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lutheran spokesman



TRINITY



**THREE YET ONE
ONE YET THREE**

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

—In the Spokesman 25 Years Ago—

June 1960 (Vol. 3, No. 1): CHURCH NEWS. Our Immanuel High School is bursting its seams. This blessing from the Lord brings critical decisions which must be resolved *immediately*. . . . The modest beginning with about 30 students in the first year will grow by September 1960 to 40, or 50, or 60, or 70, or 80 students enrolled Shall they provide classroom space for 45 students? Shall they turn down all applicants in July and August? Parents, you alone can solve the problem. The decision to send your high school children to Mankato is a weighty decision. Each family has its own problems. You are asked to take the extra burden of making this decision 60 to 90 days in advance. The Immanuel Board can make these far-reaching and costly plans only on the basis of applications accompanied by the \$10 deposit and the pastor's signature. *Now* is the time.

(Editor's note: 25 years later early registration is still helpful to ILC. While space is no longer a problem, curriculum and budgetary planning are.)

July 1960 (Vol. 3, No. 2): The first year of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary is history. The first graduation has come and gone.

The Lord provided all: a board of directors with the faith and foresight to plan, persevere, and see the project through; dedicated instructors; a building (through four members of Immanuel congregation); men and women with willing hearts to get the building ready . . . it had to be repaired and adapted for classroom work; and a library. The enrollment was larger than expected. It continued to grow. There was a high school, a college, a seminary; there was a high school choir with a reputation for excellence at the close of the year. But the blessing that outshines all these blessings is the priceless Word of Life, and a living appreciation of it.

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“And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”(Ephesians 6:4)

CHRISTIAN TRAINING OF CHILDREN

The inspired Word of our gracious God is full of admonitions towards parents, especially fathers, to bring up their children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” In the Old Testament age, the God-ordained festivals were to be used as teaching devices for the children. Note what is said about the Feast of Unleavened Bread: “And thou shalt show thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the Lord did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.” (Ex. 13:8)

After the Law of God was given to the people by the hand of Moses, the Israelites heard this admonition as they stood at the foot of Mt. Sinai: “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up . . .” (Deut. 6:6ff) In Psalm 78 the holy writer also speaks of the Christian education of children. They should be shown “the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and His wonderful works.” (v. 4) This is to be done so that children “might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of

God, but keep His commandments.” (v. 7) There are several other encouragements for the Christian training of youth in the Old Testament, including the comforting passage from Proverbs: “Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (22:6)

But probably the most familiar passages which deal with the subject at hand are from the New Testament. Our Lord’s Great Commission of Matthew 28 refers to the instruction of “all nations,” which includes even children. Christian parents of today have the example of Lois and Eunice, who brought Timothy to a knowledge of the Scriptures and the Savior at a very early age. (2 Tim. 1:5, 3:15) Then there are the many words and examples of our Lord Jesus Himself. For example: “Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” (Mt. 19:14)

A Father’s Responsibility

It is imperative that we recognize that the responsibility for this Christian training of our youth rests squarely on the fathers. The Ephesians passage which was mentioned previously states this in no uncertain

terms: "And ye FATHERS . . ." (6:4) Taking our example from Christ as the self-sacrificing Head of the Church, husbands are to be the self-sacrificing heads of their wives and families (Eph. 5). The apostle Paul also says to fathers: ". . . if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." (1 Tim. 5:8) This "providing" not only refers to material necessities, but also to spiritual.

Why is it that father CAN undertake such a vast responsibility? It is because they, along with all believers in Jesus, have the privilege of being priests before God. "By faith in Christ all Christians are royal priests before God; 'ye are . . . a royal priesthood.'" (1 Pet. 2:9) Because of this fact they are the real owners and possessors of the Office of the Keys, and of all this Office implies." (*Summary of Christian Doctrine*, Koehler, p. 264f)

What are some of the things that we are now privileged to do as priests? We can witness to Christ and proclaim His Word. Christians can baptize, absolve, and even administer the Lord's Supper. We can approach our heavenly Father directly in prayer, and also pray for others. We can reprove sin and error, admonish and comfort. All of these privileges are ours, for our Great High Priest has cleansed us of all sin. As a result of our dear Savior's work, we can now stand before God's throne in boldness and confidence.

