

# INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By O. E. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

## LESSON FOR JUNE 7

### COMING OF THE KINGDOM.

LESSON TEXT—Luke 17:20-37.  
GOLDEN TEXT—"Lo, the Kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:21.

I. The Kingdom Present, vv. 20, 21. The Pharisees held some peculiar ideas about the coming of the kingdom. Contrary to their ideas there are no special outward signs to herald its coming. The word "observation" v. 20, is an astronomical one and suggests that the kingdom was to come in a bodily shape from the sky, a current expectation on the part of the Pharisees.

In answer to the boastful Pharisees (v. 20) Jesus plainly told them that he himself is the kingdom, and that that kingdom was in their midst or "among you," see (v. 21) margin. Their question was a flippant one, one of unbelief, and to it Jesus makes a characteristically brief, but clear reply, that partook of the nature of a rebuke. The kingdom would not come with trumpets and drum. They could not say, "Lo here! lo there!" Its coming was not to be spectacular, arresting the attention of some who in turn brought it to the attention of others. The authorized rendering "within you" does not imply that the kingdom already existed in the individual lives of his questioners. Subsequent teaching of Jesus shows that he here refers to another and a final coming of the kingdom, at the time of the final coming of the son of man. What he desired to teach these Pharisees was that the kingdom of which they spoke had already appeared due to the fact of his presence in their midst. The, carping Pharisees withdraw and Jesus speaks openly to his disciples of the days that will come, a time of persecution when they will long for comfort.

#### Prophecy Fulfilled.

II. The Visible Son of Man, vv. 22-24. The kingdom in its outward form was rejected by the Jews, John 1:26, 27. In its spiritual form it is now in the hearts of believers (Rom. 14:17), but he who was rejected with contempt will one day be sought after, though in vain, Matt. 23:37-39. During the time of his absence many shall claim to be Christ (v. 23), but we are not to believe such claims. History has abundantly proved and fulfilled this prophecy. When he really comes there will be a sudden publicity (v. 24), that shall flash from one corner to the other of the heavens, Matt. 24:27; then "every eye shall behold him." "So shall the son of man be in his day." This instruction Jesus gives to his disciples. Men shall search for him, a time when he shall not be present as he then was. After the false ones will come a day of revelation when the whole heavens will reveal him and all will know it.

#### Finality of Events.

III. The Day of the Son of Man, vv. 25-37. Before that day comes, however, he must suffer and be rejected, but following that rejection men will marry, carry on merchandising and merriment as in the days of Noah and those of Lot. In the days of Noah and of Lot there came a sudden halt in these activities and a judgment of flood and fire, even so "after the same manner shall it be in the day that the son of man is revealed," v. 30. This refers to the finality of events when the kingdom of God comes by way of judgment. Here Jesus sets his seal upon the truthfulness of these two events which preceded his first advent. If they be not true then he is a false teacher. Like as men discredit those events they likewise would set aside his teaching about his second advent. Many claim that verse 31 refers to the destruction of Jerusalem; the context to us clearly disproves any such interpretation. Verses 32 and 33 must be taken together.

Summary. Quite emphatically this passage is a teaching on the subject of the coming of the kingdom of God. That kingdom came when Christ came in grace. It will come when he comes in judgment. It is coming constantly between the two advents. Remember his reading of Isaiah's prophecy, Luke 4:18, 19; cf. Isa. 61:1-9. In his first advent he did come to preach the acceptable year, the year of grace. That day is still with us. In his second advent he will proclaim the day of the vengeance of God. He will establish the kingdom, will build the waste places and raise desolations. Today the kingdom of God is among us in power through the presence of Christ by the spirit in the living church.

## EFFICIENCY OF A FIREFLY

Artificial Illuminant Very Poor Second to That of the Natural Organisms.

It is sometimes said that if we could arrive at the secret of the firefly—or of the other organisms which produce physiologic light—we should have reached a great economic discovery, because the light has such an extraordinary high efficiency. In other words, all the energy expended in producing it goes to make light, and not heat. The efficiency has been estimated at 96 per cent by Ives and Coblenz, and even higher by Langley and Very. This is the more remarkable when it is considered that the best artificial illuminant has a luminous efficiency of only 4 per cent, and most of them reach only about 1 per cent, the remaining 99 per cent of the energy going to produce heat or other subordinate effects. But even if we should discover the means by which the firefly produces its light we should scarcely care to use it in our homes. Professor McDermott in a recent study of the subject observes that while the insect has indeed reached the highest possible radiant efficiency it has only accomplished it at a sacrifice of color that makes the light much worse than the mercury vapor arc. Anything not within a very limited range of yellow and green tones would appear black.

## OF COURSE HE GOT AWAY

Young Man Pulled Off Something Really New, and His Reward Was Adequate.

