

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod
of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Subscription price, 25 cts. per annum anywhere in the world, payable strictly in advance. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 14, 1935.

Vol. 29

St. Louis, Mo., February, 1937

No. 2

When I Survey

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Cross

The cross, this ancient instrument of torture, this symbol of shame and disgrace, is now the token of supreme love, a mark of honor, the emblem of salvation for all those who believe in Him who died on the cross. This sign of the Son of Man, our Savior Jesus Christ, will again be the center of our devotions in the coming Lenten season in a greater measure than during the other seasons of the church-year.

As we look upon the cross, we first think of *our sins*. The Redeemer died upon the cross because we had sinned. Our sins were the nails which pierced not only His hands and feet, but also His heart. Our guilt made the horrors of Calvary necessary. Let us use this holy season of Lent to repent of the sins which we commit so often knowingly and unknowingly. Let us be strict with ourselves and be very careful in our conduct lest we wound anew the sacred heart of Jesus.

As we look at the cross, we also think of *God's love*. Love for us poor lost sinners prompted the Father to send us a Savior to suffer the tortures of hell in our stead. We could not save ourselves, but God's great love and mercy prepared a way of salvation for us through Calvary's cross.

As we look in faith to the cross, we think also of the *comfort* we receive for our soul, when our conscience condemns us. The voice from the cross says to the penitent soul: "Your transgressions are forgiven, your sins are covered, your iniquity is blotted out."

And then let this be our earnest desire: Oh, may the holy life of the crucified Savior and His fervent love, which freed us from the slavery of sin, encourage us to live always as true Christians and finally die as Christians and enter into that bliss which is prepared for all believers!

To Thee, Lord Jesus, thanks we give,
Who diedst for us that we might live
And through Thy holy, precious blood
Hast made us righteous before God.

E. M.

We Thank Thee, Lord

For vision clear Thy wondrous works to see
And heart to feel what they were meant to be;
For mind with insight whereby we may learn
The plans whose outlines we can just discern;
For inspiration, bringing nearer still
The radiant glory of these plans fulfilled;
For strength to labor and through shadows grope
That brings its own endurance with its hope;
And, most of all, we bless Thee for the grace
Through which is given unto us a place
In which we, too, can serve and do Thy will
Although we are Thy erring children still,
And find therein as heaven's first prelude
Thy changeless love and gentle fatherhood.

K. W. PATTMEIER

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS

"Thou shalt not covet"

Coveting means jealousy to long and wish for the neighbor's things. Coveting is in the heart of every man and is a sin in the sight of God. God knows the heart of man and sees every covetous thought therein. Now, these thoughts manifest themselves in various ways, as Luther shows us in his explanation of these two commandments.

"Craftily [Slyly] Seek to Get"

When a man covets his neighbor's things, he plans and schemes how to get them. When Naboth refused to give up his vineyard, Ahab surely went home planning and planning how he could get it, and of the queen it is stated expressly that she eagerly helped him. Again read 1 Kings 21 and see how both craftily sought to get into possession of that vineyard and how they succeeded. So the heart of man always is busy to find a way of getting his neighbor's possessions. This we learn also from David's son Absalom. He wanted the kingdom of his father and slyly tried to get it. Read 2 Sam. 15 and learn to know the wickedness of man's heart.

"Obtain [Get] It by a Show of Right"

King Ahab obtained Naboth's vineyard by a show of right. The king and his wife wanted it, and they used sinful means to get it. They had Naboth killed as a blasphemer of God and the king, and then they took the vineyard by a show of right; for the property of a condemned man fell to the king. So people today care not how they get their neighbor's things as long as they have a show, or appearance, of right. Let us beware of this sin. We are not always right before God even if we have the law on our side. God looks at the heart.

"Estrange, Force, or Entice Away"

These words we find in the explanation of the Tenth Commandment. Estrange means to make strange, to make the neighbor's wife feel strange towards her husband or servants towards their masters. This a man often does by telling false stories. In such a way Absalom estranged the people from his father David,

and to-day people often estrange servants, church-members, friends, neighbors. And then they force them away; they will not rest until the neighbor gives up his things, though unwillingly; or they fight against him openly and sometimes even kill him. David coveted the wife of Uriah and then made her his wife when he had killed Uriah. Absalom first estranged the people from his father and then led them in war against his father to take the kingdom by force. King Ahab took Naboth's vineyard by force after he had false witness brought against him and stoned him. Thus it is always in the world. First people estrange their neighbor's wife, servants, or cattle, and then they take them by force. And if they do not force them away, they "entice" (tempt) them away. By offering money or other good things, by fair speech and promises, man so often gets his neighbor's wife, servants, or friends. Coveting leads him to break every commandment of God. Therefore Jesus says: "Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies," Matt. 15, 19. Oh, that describes also our wicked heart!

