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McMURRAY & CO., wish to return their sincere thanks to the public for their generous patronage for the past 17 years they have been in business. And as we have decided to make a change in our business we therefore ask all indebted to us over six months to call at once and settle their accounts before June 1st. and all those whose accounts are standing over one year after that date will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection. In order to reduce our stock at once we have decided to sell our large stock of Organs, Pianos, Sewing Machines and Fancy Goods at a Great Reduction, as all must be sold if possible by July 1st. We have on Hand a large stock of Organs manufactured by Karm, Dominion and Doherty, also a number of second hand Organs and Pianos that must be sold regardless of cost, also a very large stock of Sewing Machines. The White, New Home, New Williams, Climax New Ideal, Queen and Standard.

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The Sabbath-School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

Second Quarter—Lesson V.—May 2.

PAUL BEGINS HIS FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY—Acts 13:1-13.

Review chapter 9:1-30. Commit verses 2-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.—Mark 16:15.

A MISSIONARY CHURCH.—Vs. 1-2.

The church that was at Antioch. Its earliest beginnings were eight or ten years before, by those scattered by the persecution at the time of Stephen, and during A. D. 40-43 it had increased through the reception of the Gentiles. *Prophet.* Those most open to receive, and able to speak, the truth God revealed to them. By teachers are meant stated teachers, answering to the pastor of a modern church. *Barnabas* (see Lesson VI., First Quarter). *Simeon*. Another spelling of Simon. *That was called Niger*. Niger was a common Roman name, and therefore there is no reason to suppose that he was an African. Simon Niger was a useful, worthy saint, but unknown to history. *Lucius of Cyrene*, a province of Northern Africa. *Manean* which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch. He was a person of considerable influence and rank. Manean must have been a man of strong character and devoted piety. *And Saul*. Named last because he was not a permanent resident. *As they*, either the church or these five leaders, ministered to the Lord. The word here used for service refers specially to religious services, such as prayer, fasting, singing, preaching and the Lord's Supper, and charitable giving to those in need. Apparently they were holding special meetings, what we would call revival services. *Fasted*. Showing their intense earnestness. Some blessings come only through prayer and fasting (Mark 9:29). That complete idea of fasting which implies not only abstinence from food, but deeper repentance, renewed consecration, the utmost earnestness of the soul.

THE FIRST FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.—Vs. 2, 3.

The Holy Ghost said.

In answer to their prayers, and to their spirit of service. It is not stated by what means the Holy Spirit voiced his will, whether through prophets or through a general simultaneous impulse pervading the church. We must be careful not to limit the ways in which the Holy Ghost speaks to us. He speaks to us by conscience, by reason, by providence, by his word, and by inspiration. *Separate me, i. e.*, set apart for this special work. *For the work whereunto I have called them*. Paul was called definitely at the time of his conversion, Barnabas perhaps in a more general way, by fitness, by providence, by an inward call, by spiritual longing. But they did not go till directed by the Holy Spirit through the church. *When they (the church) had fasted and prayed*. In a special service for the purpose. *And laid their hands on them*. Thus setting them apart. The church accepted them as their missionaries, and pledged themselves to sustain them by their sympathy, prayers and aid. *They sent them away*. Released them from their home duties, and bade them go. *Speed*. Practical Suggestions. The whole advance of Christianity has been a missionary movement. One of the first privileges and duties of a church is to be a center of missionary influence.

Each man has his own particular mission in the church.

It is of the first importance that we find out what that work is, and enter upon it. We can find out in the same way that Paul and Barnabas did: (1) The Holy Spirit will teach us. (2) We shall find out the will of the Spirit by prayer and fasting; that is, by intensely earnest seeking, with a complete yielding to God. (3) The knowledge of our work will come gradually to us, as we prove our fitness.

The Holy Spirit guides the church as really now as it did then, and in many ways.

The church must stand behind its missionaries with loving sympathy and support.

MISSIONARY EXPERIENCES IN CYPRUS.—Vs. 4-12.

Sent forth by the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost originated the missionary enterprise. *Departed unto*, went down the river Orontes. *Saleucia*. The seaport of Antioch. *They sailed to Cyprus*. Cyprus was an excellent place for beginning their work. It was on the way to further regions, where the gospel was wholly unknown. It had been somewhat prepared, by previous preaching of the gospel to the Jews there. *And when they were at Salamis*. The Greek capital of Cyprus. *They preached the word of God*. God's message of love and salvation through Jesus the Christ. *In the synagogues*. As was their invariable custom to do