"Please, Mister Jones, can I get off Tuesday?" said the young male employe, only more rapidly.  
"Which of your relatives is dead?" inquired the boss.  
"Not any, sir," replied the lad with a politeness which exists only in fiction.  
"Which of your teeth are you going to have pulled?"  
"Not any, sir," replied the lad, etc.  
"Which of your sisters is getting married?"  
"Not any, sir," etc.  
"The fact is," continued the youth, "I would like to go to the ball game, and, my desire being genuine, I would not hazard any chances by trying to pull a rotten old excuse on a foxy business man. Thank you, sir."

## Smooth-Faced Wisdom.

President Wilson is the first "bare-faced" occupant of the White House since President McKinley. Indeed, these have been the only smooth-faced presidents since the Civil war. The faces of the most conspicuous members of the cabinet are whiskerless, as is the mobile countenance of the speaker of the house. The sensible fashion is especially noticeable in the medical profession, owing to the fact that formerly its members regarded whiskers as an indispensable part of their equipment, on a par with the stethoscope and clinical thermometer and odor of carbolic acid. The idea then was, of course, to look old. Now they try to appear young. Other business and professional men are following the example of the doctors, much to the gratification of the barbers and razor manufacturers. It is not likely that we shall soon again see the day when whiskers cover a multitude of chins.

## SUCCEEDS IN CANADA

An interesting and successful American farmer, Lew Palmer, of Staveley, Alta., passed through the city today. Mr. Palmer came from Duluth, Minn., just ten years ago, and brought with him four cows and three horses—and that was his all. He homesteaded in the Staveley district, and today has 480 acres of land, \$3,000 worth of implements, 34 Percheron horses, made \$1,000 out of hogs last year, raised 7,000 bushels of wheat, 6,000 bushels of oats, 12 acres of potatoes, and 18 tons of onions. His farm and stock is worth \$30,000, and he made it all in ten years.—Exchange.—Advertisement.

## Little Danger.

"Do you believe that money has germs on it?"  
"It may have."  
"What in the world shall we do?"  
"Don't worry; it would take a mighty active germ to hop from the money to you during the short time you keep what you got."

## Three Flights Up.

"Still living in that antiquated flat you occupied ten years ago, eh?"  
"Yes, it's the same old story."

Many a man who strives to emulate the busy bee only succeeds in getting stung.

# Let's Have a Porch Party with WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT

It's the ideal offering to guests or family, especially after dinner. It's the hospitality gum—so perfectly packed that it stays perfectly fresh and clean.

It costs almost nothing but people like it better than much more costly things.

It relieves all "over-eaten" feelings—refreshes the mouth—cleanses the teeth beautifully.

Chew it after every meal.

**Earliest Arc Lights.**  
A recent historical exhibit of arc lamps and electricity in Cleveland, O., has brought out a bit of interesting history in connection with the pioneer arc lamp system built by C. F. Brush. The first demonstration of these lamps was made in the public square of Cleveland during the summer of 1876, and afterward in the fall of the same year the apparatus was set up at the centennial exposition at Philadelphia. The exhibit at Cleveland was extensively advertised in the newspapers, and on the evening the demonstration took place thousands of people assembled, most of whom carried pieces of smoked or colored glass to protect their eyes from the arc lamp's rays, which were expected to rival those of the sun.—Electrical World.

**Wrong Guess.**  
Bill—And so you proposed to her? Jill—Yes.  
"Was her answer in two or three letters?"  
"Three."  
"Good. Then it was 'yes.'"  
"You're wrong; it was 'nix.'"

An egg in the cup is worth half a dozen in cold storage.  
Chicago in 1913 handled more than 337,288,000 bushels of grain.

**Cubist Art.**  
"What are you painting from a soap box?"  
"I am using a soap box as a model," answered the cubist with dignity, "but the subject of the painting is a young girl standing by a brook."

It's easier for a young man to make love to a girl than for him to make a living for her.

**PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM**  
A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff. For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray or Faded Hair. 50c. and \$1.00 at Druggists.

**1,000 HOMESEEKERS WANTED**  
50 years time pay for rich valley land; greatest inducements ever offered to those who buy for future homes. Cheap lumber for home-sown work at fair wages. Representatives wanted everywhere. Trinity Valley Land Co., Trinity, Tex.

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You know what you are taking when you take Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic, as the formula is printed on every label, showing that it contains the well-known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It has no equal for Malaria, Chills and Fever, Weakness, General Debility and Loss of Appetite. Gives life and vigor to Nursing Mothers and Pale, Sickly Children. A True Tonic and Sure Appetizer. For grown people and children. Guaranteed by your Druggist. We mean it. 50c.

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