

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

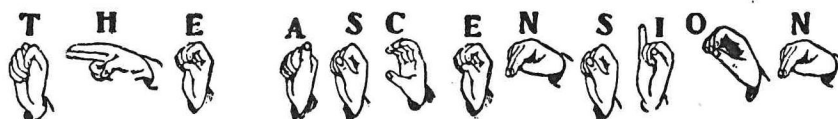
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No. 5



The Ascension of Our Lord.

Just before He ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of God the Father in power and glory, the Savior solemnly declared: "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," Matt. 28, 18—20. The Speaker, our crucified and risen Lord, hereby gives His Church a command and a promise. He tells us to spread His Gospel and gives us the promise of His abiding presence. We should not be only mildly interested in the work of the Church, but our faith should be diligently exercised in service to God and to our fellow-men. We should be witnesses for Jesus unto the ends of the earth.

Christians help to spread the Gospel by working for and with the Church of Jesus. The Gospel which the Church preaches assures sinners of the grace of God; it breaks the power of sin and kindles in the hearts of sinners the blessed hope of a better world above; it comforts them in days of sorrow and meets all the longings of their soul.

Our Lord gave His command also to us. Unnumbered sinners are still walking in darkness. Let us pray for them. Let us invite them to our meetings. Let us give regularly and freely of our money, so that many more may be converted to the living God. Furthermore, every true believer

can let his light shine. He can resist sin, conquer self, overcome sorrows, and do good to others. God sets aside certain things for every child of His to do. Moreover, He gives the needed strength through the light and power of the Holy Spirit to do them. That is the promise of our risen Savior. Every sinner will do well to accept and live by His truth. May God give this grace to every one of us!

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT.

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in vain."

"Thou."

Yes, again God is speaking to you; for "thou" means *you*. In the First Commandment God asks for your heart; in the Second He asks you to speak unto the glory of His name.

"The Name of the Lord, Thy God."

What is God's name? In this commandment we find two of His names: Lord and God. And He has many others, as Father, Almighty, Maker, Savior, Comforter. And He really is what His name says. Not so with the names of men. Often a man's name is White, and he is black, or Carpenter, and he is a banker. But God not only has the name; no, He is in truth a Father, a Savior, a Comforter. According to His name, so is His praise, Ps. 48, 10. And His name we find in the Bible. When a stranger comes to you, he gives you his card, which shows you his name, tells you where he lives, what he does, etc. So God gives us His name-card, the Bible, which tells us His name, what He has done and still does, what He expects from us, etc. If you wish to know God's name, read the Bible, His name-card.

Taking the Name of God in Vain.

Whatever you do with a man's card you do to him. If a man takes your card and throws it into the dirt, you will be displeased and become angry. So, whatever you do with God's name or Word you do unto God Himself. Therefore God says in this commandment: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in vain." We should not use His name or Word in a wrong way. We do this, however, when we use His name carelessly or thoughtlessly. And people do this so often.

They take the name or some word of God upon their lips and do not think of the Lord Himself; they read the Bible or listen to a sermon or sing a hymn, and their heart is not with God and His Word, but perhaps with their friends or neighbors, their shop or business, their money or their pleasures, or other things. Oh, who can say, "I never use the name or Word of God carelessly"? Not one. And now God says: "Do it not!" That is sin and displeases Him, and He must punish it.

Trust in the Name of Jesus!

Yes, we have taken God's name in vain and have sinned. But, behold, His name also is Jesus, which means Savior; for He has saved His people from their sins. Come, let us trust in this name unto our salvation and then live unto the praise of Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE.

Bible-Study for May.

"For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil,"

1 John 3, 8.

Bible-Lesson: Mark 5, 1—10.

"And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when He was come out of the ship, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains, because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him and the fetters broken in pieces; neither could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran, and worshiped Him, and cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with Thee, Jesus, Thou Son of the most high God? I adjure Thee by God that Thou torment me not. For He said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And He asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion; for we are many. And he besought Him much that He would not send them away out of the country."