We see then from Holy Scripture that fathers have both the command of God and the privilege as priests to instruct their children in the Word of the Lord.

Two Extremes

There appears to be two extreme trains of thought when it comes to the roles parents and the church are to play in Christian education. On the one hand, some place all responsibility on the church. They leave the Christian training of youth to the Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation Class, and the Christian Day School.

Such a "mind set" is dangerous in three respects: 1.) It shirks parental responsibility; 2) The church can have the children for only a limited period of time, compared to the vast amount of time parents have in which they influence their children. Little ones, especially, are influenced by their parents. If they do not have Christian training in the home, chances are what they learn in the church will mean little to them; 3) Children can receive the impression that Christianity is useful only in the confines of the congregation, and not in everyday life out in the world.

Others go to the opposite extreme, placing ALL responsibility for Christian education on the parents, while minimizing the role the church plays in this important matter. This thought is also dangerous in three respects: 1) Because of the everyday events in the modern household, many times parents do not get around to the religious instruction of

their children; 2) Sad to say, some parents are not well-versed in certain teachings of the Holy Scriptures. This ignorance would then be passed on to their children; 3) The influences of the humanistic philosophies of the public schools are sometimes too overwhelming for a Christian child. Even though sin still manifests itself in the parochial school, the subject matter is presented against the back-drop of the Word of Truth.

In Church And Home

It should be remembered that the church does not replace the home, nor does it take away the father's responsibility when it comes to the Christian training of our youth. We saw before what our Lord has to say to fathers and parents in the Word. But the church also has received its commands: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations . . . teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you . . ." (Mt. 28:19f) "Feed My lambs." (Jn. 21:15) "Preach the Word." (2 Tim. 4:2) Parents and the church should balance one another out and supplement one another in this highly responsible area of Christian education.

Every Christian parent, every believing father, wants to carry out the Lord's will when it comes to our youth. We have experienced the mercy, the love, and the forgiveness of our Lord Jesus. We heartily desire our children to share in this salvation as well. But as with so many other things, the desire is present, but often the "know how" is not.



So what can Christian parents do? What can fathers do to exercise their regal position as priests in the home? First of all, they can pray for themselves and for their children. The infant should be baptized as soon as possible so the Holy Spirit can enter its heart and create faith in the Savior. The little children should be brought to church, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School on a regular basis. If one is available, the children should by all means be enrolled in a Christian Day School. As soon as the little ones can speak, they should be taught the simplest prayers and the most important Bible stories. Christian books and pictures should be made available to them, some of which are available through our CLC Book House.

But perhaps the best way a father can instruct his children and lead them to the inspired, life-giving Gospel is by his own personal example. The passage from our Lord's Sermon on the Mount is especially applicable for a father's relationship with the other members of his family: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Mt. 5:16)

—Stephen Kurtzhan

The Christian Wife

EPHESIANS 5:22-33. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

In our first installment we listed three things our text has to say to Christian husbands and three things it has to say to Christian wives. We expanded on the duties of the Christian husband. In this article we want to expand on the duties of the Christian wife. What were the three things the text says to the wife? They were: 1) Submit to your husband; 2) Be subject to your husband in everything; 3) Respect your husband.

Submit . . . Respect

Notice, first of all that the Christian wife is to submit to, be subject to, her husband. We want to repeat once more that this is not intended to brand the woman as being inferior, as lacking in wisdom, or as incapable of using good judgment. No, this is simply the will of the Lord, Whose only interest is the glory of His Name and the welfare of His people. The Christian wife follows her Lord's will and subjects herself to her husband. This is not subjugation, but submission. Subju-

gation is a forced thing. Submission is a voluntary denial of self in the Lord. Love on the part of the wife for the heavenly Father and for her husband moves her to take this position.

