of social questions: "Let us organize our charities better and make sure of rich endowments; let us institutionalize our churches, and make them political and industrial forums; let us minister to men's temporal and social needs." And so it goes almost ad nauseam. The United States Congress is asked to charter a sort of universal benevolence trust. The Laymen's Missionary Movement, and the Apportionment Committee of some denominations, cry ceaselessly for money as the most necessary power, as if the new battle hymn of the Kingdom were Kipling's:

"Pay! Pay! Pay!"
The Power Above the Powers.
This tendency of a somewhat frightened church to place reliance upon more money, more machinery, more methods, more distinguished men, is really one that calls for grave consideration. It may as well be frankly confessed that the Lord's battles are not going to be won by man's powers. Somebody has revised the misleading motto of the aroused laymen, "We can do it, and we will," to the better form, "He can do it, if we will." A good battle cry for all Christian effort, while men remain in their present mood, is that old one from the Scriptures, "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

There is a power above the powers. This is the creed for today. Jehovah still reigns. In his own ways he is bringing to pass his own ends. Every new generation has to learn afresh, and repeatedly, this cardinal truth of religion. The disciples needed it; and they were taught by the two signs—the stilling of the tempest and the casting out of the evil spirits from the demoniac—which constitute the present Sunday school lesson. Christ is still with his own, and he still has the "all power" which he claimed when speaking in the flesh.

The hub of this whole lesson is the need for faith. Believe God. Count more on him, and less on buildings and appliances and the cunning of man. A faith sufficient for small needs, as well as for great, is the supreme present requirement of the churches. The Master who stilled the tempest on Galilee is not going to let the ship of Zion be wrecked. He is still Lord of all realms and peoples. His power is moving on earth today. It is equal to every demand. The tide that lifts the great ships raises the small boats also.

The Weary Leader.
One of the familiar stories which Christendom loves, echoing it from generation to generation in countless songs and pictures, is this of the stilling of the tempest. More impressive than the sudden outburst of wind and upheaval of the water is the figure of the weary Jesus, asleep in the stern

of the boat. No private yacht this, but a rude fishing craft. On the rough cushion, odorless of fish, and stained by sun and water, the tired Teacher had thrown himself down, just as he was, in his landsman's garb. His head was pillowed on his arm, and he slept.
The utter of the ship's tackle, the excited tones of the company, the pounding of the newly-created waves against the boat, the rise and fall of the water, the shrieks of the wind through the scant rigging—all were alike powerless to penetrate the thick pall of sleep in which he was wrapped. His was the deep, peaceful weariness of the man who, despite overwork, has in his heart a great calm. Storms come to all men; it is the shadowy philosophy of religion which would have the body exempted from trouble; the craft which carried Christ was sorely buffeted. But at the center of his life there was unruffled peace. The man in unity with God cannot be greatly disturbed by anything in all nature.

The roar of the tempest was inaudible to the exhausted sleeper; but the first cry of need from his affrighted friends reached him. That is the ineffable personal quality of the Lord. His ear is ever open to the cry of his own. If the universe were filled with the uproar of the clash and collision of worlds, the Lord would still hear the faintest whisper of supplication from one of his friends. And all the might of his omnipotence is pledged to the succor of even the least of these. Sceptics wonder that a great storm should be commanded to calm, like an obedient house-pet, all for the sake of a few scared peasants. That is just the sort of God that is running this world. He cares for his processes, but he cares more for his people. He works through his own laws, but he is no modern pettifogging judge or lawyer, defeating law's supreme end by technical and "consistent" procedure. His benign will is the supreme court that interprets all his laws. His laws were made, not for the laws' sake, but for the carrying out of his purposes of love.

