

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

International Lesson for December
12, 1897.—Paul's Last Words.—2 Tim-
othy 4:1-8, 16-18.

[Arranged from Peloubert's Notes.]

GOLDEN TEXT.—I have fought a good
fight, I have finished my course, I have
kept the faith.—2 Tim. 4:7.

THE SECTION includes the whole Epistle.

DATE of writing. The Second Epistle to
Timothy was written about A. D. 66, not
long before the martyrdom of Paul at
Rome.

EXPLANATORY.

The Circumstances.—At the close of
the Acts we left Paul in prison at Rome,
but in his own hired house. Soon after
that he was released. So far as can
be learned, he went on with his mission-
ary work for three or four years, and
then was arrested and brought again to
Rome. He was now probably in the
dark, foul, lower dungeon of the
Mamertine prison which even now it
makes one shudder to enter, even with
a light and guide.

I. Motives for Faithfulness.—V. 1.
"I charge thee: This is my dying re-
quest, the charge I lay upon you. 'Be-
fore God,' the Father, 'and the Lord
Jesus Christ,' whose servant he is,
and whom he delights to honor and
proclaim. 'Who shall judge the quick,'
those living at the time of the judg-
ment, 'and the dead,' those who have
fallen asleep before 'His appearing' to
judge the world, and to enter upon
His completed kingdom.

II. The Teacher's Work.—V. 2. (1)
"Preach," proclaim as a herald. Make
known the good news. This is what
he charged Timothy to do by all the
motives enforced in verse 1. "The
word:" The truths of the Gospel of
Christ, *whom* the Word of God.

(2) "Be instant," give attention to,
apply yourself to, be earnest, pressing.
"In season, out of season," at the regu-
lar appointed times, and whenever an
opportunity comes in any form, or at
any time.

(3) "Reprove:" The same word that
is used in John 16:8, when Jesus says
that the spirit shall reprove, R. V. con-
vict, convince, the world of sin. It
means the "showing one his fault" or
error, so that he may forsake it.

(4) "Rebuke:" There are times
when only the severe, sharp rebuke
will penetrate the soul and awaken
men to duty.

(5) "Exhort:" Awaken courage,
arouse, strengthen good purposes.

All this is to be done with "long suf-
fering," patience, for the process of
making men good is slow and discour-
aging, "and doctrine," teaching, line
upon line, precept upon precept.

III. Opposition, and How to Meet it.

—Va. 3-5. There is need of the above

charge because opposition will arise.

a. "Will not endure sound," healthful,
good for the soul, "doctrine," teaching.
The teacher of sound doctrine will be-
come unpopular. "But after their own
lusts," their evil desires. They will
want to sin, and hence will reject those
who teach holiness, and will "heap"
up, load themselves with, adding one
kind to another, "teachers" who will
teach according to their lusts, the things
that please, not the things that are
healthful and true. "Having," that is,
the scholars having "itching ears," it-
ching for some novelty, for some pleasing
things, as children want the medicine
that tastes good, not that which cures.

4. "Turn away:" It is the eternal
punishment of him who departs from
the apostolic witnesses that he loses
himself in the whirlpool of manifold
errors. Whoever will not listen to what
is true, but only to what is pleasant,
will at last abandon himself to silly,
fantastic chimeras.

IV. Paul's Good Fight of Faith.—Vs.
6, 7. 6. "For," because my work is
done, let my mantle fall on you. You
take up the work I must leave. "I am
now ready to be offered," as a sacrifice
to the cause. He knew that at any

hour the sword of Nero might end his
life by a martyr's death.

7. "I have fought a good fight:" The
fight against sin and wrong within and
without, the fight against error, against
all that would overthrow the Gospel.
"I have finished my course:" As a
Christian athlete in the games, he had
run the race, and reached the goal he
sought. He had not fallen or faltered
in the race, but had "kept the faith" he
had received in spite of all hindrances
and enemies.

V. The Crown of Victory.—V. 8.
"Henceforth there is laid up for me a
crown:" Having compared his labors to
the exertions of the combatants at
the games, he represents his reward
under the idea of a crown, because
that was the reward bestowed on the
victors in these combats. "Crown of
righteousness:" The crown awarded
to righteousness.