After Jesus had stilled the storm and the Sea of Galilee again was calm, the disciples and Jesus soon arrived on the other side of the sea. This place was known as the country of the Gadarenes, and here Jesus performed another one of His great miracles, which shows that He is indeed the Lord

whom not only the wind and the sea (chapter 4, 41), but even the devils must obey. He came to destroy the works of the devil, and here He shows that He had the power to do so.

In this country of the Gadarenes there lived a man "with an unclean spirit," a man possessed of evil spirits, not merely by one, but by a large number. This man had his dwelling (home) among the tombs (graves) in the mountains. The unclean spirits living in this man imparted their strength to him; he was so strong that no man could bind him, not even with chains. People had often tried to tie him with fetters (irons for the feet) and chains, but he had plucked asunder (torn apart) the chains, and the fetters he had broken in pieces. The evil spirits continually tormented the man, causing him to cry out and to cut himself with stones. He was completely in the power of the devil. What a pitiful condition! He could not free himself of these unclean spirits.

When this man saw Jesus coming out of the ship, he ran and fell down before Him and worshiped Him. The unclean spirit now speaks through this man, calls Jesus the Son of God, and adjures (earnestly asks) Jesus not to torment (hurt) him. Jesus had told the unclean spirit to come out of the man, and he knows that Jesus is the Lord, whom he must obey. He also knows that Jesus is the Judge, who on Judgment Day will condemn him to the torments of hell. He is filled with fear and terror as he meets his Judge and begs Him not to punish and torment him now.

What a blessing it was for this man to be freed from the power of these unclean spirits! Even to-day the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he might devour. Jesus, however, through His Word, still delivers men from the power of the devil and the power of sin. He will also deliver you if you put your trust in Him.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, who didst deliver us from the power of Satan and sin, keep us always by Thy grace in true faith, so that in the end we may receive everlasting life. Amen. E. E.

IN THE MORNING MAIL.

St. Louis Mission.—The attendance at our weekly services here in St. Louis has been steadily increasing. We have climbed up from an attendance of 21 deaf in our first service to 40 in our last service. The members are manifesting a true missionary spirit in inviting and bringing outsiders to our services. May the merciful Lord, who has given us the precious promise that

His Word shall not be proclaimed in vain, so fill the hearts of these visitors with a desire to learn more of the glad tidings about Jesus that they will be present in our midst every Sunday. We are now preparing seven deaf for membership. Some of these deaf are not able to come to the home of the pastor every week for instruction, and so we are compelled to make our weekly rounds to all parts of the city to give these instructions.

At Jacksonville, Ill. (State School for Deaf), we have an enrolment of 35 children. These children are now receiving instruction twice a month and meet with the adult deaf of that city in our regular services once a month. We hope to begin our work in the Missouri School for the deaf at Fulton, Mo., this week.

In your daily prayers, dear reader, pray also that the kingdom of God may come to, and remain with, your deaf friends in the St. Louis field. F. A. HISCHKE.

Chicago Mission.—The Silent Lutheran Club voted \$5 for fixing up our lawn.

After Easter we shall start with instructing a class of four adults for confirmation on Trinity Sunday, June 16.

We have two other deaf who will study the Lutheran Catechism during summer and be confirmed at the end of August or September 1.

We hope that several deaf in South Bend are now ready to take instruction and be confirmed as members of our Church.

Later we may have a report about the colored deaf in Chicago. We hope that we can induce some to study the Catechism soon. A. C. D.

Minneapolis Mission.—The first quarter of 1935 has come and gone, and when we consider our work of this quarter, we cannot but praise God, from whom all blessings flow. In Minneapolis we had fourteen services in the sign-language, attended by 342, and twelve oral services, attended by 77. We also had three periods of instruction in signs, attended by six, and two oral classes, with twenty periods of instruction; attendance, 121. The collections in Minneapolis amounted to \$77.83.—At our preaching-stations we had nineteen services, attended by 162 deaf, and 59 instruction periods, attended by 528 deaf. The collections amounted to \$36.32 and the traveling expenses to \$35.25. Thus the Word of the Cross was brought to 581 deaf in services and to 655 in our instruction classes. May God richly bless the seed of His holy Word thus sown into the hearts of many unto the glory of the name of Him who died for all and rose again! J. L. S.