When that sudden calm fell upon the lately aroused sea of Galilee, the disciples were scared. They began to whisper one to another, "What manner of man is this? Who can make the winds obey him? Who can make the sea obey him?" They thought they knew him; but Jesus possesses that most delightful of qualities in a friend, the capacity for unexpectedness and surprising phases of his character. Some persons one exhausts in a few hours' acquaintance; a few friends develop unexpected riches of character through the years; but Jesus is inexhaustible. The newest disciple finds in him fullness of satisfaction; the oldest saint discovers in him fresh beauties constantly. The one bottomless ocean in the universe is the love and power of God, as represented by Jesus.

A Man Dispossessed.
The control over nature which Jesus displayed in the storm was quickly followed by an evidence of his supremacy over the power of darkness. A demoniac—one being pre-eminently, although accompanied by another or others—was encountered on the other side of the sea. All leaders have their powers put to a supreme test when they come to deal with human nature. The sea and wind are staple elements, as compared with the heart of a man. Here was an instance of a man dispossessed of self-control, and given over utterly to the dominion of malignant powers.

Many persons are fond of saying that there is no such thing as demoniacal possession. Probably the controversy is merely a matter of terms. When a person is not self-possessed, what possesses him? Most

of us who are honest admit a knowledge of overwhelming passions that sweep down upon the spirit to take it captive. Everybody may have his own notion of what demon-possession may mean; for me it harks back to a boyhood experience. I had jumped upon the end of a wagon to steal or beg a ride. The driver turned and ordered me off. I was slow—probably tantalizingly so. He leaped from the seat and came toward me, shouting horrible oaths, with a perfect madness of fury in his voice and face. There was murder in his manner—all over the veriest trifle. I have never lost the odious image of that man; he became them, and has since, in my type of a demon-possessed mortal.

Whatever the physiological or psychological explanation of the state of the poor, naked, raving demoniac amid the tombs of the Gergesenes, he was in a dreadful case. There was no place for him but the desert; only Christianity builds asylums for the insane and the outcast. The awfulness of this man's sufferings may be seen from the vividness of his rejecting over deliverance.

Even as the white traders in the Sandwich Islands opposed the advent of missionaries, so the demons cried out against the approach of Christ. "What have we to do with thee?" Really, everything. Truth always has business with error—to extinguish it. There ever has been, is now, and forever must be, the relationship of battle between the good and the bad. A Scotch merchant in Tien Tain was taking his comparator to task, day after day, for his "squeezes" or graft. At length the Chinese said, "Why you make so much trouble, 'Why you come, if no savvy." "Of course you don't," retorted the merchant, "that is because you are a thief and a liar." No compromise or alliance is possible between Christ and Satan.

The Problem of the Pigs.
A favorite theological difficulty of the light-minded, in this connection, is the destruction of the pigs involved in the story. Jesus drove the demons out of the man into a herd of swine, which ran headlong into the sea and perished. It sounds not unlike the modern cry which reformers hear, "It will hurt business." Indeed, these same people—apparently thinking more of the pigs than of the emancipated man—entreated Jesus to take his dangerous powers away from their shores. He did—and never returned! If the pig merchants were Jews, they were violating the law to be in that business. But apart from all attempts to explain the incident it remains indubitable that the Lord, who for his own inscrutable purposes has permitted the death of innocent myriads of men and women, would not let his sovereignty be baffled by a herd of swine. It was contemptible smallness then to look toward the quotations upon pork, instead of rejoicing over the deliverance of manhood. Our times need the lesson. We should care more for human needs than for vested interests. Jesus did.

JUST JOGGING ALONG.
Terse Comments Upon the Christian Endeavor Topic for March 13, "Patient Faithfulness that Wins the Crown." Rev. 2: 1-10, 18, 19.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.
One of the best known and most successful missionaries in Japan once said to me, self-deprecatingly, as we walked along a Japanese highway, "Being a missionary is merely looking alone quietly in the ways of the new age, trying to find out something about them, and endeavoring to put in a word now and then." Thus whimsical, this man, who is at work by 4 o'clock every morning, expressed the supreme importance of patient, quiet faithfulness in the performance of small deeds, until the aggregate is a great achievement. It is rarely given to anybody to do, in a shining hour, one great deed. Greatness grows as the coral islands grow, little by little. That is the way all good work is accomplished. Patient continuance in well-doing alone wins crowns of achievement.