VI. Light in Darkness.—Vs. 16-18.
16. "No man stood with me:" He notes
in verses 10-15 some of his experiences.

17. "The Lord stood with me:" This
special presence was at the first an-
swer, verse 16, and God enabled him to
preach the Gospel to the court at
Rome, as he had before to that of Fes-
tus and Agrippa, and thus compelled
"all the Gentiles to hear."

18. "And the Lord shall deliver me
from every evil work:" Fighting and
fears within, without. The sword of
Nero could not prevent Paul's real de-
liverance, for the Lord "will preserve
me unto His heavenly kingdom." In
either way he was delivered from the
lion, and there would be to the Lord
"glory for ever and ever."

Georgian Philosophy.

No matter how big de fish is, folks
won't be happy ez long ez dey thinks
dar's bigger fish unnotched.

Dar's so many hills on de way ter
Heaven dat folks misses de place en-
tire by buildin' railroads 'roun' dem.

De reason people won't go ter church
in rainy wedder is kase dey religion
ain't waterproof.

Doan' look down on folks kase dey's
lesser dan what you is. De wind is so
small dat you can't see it, but it mos'
ingenerally raises de debbil in a cyclone.
—Atlanta Constitution.

FACTS ABOUT ANTHRAX.

Human Beings Have Often Been At-
tacked by It.

Bacteriologists believe there is no
cause for alarm in regard to the appear-
ance of anthrax in this country, but it
occurs in rare instances and a supposed
case recently excited considerable com-
ment. In its most malignant form the
disease exists in oriental countries.
Cattle and occasionally horses are at-
tacked by it. In these animals it mani-
fests itself as a splenic fever. Man, in
any climate, may be inoculated with
anthrax. If his hand should have an
abrasion and be brought in contact with
hides infected with anthrax bacilli, the
disease is likely to manifest itself as
contagious carbuncle, malignant pus-
tule, or wool sorters' and hair combers'
disease. If there is rapid treatment by
excision of infected flesh, after inocu-
lation, the patient may recover. Unless
treatment is speedy virulent local in-
flammation "attended with sloughing
and speedy system poisoning" results.
There is great prostration after inocula-
tion, and death from exhaustion often
follows in a day or two. The dust of in-
fected wool or hair, invading the lungs
or windpipe, poisons surrounding tis-
sues and ends life with distressing
symptoms. The preparation of anthrax
vaccine was among the earliest of Pas-
teur's great works. It is said that from
500,000 to 1,000,000 animals are vac-
cinated in Europe every year.—Chicago
Inter Ocean.

With every hour of sunshine
Mr. Talbot is pushing his Texas
street paving.

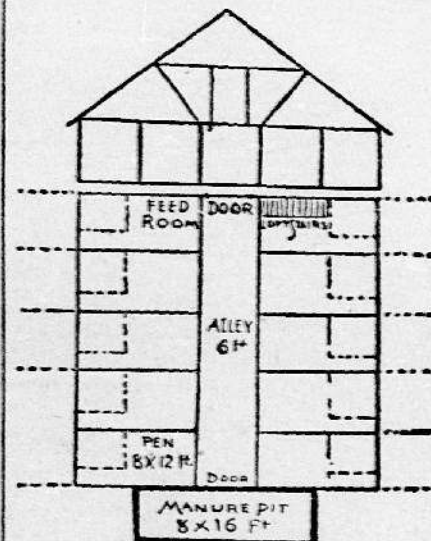


PLAN FOR A PIGGERY.

It Is Reasonable in Cost and Answers
Every Purpose.

The accompanying figure shows the
ground plan of a one-story piggery 30
by 40 feet. It provides room for ten
brood sows, unless one pen be used for
storing feed. The center alley should
be excavated about two feet deep below
the level of the floors and cemented,
and should have a fall of about six
inches toward the manure receptacle.

The wooden floor of the alley should
be made of inch matched material put
together in the form of batten doors,
laid on light cross timbers also remov-
able, that the cement floor of the alley
may be cleansed from time to time and
covered lightly with dry earth to ab-
sorb the urine. By this arrangement
the bed will be in the dry end of the
pen, and the liquid material on the floor



PLAN OF PIGGERY.

