

Sunday Sermonette

A Continuing Series by Local Religious Leaders

God Works His Own Way

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Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Scripture: I Samuel 14: 1-10

Text: I Samuel 14:6
"It may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few."

Jesus set forth great truth in very simple parables. Let us follow His example and learn from a modern parable:

Two men went up to a hamburger stand. They each had a quarter. One man was rich, but he discovered when he started to pay his bill that he had forgotten his wallet, and, humorously enough, two dimes and five pennies was all the change that he had. For him the incident was a joke. He ate the hamburger, wiped the mustard off his mouth and walked away confidently and in a jovial spirit. He did not need to worry. He only had to sign a check to obtain more money.

The other man was poor. He knew when he ordered his hamburger that his last quarter would be used to pay for it. For him it was one more meal and then the soup line, the rescue mission, and the park bench. It was no joke for him. He ate his hamburger, and without bothering to wipe the mustard from his mouth, trudged wearily, dejectedly and dependently on his way.

DO YOU SEE the difference between the two men? They both had the same amount of righteousness.

They both had the same amount of money in their pocket. They received their food from the same man, approached the lunch stand from the same direction, and left it traveling the same road.

The difference—reserve. One man had a reserve of money. The other did not. The one lived in confidence, the other lived in suspense, indecision and uncertainty. People do strange and dangerous things when they are in suspense, uncertain or undecided.

The rich young ruler turned away from Jesus with a burdened heart and a skeptical spirit because he allowed himself to continue undecided and in suspense. Jesus, who are not sure about what eventually happened to Nicodemus, because he insisted he was saying to Jesus "How can he be born when he is old?" How can these things be? (John 3:4, 9).

There is a tragic note linked with the names of Felix and Drusilla in Acts 24. "And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance and



CONNIE GORDON DAVID KROMMEYER PATSY GORDON SCOTTY PURVIS
SUE PURVIS GALE MCINTOSH KATHY KROMMEYER
Church school group pauses to admire completed projects

judgment to come. Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." (Acts 24: 24-25).

The tragedy of Judas was the end result of indecision and suspense. Judas wondered about Jesus. He hesitated about putting his whole faith in Him, and when the pressure came he was in suspense and unprepared for such an experience. Betrayal was the result.

OUR TEXT portrays a man in suspense. "It may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few."

Jonathan, the son of Saul, the King of Israel, was about to greet the Philistines face to face. Israel and the Philistines were, traditional enemies. Jonathan was in suspense because he did not know whether God was on his side or not. With his armor bearer, Jonathan approached the garison of these uncircumcised. As they moved Jonathan picked up courage. He said: "It may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few."

God works His Own way. There is reason to believe that man can profit by yielding to God's plan. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

This text teaches us that: God helps man. Man must seek God's help and that the power and love of God are not restrained. "It may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few."

Presbyterian Juniors End "Summer Cruise"

The SS Peace, launched June 22 by the Juniors of the Presbyterian Sunday school, is nearing home port.

The ship has made its summer cruise under the Pine Tree flag, chosen by the crew because it had once served the early American colonies at a time when they were fighting for freedom. On the flag is written, "An Appeal to Heaven." During the cruise the appeal to heaven, from the crew, has been for understanding and peace throughout the world.

Under the direction of Mrs. W. Scott Purvis, members of the group have planned an intensive study of other countries in an effort to better understand them. They have exchanged letters with youngsters of their own age group in other countries, creating a stamp club among themselves.

ONE PARTICULAR pen pal is Mituko Ota, 15 year old Japanese girl whose home is at Sinsuuku, Tokyo. She wishes to become an ambassador and has been most eager to receive pictures, letters and information about the United States. Her interest in a peace program is being carried with her to her girl's school.

Mituko will receive the scrap book which the group has compiled during the summer.

A "home coming" of the SS Peace will take the form of a Family Tour of the World.

Table favors, representing foreign countries and peoples, have been made by the boys and girls, who are also preparing a special program.

Some of the items made by the 18 class members include cork "cannibals", napkin holders, program covers and other items.

August Sunday School Plans at Christ Church

Continuing through Sunday, Sept. 14, members of the Cranbrook Peck-Three Nursery group will meet in room 204 of the Church House, rather than at Cranbrook House. Children may be left at this location after 11:05 a.m.

Nursery, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten youngsters will meet in their regular classroom at 11:05 a.m.

Those of the first through the tenth grades will attend church services with parents. Children through the third grade will leave the service just prior to the sermon to attend church school sessions.

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SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS

SUNDAY, AUG. 10
Redeemer Lutheran
The Rev. John S. Angle, chaplain at Receiving hospital, Detroit, will preach at the 9 and 11 o'clock services Sunday morning, occupying the pulpit for the Rev. Theodore Wuggazer who is on vacation.

First Presbyterian
The Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., will preach the fourth in a series of sermons on Isaiah, taking for his text, "Shall I not, as I have done unto Samaria and her idols, so do to Jerusalem and her idols?" (Isaiah 10:11).

Christian Science
"Spirit" will be the topic, from the text: "We are of God . . . Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit."

United Center
Frank Galanter will speak on "The Balance of Life."

First Baptist
"God's Care and Man's Care", is the sermon topic here Sunday morning. Preaching responsibility during the month are being shared by the Rev. Emil Koops, pastor, and his assistant, the Rev. Donald Spears.

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