at first. The Jews were most easily reached, since they believed the Bible and expected the Messiah. *And they had also John*. John Mark, author of the gospel according to Mark. *To their minister*. For their assistant or attendant. *Gone through the isle*. The whole island, for the purpose of evangelizing. *Unto Paphos*. At the western extremity of the island. *A certain sorcerer*. Rather, magician. The magicians did not merely pretend to foretell the future, but also to influence it. *The magi* were a representative of a system and a religion. *A false prophet*. False in character and aims, misleading men, false morality for his own profit. *Bar-Jesus*, i. e., son of Jesus or Joshua. *Which was with the deputy*. This position was one gratifying to ambition, vanity, and worldly passions. In the East it is a ways believed that the governors' friend may influence his judgment; and every suppliant and criminal tries to bribe the friend. *A prudent man*. Of practical ability, of good sense and judgment. *Called for Barnabas and Saul*. He would search wherever there was hope of more light. *But Elymas*. It is simply Aramaic for magician, sorcerer. *Withstood them*. Opposed them, because he saw that his influence and power and emoluments were gone, if Sergius Paulus accepted the gospel. *Turned from his faith*, from believing the gospel. *Saul, who also is called Paul*. Paul had, as usual in bilingual countries, two names from his childhood. Hitherto, by his association with the Jews, he had been called by his Hebrew name. Now, entering upon his Gentile work, it was natural that his Roman name should be used. The name helped the authorities to recognize that he was a full Roman citizen. *Filled with the Holy Ghost*. A sudden access of spiritual power. *Set, fastened, his eyes on him*. With a gaze that looked into his very soul. His bodily presence was weak, his speech despised. But his spirit was dauntless. Paul stood up, as it were his soul burning with indignation, against a man whose cowardice, greed, and worthlessness he saw and wished to expose. *O full of all subtlety*. Deceit, falsehood of character and life. *Mischief*. Unscrupulousness in evil. *Child of the devil*. He had been adopted by Satan by his own choice. *Enemy of all righteousness*, and therefore opposed to Jesus, whose kingdom is one of righteousness and pledged against every form of evil. *Perverse the right ways of the Lord*. His teachings about spirits and the other world, were perversions of truth. *The hand of the Lord*, not of Paul. Hand is the instrument by which a work is performed. *And thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun*. He who was endeavoring to lead others into darkness is himself blinded; so the framers and maintainers of superstition and ignorance are by it brought into blindness of mind and of soul. *For a season* indicates that this blindness was temporary. God punishes only so much as is necessary. *A mist and a darkness*. Expressing the gradual but swift progress of the blindness. So comes into the soul the darkness of sin and error. *He went about seeking*. Showing the reality of his blindness. *Then the deputy... believed*. He realized the truth and power and spirit of Paul, and the character of his former teacher was revealed. *Being astonished at the doctrine (the teaching) of the Lord*. The new truths from heaven, the new views of the love of God, the promises and blessings of the gospel, forgiveness of sin, new life, the presence of the Holy Spirit, were a new and marvelous revelation to the governor, and far more astonishing than the miracle. He finds that all good, all argument, power, righteousness, truth, high motives, salvation, his conscience, his reason, his welfare, all are on the side of Christ. He, therefore, trusts himself wholly to Jesus and becomes a disciple.

Practical Suggestions. False religions seek men's money; true religion seeks their souls.

There is a contest for all our souls. Satan uses bad men as tempters, our appetites and passions, our ambitions and desires, as means of temptation to draw us into evil.

The Holy Spirit is using good men, and the gospel, and the power of Jesus Christ, God's providences, and a multitude of influences to bring us to goodness and heaven.

There are times when a righteous soul must flame and burn like a volcano. Never to be stirred to the depths by wrong, never to be all on fire with a blazing indignation at the evil men are doing to the innocent, is a mark of a weak or a bad soul, not of a holy and good man. It seems impossible that one should be good and not abhor that which destroys goodness.

God makes of us the best that is possible.

The punishment of sin is often of the nature of the sin. The punishment is mingled with mercy; it is to lead them to repentance.

SETTING OUT FOR A NEW FIELD OF LABOR.—V. 13. *Now when Paul and his company*. Barnabas, and John Mark, perhaps others. From this time Paul takes the lead. *Loosed from*. Set sail from. *Paphos*. To go where none had heard the gospel. *Came to Perga*. The capital and seaport of Pamphylia. One of the southern provinces of Asia Minor. *And John returned to Jerusalem*. His home. No reason is assigned for his departure.

Practical Suggestions. Let those who have entered the service of the Lord be on their guard against allowing any influence to damp their ardor or cool their zeal.

No one knows how much Mark lost by not continuing with Paul.

It is well for most of us to be very gentle in condemning Mark. Have we done better?

The effects of his return were more than Mark anticipated. He was the occasion of a separation between Paul and Barnabas. It took long years for him to regain what he lost.

But he was restored. A soldier who has wavered in one battle may live to obtain a glorious victory. And Mark did gain the victory. He was ready to go on the second missionary journey. He did go with Barnabas to Cyprus. He regained, by his noble and courageous conduct, the good opinion of Paul, to whom he became a comfort and a profit. There is comfort and hope for us in this.

Newspaper from a Tree.