Another consideration is that the Christian wife is to respect her husband. That means that she shall do what is proper where he is concerned. Where the husband's love is manifest, this will follow as naturally as the night follows the day. Respect is something that has to be earned. Respect will not come from being forced, from the law, but it will come as a result of a love inspired by the Gospel of Christ.

The husband on his part must remember that his wife is under the same pressure and influence of the old adam as he is. It is therefore to be expected that she will from time to time resent and rebel against the divinely-imposed authority of her husband. Both husband and wife should realize that the ideal relationship in marriage is seldom if ever

realized. They should expect to see the influence of the old adam in each other's lives. Each has to learn to adjust to this unfortunate fact throughout the length of the marriage, praying for a spirit of generous forgiveness. Yet the principle stands: Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the Church; wives, submit to and respect your husbands.

The Word "Obey"

In planning and preparing for the marriage ceremony, some brides may insist that the word "obey" be left out. If a bride makes such a demand, she does not understand the true meaning of the phrase "love, honor, and obey." If, on the other hand, the groom insists that the word "obey" be included, then also the pastor may have a problem on his hands. Such a husband may not understand what the Lord has to say to him about his responsibility in marriage. On her part, the young woman may be justified in her fears that she is surrendering herself and all that she is and has to her husband. On his part, the young man may fear that the wife-to-be may

balk at his being "head" of the family.

The word "obey" is not an essential part of the marriage ceremony. The divine truths expressed in Ephesians 5:22-33 remain whether or not the word is stated. If the word "obey" is forced upon the bride by the husband, the marriage is headed for rugged terrain. If the word "obey" is not stated, and the bride and groom understand this section of Scripture, they are over one of the first big hurdles in almost every marriage. The key thought is that Christian love and obedience is gladly and willingly offered in the fear and love of Christ.

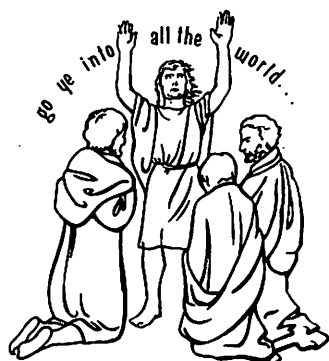
We show that we understand the thrust of the Spirit's message in this text when there is loving concern mutually exhibited by husband and wife toward each other. Where there is this interplay of sincere love, there we will find a marriage that glorifies our heavenly Father's name. There we will find a marriage that is brimming with blessings for husband and wife, father and mother, children and in-laws.

—Leland Grams

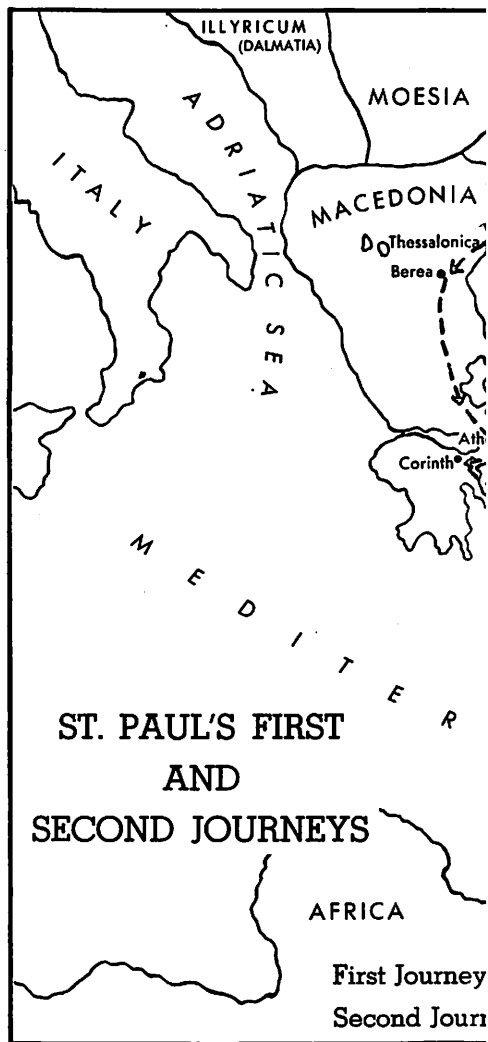
*O blessed home where man and wife
Together lead a godly life
By deeds their faith confessing!
There many a happy day is spent,
There Jesus gladly will consent
To tarry with His blessing.*

