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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR JULY 1

ISAIAH'S CALL TO HEROIC SERVICE.

LESSON TEXT—Isaiah 6
GOLDEN TEXT—Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.—Isa. 6:8.

The lesson committee now turn for a third quarter's lesson to a series of studies in the Old Testament as found in II Kings, Ezra and Nehemiah. As an introduction, they have chosen this chapter in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah prophesied in the latter half of Uzziah's reign, B. C. 760 and down to the early years of the reign of Manasseh about B. C. 684 (ch. 1:1). This event took place probably B. C. 755. The place was Jerusalem; the kingdom of Israel was still in existence (for 33 years longer) being utterly destroyed in B. C. 721. The name Isaiah means "the salvation of Jehovah;" his wife is called "the prophetess;" two of his sons are named and his social position was high, as shown by his intimacy with kings. Isaiah lived in troublous times. He was a reformer seeking to rescue his nation from the sins growing out of their disobedience to God. He was the leading statesman of his time, the greatest of the prophets, an author, a heroic, single-minded, patriotic, fearless, undaunted man of great personal power and influence. He was a prophet of hope; he wrote out of his long life of faithfulness and fellowship with God. The book of Isaiah falls into two great divisions; chapters 1-39 being chiefly historical, interspersed with songs and poems; chapters 40-66 are a collection of prophecies that have to do chiefly with the return from the Babylonian exile and the days of future glory for the kingdom of God.

I. Visions (vv. 1-4). As we have said, Isaiah prophesied in a time of great need. The prophet was very much discouraged. In this passage he locates his vision at a special time and place (ch. 1:1). Every man's great need today is a real vision of God. We are not so much in need of theories about God, as a vision of God himself. Uzziah's long reign of 52 years, in which the kingdom prospered and the king's name was spread abroad, stopped as suddenly as an earthquake, and his glory was eclipsed (see II Chron. 26:16-19). The place in which Isaiah saw his vision was the house of God. Perhaps not in the temple, but seeing the vision from the temple the prophet looks to a house not built with hands, Jehovah's own heavenly palace. Therein he saw "the Lord sitting on a throne . . . and his train filled the temple." Above it, or around it, were arranged hovering couriers and the seraphic choir. The majesty of this vision is indicated in verse two, its glory in verse three, and its power is indicated in verse four. The whole earth was filled with God's wondrous wisdom, love and power. Literally "the whole earth is full of his glory." The Hebrew word for holiness comes from a word meaning "to set apart—set a distance from." The holy Lord is not only sinless but he is sublime and absolute also. It may seem difficult to harmonize Isaiah's vision with John 1:18, yet these manifestations were one and the same, for all that saw Jesus saw God (John 14:9). King Uzziah was dead but the real king was living still, high and lifted up. The attempt to reason about him, what he must be and what he must not be, as if he were one of ourselves (Eph. 1:20, 21) is absurd.

II. Divisions (vv. 5-13). (1) The vision of the prophet (vv. 5-7). This vision brought conviction because it showed how far separated from God the prophet was. It also brought conversion in that he acknowledged himself to be unclean, himself and his surroundings to be vile. It also led to cleansing, for the king heard the voice of the prophet, removed his guilt and purged his sin. (2) The voice and proclamation from the king (vv. 8-13). The king called for a messenger (v. 8) and at once the prophet is found. Someone has said that "a task without a vision is drudgery; a vision without a task is a dream; while a task linked to a vision will move the world." Not only did the king ask for a messenger, but he gave the message which the messenger was to utter (vv. 9-12). The message was to be to his own people; it was not to be a pleasant one. Verse 13 shows us this message in prophecy. Isaiah ought to fully proclaim the truth, but the people would not understand it, and the whole effect of his proclamation would be to harden them.

The Application.
 What is your application of this vision for Isaiah? We are a Christian nation, but there are many degrees and kinds of Christians; those who sincerely try to follow Jesus; those who live under a Christian government, and are unaffected by Christian influences. There is only one way to save this nation from going the way of Nineveh and Tyre; that is, that justice and righteousness shall govern, and that justice and righteousness shall be the fruit of regenerated lives. The cry is for a better social environment and a more just social position.

SERIOUS FLOODS ON THE UPPER PLATTE

Reports that Traffic has been stopped Not Verified by Reports Received Here.

Written for last week:
 According to reports received flood conditions on the upper North Platte river have been serious. Water pouring over the Pathfinder dam in the Wyoming mountains flooded the country below, and this torrent added to by the drainage from the mountains below the dam did a great deal of damage to property. The Pathfinder dam is about eighty miles from Casper. Unusually heavy rains have fallen in that country this season and the mountains came out of the winter with the heaviest coating of snow known for years. The rain melted this snow earlier than usual and added the snow water to the wash from the rains.