An interesting experiment was made last April by a paper and a wood pulp manufactory at Elsenath in order to see what was the shortest time in which a standing tree could be converted into a printed paper. This experiment conclusively showed what can be accomplished by modern machinery and ingenuity.

In a forest near the establishment three trees were felled in the presence of the owners of the manufactory at 7.35 in the morning. The trees were carried to the manufactory, where they were cut into twelve inch pieces, decorated and split. The wood was then raised by an elevator to the debarking machines.

The wood pulp produced was put into a vat and mixed with the necessary ingredients. Then the liquid pulp was sent to the paper machines and at 9.34 in the morning the first sheet of paper was finished. One hour and fifty-nine minutes was the time consumed in its manufacture.

The owners of the factory, accompanied by a notary public who watched the entire work, then took some of the paper to a printing shop a little over two miles away from the manufactory, and at 10 o'clock a printed copy of the journal was in the hands of the party. So it took just two hours and twenty-five minutes to convert the wood of a standing tree into a newspaper ready for delivery.

During the course of this experiment there was a number of interruptions which at another time might have been avoided and the owners claim that twenty minutes can be cut off the record time.—*Ran's Horn*.

How a Debt Can be Paid.

An office boy in London owed one of the clerks three half pence. The clerk owed the cashier a penny.

The cashier owed the boy a penny. One day the boy, having a halfpenny in his pocket, was disposed to diminish his outstanding indebtedness, and paid the clerk to whom he owed three halfpence one halfpenny on account.

The clerk, animated by so laudable an example, paid one halfpenny to the cashier to whom he was indebted a penny.

The cashier who owed the boy a penny paid him a halfpenny. And now the boy, having his halfpenny again in hand, paid another third of his debt to the clerk.

The clerk, with the said really "current" coin, squared with the cashier.

The cashier instantly paid the boy in full.

And now the lad, with the halfpenny again in his hand, paid off the third and last instalment of his debt of three pence.

Thus were the parties square all round, and all their accounts adjusted.

The Importance of Visiting.

The teacher as a visitor will be astonished at the way in which doors will swing open to his touch. He who has his hand on the head of a child has it on the heart of the mother. Freddie's teacher has a welcome to the home which no one else enjoys, and Freddie's own dignity and sense of importance are wonderfully increased when his teacher calls. One rule about

visiting is never to be forgotten. If it is impossible for you to call often at the homes of your scholars, be sure that you go once. You cannot understand the child's blessings or the child's temptations unless you see the child's home, and realize what influences are at work there to help or to hinder you in your efforts to build up the youthful character. Perhaps in calling at the homes of your pupils it may be your happy privilege to invite the parents to attend the church services. Many a little child coming into the Sunday school has been the means of bringing a whole family to church.—*Peloubet's Senior Quarterly*.

It may be only a trifling cold, but neglect it and it will fasten its fangs in your lungs, and you will soon be carried to an untimely grave. In this country we have sudden changes and must expect to have coughs and colds. We cannot avoid them, but we can affect a cure by using Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, the medicine that has never been known to fail in curing coughs, colds, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs and chest.

Maxwell Johnston.

Medical men, Hospital treatment and a dozen different medicines failed to cure me of dropsy. I had been tapped seven times and was given only a few days to live when I began using Doan's Kidney Pills. They cured me completely, and I am now in the best of health.

(signed) MAXWELL JOHNSTON, Toronto, Ont.

The Very Best.

MESSRS. T. MILBURN & CO. DEAR SIRS,—I can recommend Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup as the very best medicine for coughs and colds, sore throat and weak lungs, which I have ever used.

Yours truly, WM. FERRY, Blenheim, Ont.

Little self-denials, little honesties, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over favorite temptations—these are the silent threads of gold which, when woven together, gleam out so brightly in the pattern of life that God approves.—*F. W. Farrar*.

How Mary Saw.

A little girl was lying ill in bed. She had suffered so much that her disease had taken away her eyesight. One day her teacher went to see her. "Are you quite blind, Mary?" she asked.

"Yes; but I can see Jesus," said Mary.

"How, my child, do you see Jesus?" her teacher wanted to know.

"With the eyes of my heart," replied the little one.

Was not she a happy child?

Are you trying to be like Mary?

Every one who can say, "The Lord is my Shepherd," may also say, "I shall not want."

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This is to certify that while living at Belmont, in Colchester County, about 17 years ago, I took a heavy cold and had severe cough and an attack of Bronchitis, which reduced me very much—was very bad for a month, friends feared my going into decline. I procured some of your Bitters and Syrup which I took and soon began to improve, and kept on gaining till I fully recovered. Five years ago I was seized with an attack of LaGrippe, which reduced me so much that I could scarcely walk without falling over. I then took Eighteen bottles of your Bitters and Syrup, which built me up and made me thoroughly well. We continue to use your medicines and never think of being without them in the house.

I am willing to make oath to the truthfulness of the above statement.

Yours very sincerely,

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