"It is dogged as does it."
"Having done all, stand." That is the last and finest test of a good soldier. Grim endurance proves the heart. To keep at it in the face of all discouragements, and not to turn sour in the meantime, is a mark of real greatness. Lacking this quality, all the higher orders of success in life are impossible.

Somebody has said that every church is manned by three kinds of people—"the workers, the jerkers, the shirkers." Some there be, and they are the mainstay of every good work, who steadfastly plod ahead, in rain and shine, through good report and ill, doing the task that the Master has laid to their hand. Others there are who serve only by spurts and starts; they are the "jerkers" and the unreliable. Still others shamelessly evade all responsibility; they never sing with the children.

"Surely the Captain may depend on me."
Though but an armor-bearer I may be.

It is to the first alone that the Lord's "Well done" can be given. He is willing to enter one of these modern marathons. The man who perseveres to the end is the only real marathon runner. It is the amount of good nature we may have at the close

of a hard day; the cheerfulness we display over a Christian task which has lost its newness; the religion we have in working condition after we have been tested and opposed and defeated, that tells the significant story.
"God Almighty hates a quitter," is a rough colloquialism which, after all, embodies a Scriptural truth. John on Patmos expressed it in more dignified and beautiful language when he wrote, "To him that overcometh, to him will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is the Paradise of God." "He that endureth to the end shall be saved."

Patience is not necessarily a passive virtue. It takes strength to be quiet and to wait, subduing fear and foreboding and restlessness and querulousness. Whoso is patient is strong. He is one of the great victors of whom the Book says, "In your patience shall you win your souls."

Patience is its own reward, but it brings in its train many other rewards.

There is a bogus butter in the market, but there is a deal more bogus patience in the world. This imitation article wears a long face and speaks in a whine, saying, by words and by attitude, "Behold how resigned I am under, lo, these many trials. Surely the Lord must be proud of me." In truth, that sort of attitude is not patience at all. Real patience, triumphant patience, such as the Bible honors, is quiet and self-forgetting and inwardly as well as outwardly cheerful. It does not endure hardship merely because it cannot do anything else; but it rejoices in the opportunity to learn life's deeper lessons.

"Wounded? I know it, my brother; The sword has pierced thy heart; Courage, and in silent endurance, Play thou the hero's part. Make no sad plaint or moaning, Smile, as in days before; Wrap thy mantle around thee, Cover the bleeding sore."

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS.
The eternal stars shine out as soon as it is light enough.—Anon.

A man only understands what is akin to something already existing in himself.—Amiel.

The more we live, more brief appear Our lives' succeeding stages; A day to childhood seems a year, And years like passing ages.—Campbell.

It is not the man who reaches the corner first who wins, but the man who knows exactly what he is going to do when he reaches the corner.—Charles E. Hughes.

No man can live a life when he has genuinely learned that it is half a life; the other half, the higher life, must haunt him.—Anon.

I will never presume, because I am a man; I will never despair, because I have a God.—Fellham.

Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance; it is laying hold of His highest willingness.—Trench.

WRECK NEAR WEST POINT.
Passenger Train on Fort Madison and Ottumwa Branch Is Derailed.

West Point, March 8.—The local passenger train on the Fort Madison and Ottumwa branch of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad was derailed about one mile west of West Point yesterday afternoon. The train, which consists of an engine, tender, combination mail and baggage car and two coaches, was traveling along at the rate of about twenty miles an hour when all the cars left the rails. This accident occurred in about the same place as the one last fall. A wrecker was called and arrived about 10 o'clock last evening. The wreck itself is not serious, as no one was hurt or seriously injured, and the damage to the equipment will also be nominal. The cause is unknown.