*If they have given Him their heart,
The place of honor set apart
For Him each night and morrow,
Then He the storms of life may calm,
Will bring for ev'ry wound a balm,
And change to joy their sorrow. (TLH #624)*

Daily Devotions for July 1985

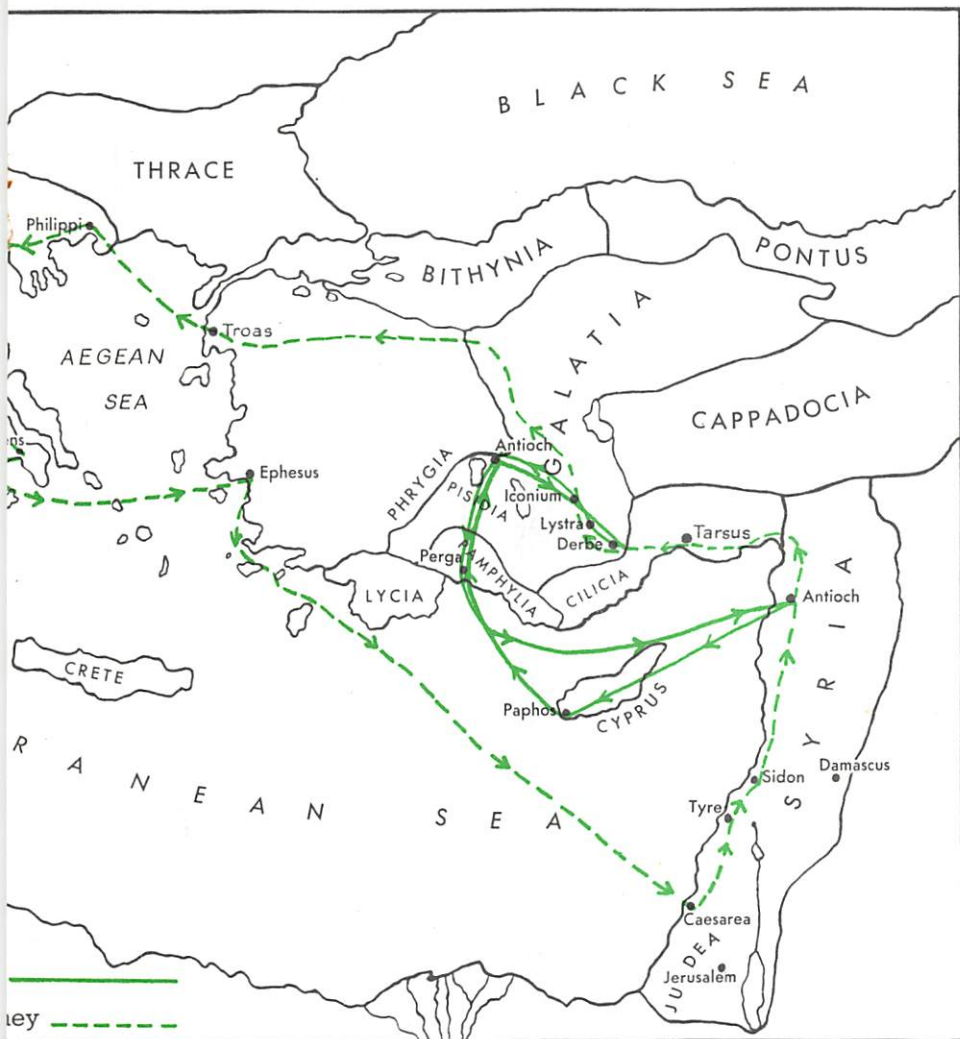


The Book of Acts shows how the Gospel of Jesus was scattered from Jerusalem to Antioch to Galatia to Macedonia to Achaia to Asia Minor and finally to Rome. One of the chief agents used by the Lord in this scattering of the Gospel was the apostle Paul. As we read during this month of the travels of Paul, it is helpful to have on hand a good map of Paul's journeys so that we can better visualize the spread of the Gospel in those days. And what about the missionaries we are sending out today? Are we visualizing their areas of labor? Are we praying that the Lord would bless their preaching in Jesus' name?



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Date	Scripture	Theme	Hymn
1	Acts 12:12-19	Are we surprised when the Lord answers our prayers?	459
2	Acts 12:19-24	The death of Herod is a sign that the Lord is ruling.	265
3	Acts 12:25-13:12	Barnabas and Saul are sent out as the first missionaries.	485 (3-5)
4	Acts 13:13-22	To the Jews Paul becomes as a Jew to save the Jews.	642
5	Acts 13:23-31	The heart of every Christian sermon is Jesus' death and resurrection.	200 (1-4)



6	Acts 13:32-43	"Through This Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins."	360
7	Acts 13:44-52	The Gentiles are glad to hear the Gospel of everlasting life.	375 (1-3)
8	Acts 14:1-7	The Light begins to shine in Iconium, Lystra, Derbe.	508
9	Acts 14:8-18	"Turn from these vain things to the living God!"	495
10	Acts 14:19-23	"We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."	527
11	Acts 14:24-28	We spread abroad the wondrous story of salvation in Christ.	143 (8, 12-15)

12	Galatians 2:16-21	When false teachers enter the churches in Galatia, founded by Paul, he writes the letter to the Galatians to reemphasize the true Gospel of justification by faith without the deeds of the Law.	377 (1-3, 8)