If not absorbed would run to the ce-
mented alleyway under the trough,
which should be raised from the floor
slightly. The solid excrements should
be wheeled to the receptacle provided
for them, which may be excavated a
foot or more below the level of the ce-
mented alleyway.

The dotted lines within the pen show
where a 2 by 4 scantling may be tacked
to the floor to keep the bedding in place.
The dotted lines on the outside of the
building show where yards may be
constructed, but the better plan is to
have two pasture lots of considerable
size, one on either side of the building,
as land is cheap and lumber and labor
expensive.

The floors should be laid on pounded
earth covered with about half an inch
of salt to preserve them, and should
have a dip of 1 to 2 inches from rear to
front. Swing doors may be construct-
ed at the side for the passage of the
animals to and from the yards or pas-
tures.

The roof story may be used for stor-
ing corn, meal and straw, or if it is too
much work to carry the heavier ma-
terial to the loft, one of the pens, pre-
ferably the one under the stairway,
might be used for storing food.

The building may be made somewhat
narrower than shown, and as long as
desired. In no case should pig-pen
floors, in a cold climate, be up from the
ground. If the building is put on dry
ground or drained, the earth underneath
the floors will become dry and the pens
will be warmer, since no drafts of air
can circulate under them.

The diagram is made from a pen simi-
lar to this one which has been in use

some eight or ten years and has proved
extremely satisfactory. The floor, in
any case, will be wet along the troughs
near the alley, and by tipping them to-
ward the alley all surplus moisture will
find its way to the cemented floor, leav-
ing the back of the pen dry and com-
fortable. In winter time, when the
doors for egress are closed, the animals
are likely to drop their solid voidings
at the side of the bed. The scantling
nailed upon the floor will mark the line
between them and the bed. In any
case the pens should be cleaned daily
and sprinkled with some absorbent as
chaff, gypsum or dry earth.—Country
Gentleman.

Ventilating Horse Stables.

It takes a good deal of care to keep
the horse stable sweet and fit for
healthy living during the summer sea-
son. Unless it is quickly covered with
earth, gypsum, or something equally
efficient in absorbing odors, the decom-
posing manure will not only waste
ammonia, but it will be worse than
wasted because it will injure the health
and especially the eyesight of animals.
Many a horse has gone blind because of
the ammonia affecting his eyes in poor-
ly ventilated and dark stables. This is
the chief disadvantage to underground
stables in summer. They are cool, but
it is very hard to keep them well ven-
tilated and without offensive smell.
But if the underground stable has, as it
should, a cement floor, it may not be
worse than the overground stable that
has a plank floor filled with the urine
and other secretions that have soaked
into it.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

Wash the harness with soap and
water before oiling.

Do you waste your corn fodder?
Must have money to burn.

Early fall plowing will destroy many
weeds before they go to seed.

Don't put all out doors into wheat
because of the promise of the wheat
market, don't.

We repeat, that corn, wheat and oats
will not be permanently lower than
they are at present.

Corn fodder may be shredded, but
not perfectly, by running it through an
old threshing machine.

A threshing machine boiler that is
too small to do the work, is always
dangerous from over-pressure.

A farmer says that he kills Canada
thistles in the pasture by piling ma-
nure on them thick enough to smother
them.

Put buggy beans or peas in a tight box
and put a little cup of bisulphide of
carbon on top, being careful that no
fire is near.

Wheat, independent of interest on
land, ought to be grown at six dollars
an acre at most. Eight, or even ten
bushels, per acre, will not pay.

Be careful to sow only the cleanest
timothy seed. Weeds in timothy make
bad work, worse than clover, though
they are bad enough there.—Western
Plowman.

Timothy on Sandy Soil.

Timothy grass is often sown on sandy
soil, not because it is especially adapted
to it, but because sandy soil is not easily
seeded with anything, and timothy,
which can be sown late in summer and
all through the fall succeeds rather bet-
ter than the grasses and clovers sown in
spring. All sandy soils are deficient in
mineral plant food. Timothy does not
require much, either of phosphate or
potash, until its seeds begin to form. It
does not need one-quarter as much of
these minerals or of lime as does clover,
and as its roots run near the surface it
is manured chiefly by the ammonia
gathered by falling rains in their pas-
sage through the air. When once seeded
with timothy, the grass will remain in
sandy soil until it is starved out, and
mosses take its place.