Iowa Central R. R. Has Small Blaze.
Eddyville, March 8.—(Special.)—The trestle on the Iowa Central railroad crossing the river bottoms at Eddyville, caught fire from coals from an engine. For some time it looked as if the fire would be hard to control on account of the high wind. The blaze was extinguished before much damage was done.

Eldon School Nominations.
Eldon Independent School district primary at McHaffey's opera house, resulted in the following nominations: directors, Frank Shane, H. Germer; treasurer, J. E. Varnum, C. W. Finney.

FAIRFIELD.
The Ladies' Auxiliary of Parsons college will present the school with a gateway to the campus costing \$300. Work is to be begun as soon as possible. The gateway will be built across the Third street entrance to the campus and as planned will be an imposing structure. The central pillars will be thirteen feet high with an arch over the sidewalk. The Ladies' Auxiliary is composed of a number of Fairfield women and the object of the organization is the upbuilding of the college.

The Parsons preps won another basketball game Saturday evening when they defeated Brighton high school at Brighton by a score of 25 to 10.

The K. of P. band will give a concert in Library hall tonight and another in Mt. Pleasant Wednesday night. The band has been under the leadership of Prof. Julius Winter for a year and its improvement in that time has been marked. It has made few appearances locally since the close of the summer concert season last fall.

Two men, each carrying a revolver held up Jack Antos, night engineer at the city water works, at 4:35 o'clock in the morning and secured \$6 cents in small change for their trouble.

Antos was alone in the building and

PLAN GIVES SATISFACTION

Mail Subscribers Want Papers Stopped When Time is Up—Send Money Direct to Courier Office.

The Courier is receiving many letters from mail subscribers commending this paper for adopting the plan to stop the paper at the date of the expiration of the subscription.

Almost every one has taken some paper or magazine which has run on longer after the time paid for expired, and which all kinds of notices and letters failed to stop. This is very unpleasant and annoying, but by the cash in advance system, there cannot be any trouble of this kind, and what is more no back bills to pay. We believe this system, when once in operation, will please every subscriber.

Please notice the date on the label of your paper. If it is back of April 15, 1910, please send remittance to this office so that the paper can be continued. This system must be in force by that date. The postal authorities will only allow the publisher to extend a credit of three months, and it is an impossibility to check up a list as large as the Courier's so as to keep it all within the three months' limit. Thus the present plan is the only way that the publisher and subscriber can keep within the limit of the law.

For convenience we want to get all subscriptions paid to the first of the month—any month. So in sending in your subscription, figure it so as to bring it to the first of some month. For instance, if your subscription expires on the 15th, then \$1.10 will pay for the balance of that month and four months in addition. This will greatly facilitate our office work and will assist us in getting notices to our subscribers as to when their subscriptions expire.

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was engaged in oiling the machinery of the engine room when a voice behind him ordered him to throw up his hand. The robbers warned Antes not to give any warning of their visit or they would shoot him. Antes notified the police within a short time, but the hold-up men were not captured.

Drillers at the deep well struck another layer of limestone at a depth of 215 feet Monday night. The first layer of limestone was 95 feet thick and was underlain by a bed of shale ten feet in thickness. Drilling is being carried on night and day.

An all day missionary meeting in which part will be taken by the missionary societies of practically all the Protestant churches of the city, will be held in the Baptist church Thursday morning, beginning at 10 o'clock. This meeting is an annual affair and will be the sixth of the kind to be held in Fairfield in as many years.

An alarm of fire was turned in Monday afternoon from Bevering's cigar store on the north side. A small blaze in the basement was extinguished without water and with no damage except that done by smoke in the cigar store and in Gobble & Heer's clothing store adjoining.

Phillip Sauer, who has been spending a few weeks with relatives in Germany, has arrived home.

Fairfield Rebekah lodge No. 95 will hold a reception tonight in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Groff who expects to move from the community soon.

SEYMOUR.
Elder Daniel Miller of Trenton, Mo., is in town this week attending a family reunion at the home of his uncle, John McAnelly.

Born to Eli Alexander and wife Wednesday, a son.