13	Galatians 3:10-14	The Law curses; the Gospel saves.	151 (1, 3, 6)
14	Galatians 4:4-7	Jesus kept the Law in order to redeem us.	377 (5, 6, 10)
15	Galatians 6:14-18	Let us glory in the cross of Christ!	354
16	Acts 15:1-11	Peter also upholds the true Gospel of free grace in Christ.	373 (1, 2, 5)
17	Acts 15:12-21	The Holy Spirit binds Jewish and Gentile Christians into one Church.	466 (1, 4)
18	Acts 15:22-34	Christians encourage Christians!	462
19	Acts 15:35-41	God uses the quarrel between Paul and Barnabas to spread His Word even further.	514
20	Acts 16:1-10	"Come over to Macedonia and help us!"	495
21	Acts 16:11-18	Perhaps the greatest miracle of all: the Lord opens Lydia's heart.	444 (1, 4)
22	Acts 16:19-31	"What must I do to be saved?"	157
23	Acts 16:32-40	The fruits of faith: washing stripes, sharing food, and rejoicing in Christ.	298
24	Acts 17:1-9	The Christ had to suffer and die to save us from sin.	140 (1-3)
25	Acts 17:10-15	We abide near the cross when we read His Word daily.	155
26	Acts 17:16-23	Paul preaches Jesus and the resurrection.	159 (3-4)
27	Acts 17:24-34	The Creator will judge His creation.	253 (1-7)
28	Acts 18:1-8	Ruined Corinthian sinners come to Jesus for salvation.	149
29	Acts 18:9-17	The Lord uses the government to protect His missionaries.	507
30	Acts 18:18-22	It is always "God willing" in Paul's mission plans.	336
31	Acts 18:23-28	Apollos also preaches: "Jesus is the Christ!"	352

—D. Lau

Immoral Influences— COVETOUSNESS & GREED

"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness." (Mk. 7:21-22) Any influence that encourages us to let these sins rule over our lives is necessarily an immoral influence. So far we have discussed those influences that stimulate pride and the various sins against the sixth commandment. Now let us concentrate on those influences that

lead us into the sins against the seventh commandment: "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit."