A Burlington man who was on the Casper line a few days ago says the road in some parts of eastern Wyoming was in bad shape and that it required a great deal of effort to keep trains moving. Word early this week from the Wyoming country indicated that some break had followed the flood and that communication was tied up. No word of this has reached the Burlington offices and it is thought if a flood break did occur it was some minor washout easily and quickly repaired. A dispatch from Casper says traffic was at a standstill.

Traffic has grown on the Wyoming line wonderfully during the past year and it no means a great deal to bring traffic to a standstill even on that new line. Oil developments came with a rush and the growth has continued and has reached greater proportions than even the most sanguine boosters of that region had expected. Therefore traffic interruption has grown to be a serious thing in a country that a few years ago did not know what a railroad looked like.

Bad Cough? Feverish? Grippy?

You need Dr. King's New Discovery to stop that cold, the soothing balsam ingredients heal the irritated membranes, soothe the sore throat, the antiseptic qualities kill the germ and your cold is quickly relieved. Dr. King's New Discovery has for 48 years been the standard remedy for coughs and colds in thousands of homes. Get a bottle today and have it handy in your medicine chest for coughs, colds, croup, grippe and all bronchial affections. At your druggist, 50c. Adv.—2

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS WILL BE VERY STRICT

Washington, D. C.—America's armies will be made up of the finest physical manhood of the nation. Army surgeons today estimated that nearly 40 per cent of the men brought to the colors by selective draft will be rejected upon the first physical scrutiny, so severe are the examinations. Nearly one million must be drawn to get the 625,000 for the first levy. At present the rejections in the regular army average 40 to 60 per cent of the applicants. After undergoing the severe examinations imposed by the army surgeons, the chosen ones will form the best army physically in the world. In no other army are the physical requirements so hard to meet. Even Germany's armies are picked on a less stringent scale of requirements.

Here are the general requirements for the army:
 Height—Not less than 5 feet 4 inches, nor more than 6 feet.
 Weight—Not less than 128 pounds or more than 190.
 Lungs and heart must be well nigh perfect. Any heart "murmur" disqualifies.
 Hearing and sight must be good. Color blindness is not necessarily a disqualification.
 Chronic diseases or mental disorders cause rejection.
 Loss of fingers or toes, or an ear, are disqualifications.
 Flat feet or deformed feet are also causes for rejection.

The surgeons examine closely for any affections of the kidneys or chest. At least four molar teeth are necessary.
 "This war will be won by young men," said an official of the medical corps. "That's why we will win—we've got the most and the best young men."

Clear Your Skin in Spring

Spring house cleaning means cleaning inside and outside. Dull pimply skin is an aftermath of winter inactivity. Flush your intestines with a mild laxative and clean out the accumulated wastes, easy to take, they do not gripe. Dr. King's New Life Pills will clear your complexion and brighten your eye. Try Dr. King's New Life Pills tonight and throw off the sluggish winter shell. At druggists, 25c. Adv.—2

Tuberculosis in the Country.

Tuberculosis is worse in the country than in cities. Many rural folk still think they can sleep in closed bedrooms and keep their health. Most of the ill that human flesh is heir to are due to living in houses. We need too sudden a jump from the log cabin full of health-giving cracks to the modern air-tight, over-heated dwelling.

Heal Skin Eruptions

Painful eczema is more active in spring when the blood is over-heated, the burning itching torture is unbearable, relieve it at once and heal the eruptions with Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. This antiseptic remedy is promptly effective in all skin troubles. Pimples, blackheads, acne, tetter, ring worm, scaly blotchy skin, all respond to Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. Get it today at your druggist, 50c, guaranteed. Adv.—2

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 A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE OF
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A picture of President Woodrow Wilson should have a place in every home and office throughout the land. The Alliance Herald is going to furnish every subscriber who makes a payment on subscription of a year or more a handsome and attractive portrait of our president, without extra cost.

This portrait was made by Harrison & Ewing, the best photographers at Washington, D. C. It is beautifully printed in natural colors with double patriotic border and just below the picture is his autographic signature and an extract taken from his Declaration delivered at Washington on April 2, 1917.

The small picture printed herewith gives but a faint idea of the beauty of the photo. The card on which the picture is mounted is 12 1/2 x 18 inches in size. The photo is magnificent. The mount is a stiff cardboard and suitable for framing. We will deliver one to your address with a payment of \$1.50 for a year's subscription, either new or renewal. The supply is limited. Send your remittance as early as possible.

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Don't Judge the Telephone Company by One Act of an Unthinking Employee

Our employees have all been taught to be courteous, obliging and careful, but we know that occasionally some of them make mistakes.

If one of our employees does not treat you as you think he or she should, do you criticize the Company?

Why don't you give us the same consideration you expect in your business when one of your employees makes a mistake?

Don't Judge this Company by one act of a thoughtless employee.

If you believe we have erred in any way in dealing with you, please call it to our attention that we may correct the mistake.