Mr. William La Salle, the renowned trick roller skater, who performed at the Rollaway rink a few weeks ago, is visiting friends here this week.

Dr. C. W. Hamming went to Ottumwa Sunday to visit his wife, who is to undergo a severe operation at the hospital the first of the week.

Frank Bone and family left Wednesday with a car of stock and goods for Coloyoke, Cal., where they will make their home.

M. McGahey and family and W. S. Merritt and family have left the farm and will make Seymour their home.

Mrs. L. Buedel of Ottumwa has been visiting her sister, Mrs. John LaFollette.

On account of the recent death of his wife, J. D. Blough and family are moving back to their old home in Fairfield.

William Adams of Chicago is visiting friends here this week.

Rev. L. M. Beebe, pastor of the Presbyterian church, is very ill with pneumonia.

Mrs. Anna Morgan and Mrs. Minnie Hancock of Allerton visited last week with their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Weagley.

Ila and Fred Evans went to Ottumwa Wednesday to visit their grandmother, Mrs. J. W. DeNoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyson of Novinger, Mo., moved here Wednesday. Mr. Tyson is employed in Bousman & Cain's barber shop.

Miss Fay Runyon entertained about twenty girl friends Saturday afternoon, it being her twelfth birthday. Mrs. Runyon served a charming five o'clock luncheon.

E. E. Earl of Cincinnati and A. N. Earl of Centerville were in town last Tuesday closing a deal with F. B. Llewellyn for the 160 acres of the Llewellyn home farm southeast of town, which they bought some time ago for \$55 an acre.

Mrs. H. E. Monteth and Miss Mina Padgett were married and left Friday for Westington Springs, South Dakota.

Hiram Rogers was called to Greeley, Colorado, Tuesday morning on account

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of the illness of his step-father, W. L. Harris.

Miss Rosa Gordon was operated on for appendicitis Monday. She is doing well.

Mrs. H. W. Hamilton of Goodland, Kansas, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John Bauman.

Miss Kittle Elmore has gone to Kirksville, Mo., to make her home with her sister, Mrs. Ed Davenport, and has accepted a position as head saleslady in a store there.

Rev. Hunter of Streator, Ill., has taken up work as pastor of the U. B. church. His wife, son and daughter are expected soon.

Rev. Bey of Pella preached Sunday at the Baptist church. Rev. Clemens is away assisting Rev. Thomas in a revival at Yarmouth.

HEDRICK.
Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Knight visited at the parental Knight home in Oskaloosa Friday.

Ed Beck and family returned to their home in Washington after a visit with relatives and friends in Hedrick.

Mrs. F. W. Stephenson and daughter Opal were in Ottumwa Saturday. Jack Halferty of Ollie was visiting Hedrick friends Sunday.

F. D. Hix and Bob Beasley disposed of their household goods at public auction Saturday. They will leave this afternoon for their new homes in Texas.

Miss Letta Coffman returned to Ottumwa after an over Sunday visit with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coffman.

D. C. Olive and Hugh Reed of Richland were in Hedrick Friday enroute to Signourney.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas Martin and Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith were passengers for Ottumwa Saturday.

Miss Sadie Ives left Saturday for Knoxville where she has a position in a milliner store. Mrs. Mary Welch of Signourney was the guest of the Phil Coy home last week.

Mrs. Chas. Clossen is still very ill at her home in this city.

Mrs. A. E. Leuke returned Saturday evening from a visit in Albia.

E. E. Phelps and family and Miss Blanche Rook of Packwood visited relatives and friends in Hedrick over Sunday.

J. G. Fye of Ollie was in Hedrick on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Utterback are in Ottumwa.

Mrs. Wm. Kitterman and Mrs. Broadhead left Monday morning for Union county to visit relatives.

Baine Harbison of Ottumwa is the guest of William Kitterman.

Miss Florence Cox visited in Fremont Friday.

Phil Coy and family have moved to their new home on Spring street, recently purchased.



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