"Thou Shalt Not Steal"

Can there be any doubt that in our time we are constantly being influenced to take undue advantage of our neighbor in business dealings? The person who is consistently fair and honest even when it will not help his business or profession is considered naive or foolish. "Everybody is doing it!" is the refrain that is heard over and over. In this way persons justify cheating on their income tax returns, overcharging on the products they sell, using the tools and equipment of their employer for personal business without asking permission, and striving to get the highest possible pay for the least amount of work. Because of the prevalence of greed in our world we are not even surprised or shocked when high government officials or prominent businessmen get caught in elaborate dishonest schemes to increase their personal wealth at the expense of taxpayers or consumers.

Martin Luther said in his day: "If we regard the world throughout all conditions of life, it is nothing else than a vast, wide stall, full of great thieves." (*Large Catechism*) In that number of thieves he included the so-called "swivel-chair robbers" and the Holy See at Rome. I doubt that things are any better today.

The Four Gospels And Stealing

What do the Gospels say about stealing? John the Baptist told the tax collectors: "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." (Lk.

3:13) To the soldiers He said: "Be content with your wages." (Lk. 3:14) Obedience to these words would be a genuine fruit of repentance on their part.

Satan even tried to lead Jesus Himself astray by offering Him all the glory and power of all the world's kingdoms. But Jesus repulsed this immoral influence by quoting the word: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve." (Lk. 4:8) Alas, many are they who have failed to resist the seductive Satanic voice enticing them to covet the things of this world!

Although Jesus in His Sermon on the Mount did not specifically discuss the seventh commandment, as He did the fifth and the sixth, He did indicate that we should keep a very loose hold on our earthly possessions. "If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also." (Mt. 5:40) "Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away." (Mt. 5:42) "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal." (Mt. 6:19) If our real treasure is in heaven, our hearts will not be overly attached to earthly possessions.

The "Almighty Dollar" easily becomes an idol because of our greed. But Jesus said: "You cannot serve God AND mammon (money)." (Mt. 6:24) If God makes us wealthy as He did Abraham and Job, we

should consider this a special opportunity to serve the Lord, as did Mary Magdalene and Johanna and Susanna and many other women, who "provided for Him from their substance." (Lk. 8:3) But many times it happens that our desire for earthly riches chokes the Word of God and makes the fruits of faith impossible, as Jesus taught in His parable of the sower and his seed. The twelve apostles were especially to be on their guard against the love of possessions. Jesus sent them out with these instructions: "Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money-belts, nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs." (Mt. 10:9-10) The Lord would see to it that those who listened to their teaching would provide for their earthly needs from day to day.

The Greed Of The Pharisees

On more than one occasion Jesus exposed the greed of His enemies, the scribes and Pharisees. They wanted to be considered holy by the people, but Jesus showed how their external piety masked their love for money. For example, they found a way of excusing disobedience to the fourth commandment when people gave to them, as the representatives of God, the financial equivalent of what it would take to provide for their parents in their old age (See Mt. 15:4ff)

When Jesus described the Good Shepherd and His love for the sheep, He implied that the Pharisees and scribes were like hired men, who were interested only in their financial security, not in the people they were

"IF OUR REAL TREASURE IS IN HEAVEN, OUR HEARTS WILL NOT BE OVERLY ATTACHED TO EARTHLY POSSESSIONS."

supposed to be guiding. Unfortunately this has been all too true of many pastors and teachers from Jesus' time to our own. The Bible in one place simply describes the Pharisees as "lovers of money." (Lk. 16:14)