Kansas City Mission.—We appreciate the help of other pastors in finding sick and isolated deaf friends and leading them to Jesus. Rev. Gaertner's February report gave a fine example. We are happy to have similar experiences.

Thus Rev. V. Gloe, Kansas City institutional missionary, discovered James and Leonard Hickman and John Randolph in the County Home near Kansas City. Since that time it has been our pleasure to visit these men every few weeks. They are overjoyed to have some one tell them more about the Savior. They show

their appreciation by memorizing the Bible verses and prayers in the DEAF LUTHERAN. A Bible was given them as a gift.

After a very painful illness, Mrs. Louisa Stack of Merriam, Kans., fell asleep in Jesus on March 14. A Christian burial service was held in the home on March 16. Mrs. Fannie Laughlin, our members at Olathe, Kans., signed the fitting song "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

Mr. Louis E. Pospisil of Seneca, Kans., was added to our number of Lutheran members at Marysville, Kans., March 5. He made a fine confession of his faith and was baptized.

Since our last quarterly report a wedding took place in Kansas City. Miss Laura Meyers was the bride and Raymond H. Bellamy the happy groom.

Under the direction of Rev. K. Frese a Lutheran Sunday-school for the deaf meets biweekly in our Tulsa Lutheran church. A. E. FERBER.

Omaha Mission.—Five pupils at the Omaha State School and six at Council Bluffs are preparing for confirmation on June 2 and May 19, respectively. Most of these children have been in the pastor's classes for many years, some of them since they started school eight years ago.

At Yankton, S. Dak., Mr. Charles Wright and Mr. Archie Chase were received into membership of the Lutheran Church by confirmation on February 24. The latter also received Holy Baptism. In spite of the terrible blizzard that day eight deaf attended the services.

Mr. Orville Morford of Omaha is at present preparing for church-membership, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Barnes have expressed their desire to receive instruction in the doctrines of our Church.

Our Omaha deaf were sorry to hear of the death of Mr. F. W. Werth at San Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Werth were two of our very faithful members for several years, Mr. Werth also serving as treasurer of our congregation for two years. Mrs. Werth died in June, 1932, and then Mr. Werth moved to California to live with his daughter.

Some of our deaf friends near Spencer, Iowa, and in several communities in Nebraska would be pleased to have regular services. We are wondering where to find the time to grant these wishes, as much as we should like to do so. We hope to arrange some meetings with them after the State schools close for the summer vacation. The time during the week usually taken up with instruction classes at the schools will then be available, and many of the pupils who are home for the summer months will be afforded an opportunity to attend some of these services. E. M.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—In and near the trities of Corbin, Harbin, and Harlan, Ky., there are about sixty adult deaf residents. They are being led into the Church of Christ. Many have been receiving instruction in the precious truths of the Bible. Some are even now prepared for full membership in the Church. We pray that God will continue to bless the teaching and preaching of His Word also in this field. O. C. S.

Longing to Save Souls.

George Whitefield said, "As soon as I was converted, I wanted to be the means of the conversion of all I had ever known." William Carvosso states in his journal, "I felt such a longing to save souls that I said in my heart to the Lord that, if He would condescend to use me to bring one more soul to Him, I would forever praise Him for it." It is this heartfelt burden for the lost, this constraining love of Christ, that makes soul-winners out of men and women. — *Selected.*

Lutheran Missionaries to the Deaf.

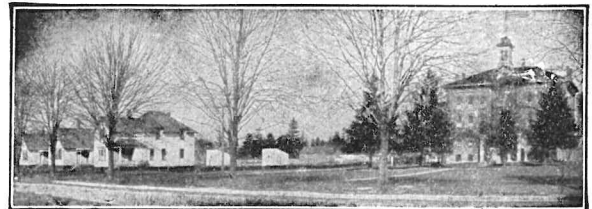
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Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. A. Kuntz, 805 Lindaraxa Park, Alhambra, Cal.
 These missionaries preach in nearly 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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