Therefore they deserved Jesus' scathing words of rebuke: "You Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness." (Lk. 11:39) How did their greed show itself? Jesus explained it by saying on another occasion: "You devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers." (Mt. 23:14) In their greed they used their reputation as holy persons to take advantage of helpless widows and gain possession of their estates. The priests responsible for the buying and selling in the Jerusalem Temple were also thieves, for Jesus publicly denounced them: "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'" (Mt. 21:13)

Jesus' Warnings

Jesus' most extended discourse on the sin of greed was occasioned by a request from a listener for Jesus' help in obtaining from his brother his rightful share of his father's estate. Jesus refused to help the man in the way he wanted because He had not been appointed as an earthly judge. But then He went on to say: "Take

heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." (Lk. 12:15) In order to make His point Jesus then told the story of the foolish barnbuilder, who laid up treasure for himself and was not rich toward God.

As another example of this, consider the rich man of Jesus' parable who "fared sumptuously every day" (Lk. 16:19) but ended up in hell and in torments because he had not listened to the Word of God. Then also there was the rich young ruler who thought he had kept all of God's commandments but could not get himself to sell his goods and give everything to the poor when Jesus commanded him to do so.

But even one of Jesus' twelve apostles failed to pay attention to His warnings about greed. At a certain meal in the last week of Jesus' earthly life Judas Iscariot protested the waste of Mary's perfume on Jesus' body. Why not sell the perfume and give the money to the poor? But John explains: "This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it." (Jn. 12:6) Later in the same week he was paid thirty pieces of silver for betraying Jesus' place of refuge to His enemies. We all know the tragic end of this "son of perdition." (Jn. 17:12)

The Letters of Paul

The congregation at Corinth had many problems. One of them was that some members were suing others in the heathen courts. The basic reason for these lawsuits was

their greed. Therefore Paul says: "Why do you not rather let yourselves be defrauded? No, you yourselves do wrong and defraud, and you do these things to your brethren!" (I Cor. 6:7-8) In this same connection Paul says that "thieves" will not "inherit the kingdom of God." (I Cor. 6:10) Of course, some of the Christians had once been thieves, but now they were washed in the blood of Christ.

Paul's most famous words on stealing are found in his letter to the Ephesians. "Let him that stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need." (Eph. 4:28) Stealing is of the old man, the flesh. Working and giving to the needy is of the new man, the spirit.

Many say that money is the root of all evil, but this is a misquotation from Paul's first letter to Timothy. What Paul actually wrote was this: "But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (I Tim. 6:9-10)

The opposite of covetousness is contentment. We can be content if we remember that Jesus is our Savior and His Father is our Father, and everything He has is ours. The believer knows that the meek "shall inherit the earth." (Mt. 5:5)

—David Lau
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Born With The CLC—Borne By God . . .

Messiah Lutheran Church Hales Corners, Wisconsin



(Editor's note: A member of Messiah, Martin Bernthal, compiled this history for the congregation's anniversary bulletin. We print Mr. Bernthal's article, adding only the following specifics: Messiah-Milwaukee (Hales Corners) will observe its 25th anniversary on Sunday, July 21, 1985 with two services. Pastor Paul Fleischer will be the speaker for the 9:30 a.m. service. Son of the congregation, Pastor Mark Bernthal, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI will be the speaker for the 2:00 p.m. service. Members of sister CLC congregations are cordially invited!)

On March 13, 1960 under the gracious guidance of God, nine

persons gathered in the home of a Milwaukee parochial school teacher for a service conducted by Paul R. Koch, an ordained pastor. This was the beginning of Messiah Lutheran Church which formally organized on July 17, 1960. Pastor Koch was called into the teaching ministry and Pastor David Lau, who was a member of the congregation, was called to serve as their pastor in August of 1960. During the subsequent years, the group rented existing facilities for worship at Concordia Church on North 16th Street, and then another Seventh Day Adventist building in Waukesha.

In 1966 Pastor Lau accepted a call

to Bowdle, SD. Pastor B. J. Naumann was called from Marquette, MI and installed on the Sunday before Christmas. In February of 1969 a new five-bedroom parsonage was dedicated. It was built on a three-acre tract at 12145 W. Edgerton Avenue, Hales Corners. In October of the same year a new church was dedicated to the glory of the Lord.

In June, 1973 Pastor Naumann accepted a call to Lynnwood, WA. Pastor David Schierenbeck, then pastor in Addison, IL served as vacancy pastor until January, 1974. At that time Pastor John K. Pfeiffer was called from Valentine, NE to serve as pastor. Saturday, September 7th marked the beginning of a special effort by Messiah to improve the religious training of our children by holding regular Saturday classes.

In June, 1984 Pastor Pfeiffer accepted a call to Austin, MN. Pastor Ted Barthels, then pastor in Addison, IL served as vacancy pastor until March of 1985 when Pastor Paul Fleischer was called from Jamestown, ND to serve as pastor of

Messiah.

Even though our members withdrew from other Lutheran congregations in the Milwaukee area to form this new congregation, we had no desire to teach anything new. Our intention was to preserve—in this spiritually indifferent age—the teaching of the apostles in the New Testament, which was brought to light again in the Lutheran Reformation and confessed and proclaimed in this country for many years. Our intention was to preserve and hand down to our children and grandchildren the priceless Gospel of saving truth as we have learned it from our fathers.

That we are a *separate* congregation unaffiliated with any large church body or ecumenical association in Milwaukee indicates our conviction that other local Lutheran church groups are not at present rightly teaching or rightly practicing church groups; that is, expediency and compromise have often replaced the sacred Scriptures as the basis for action.

We hope to be and remain a



Messiah Lutheran Church Parsonage

Pastor P. W. Schaller
1119 14th Street
Clarkston, WA 99403

~~Mrs. E. Meesters
1018 7th St.
Nevadon, Okla
\$3501~~

congregation such as Martin Luther himself would be happy to join, for Luther once said: "I want to be and remain in the church and little flock of the fainthearted, the feeble, and the ailing, who feel and recognize the wretchedness of their sins, who sigh and cry to God incessantly for comfort and help, who believe in the forgiveness of sin, and who suffer persecution for the sake of the Word, which they profess and teach purely and without adulteration."

As God has blessed us, may He continue to bless and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ our Savior by creating within us zealous hearts eager to work while it is day. O Lord, let us always live in expectation of Thy glorious return, for our crosses, tribulations, sorrows, and pains are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us on that day. To God alone be glory! Amen.

Vacation Bible School Materials

A reprint of the 1978 5-day series entitled "Missionaries of Christ" is once more available. The series includes a section on CLC missions, both home and abroad, to tie in with our 25th anniversary.

The series includes materials (lesson, teacher's notes, activity sheets, crafts, pictures, advertisement sheets, attendance sheets) for the following fall grade levels: Level I (Preschool, K., and Grade 1); Level II (Grades 2-3); Level III (Grades 4-5); Level IV (Grades 6-8). The cost is still 50¢ per student.

A packet with one lesson for each level plus teacher's notes and other materials will be available for review by mid-April.

Also available is a large supply of the 5-day revised 1982 series on "Old Testament Pictures of Jesus."

For further information contact Pastor Mark Bernthal, 3460 Crestmont Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603.

Minnesota Delegate Conference

The Minnesota Delegate Conference will be held at 3:00 p.m., June 30th, at Grace Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN. The conference will hear two panel discussions:

1. "Parental Insights into the Opportunities and Obstacles in Christian Education"
2. "A Layman Looks at His Church—Its History and Future"

Please notify the host congregation of your intention to attend. Notify Pastor Robert List at this address:

710 4th Avenue Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Telephone (507) 794-7793

—Dan Ohlmann, Secretary

Notice

Berea Lutheran Church of Inver Grove Heights, MN will commemorate its 25th Anniversary in a special 3:00 p.m. service on June 16. An Anniversary program and dinner will follow.

Directory Change

The time of worship services at Messiah Lutheran Church, Hales Corners, WI will henceforth be 9:30 a.m. year around.