The Suffering and Crucified Lord Our Only Hope

Let us during this blessed Lenten season flee to the cross of Jesus upon which He shed His holy, precious blood for all our sins, also for our sins against the Ninth and the Tenth Commandment. May God richly bless the preaching of the suffering and death of Christ in your heart and mine! May He grant that we all make this Jesus our only Hope in life and death!

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for February

"This is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world." John 4, 42

Bible-Lesson: Mark 8, 27—33

"And Jesus went out, and His disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and by the way He asked His disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am? And they answered, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets. And He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto Him, Thou art the Christ. And He charged them that they should tell

no man of Him. And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and of the chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. And He spake that saying openly. And Peter took Him and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned about and looked on His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind Me, Satan; for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men."

By His teaching and His miracles Jesus had proved Himself to be the Son of God and the Savior whom God had promised to send, and now the time had come when His disciples should know the true purpose of His coming into the world. While traveling with His disciples to the towns of Caesarea Philippi, He asked them, "Whom do men say that I am?" And their answer plainly shows that many people had a false opinion of Jesus; they did not know who He was. Some people thought that He was John the Baptist; some said that He was Elias; others held that He was one of the prophets. When Jesus asked them again, "But whom say ye that I am?" the answer which Peter gave for all of them was, "Thou art the Christ." This answer shows that the disciples believed Jesus to be the true Son of God, the Savior.

Just as during the days of the disciples, so today many people have false ideas and opinions about Jesus. Many believe that Jesus was only a man, a great teacher and preacher, who by His example showed people how to lead a good life. They do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior whom God sent into the world.

"Who is Jesus?" You must also answer that question. What is your answer? Do you know who Jesus is and what He has done for you? Pray God that through His Holy Spirit He would teach you to know and believe, as did the disciples, that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior, who died on the cross for your sins and opened the doors of heaven for you, and that He would give you courage to confess this faith before men.

Jesus now spoke plainly to the disciples about His suffering and death. He knew that He *must* endure much suffering and also die on the cross; but He also knew that in the end He would gain the victory over sin, death, and hell; and therefore He said that after three days He would rise again.

Today many people do not like to hear about a Savior who had to suffer and die on the cross like a criminal, just as Peter did not like to hear it and therefore rebuked Jesus for speaking of suffering and dying. Jesus, however, did not want any one to hinder Him from doing the work which He had been sent into the world to do. Looking at all His disciples, He therefore severely rebuked Peter; for Peter did not want the things that God wanted, but the things that his own sinful flesh desired.

Whom do you say that Jesus is? May your answer, made with a believing heart, be, "Thou art the Christ"! E. EN.

IN THE MORNING MAIL

Minneapolis Mission.—Christmas with its joyful message "Unto you is born a Savior!" again is a thing of the past. Christmas services were held in Minneapolis and at several other stations. In Minneapolis and also in Faribault a Christmas program was given. The one in Faribault was given on December 13, because our boys and girls went home for Christmas December 19. The service was held in Trinity Church (Rev. O. Volz, pastor). A large number of our hearing friends had come to sing and to rejoice with us in the Christ-child. Christmas carols were sung, accompanied by some of our girls in signs. Recitations were given by word of mouth and by means of signs. The pastor based his remarks on the precious name JESUS: "Jesus Eternal Saves Us Sinners." After the service all went to Trinity School, where the young people's society had arranged a Christmas party for our boys and girls. Christmas carols again were sung, accompanied by signs; then a bounteous dinner was served, and after that games were played by the young people of the church and of the school. About 45 students from the school were able to attend. Every one received a gift from the society. We heartily thank the young people's society and pray that God may richly reward them for it. Instructions are given every Saturday from 10 to 12 in the morning, and then we have a special class of three from 1 to 2 p. m. Services are held in Trinity Church the third Sunday of every month. The pastor has 53 under his spiritual care at the deaf school.

In Minneapolis the Christmas program was given December 27 in Grace Chapel, in which ten children of deaf parents, four from the Faribault School for the Deaf, and fourteen from the Minneapolis Oral School took part. Our church was packed with deaf both from the sign and oral groups and with parents and friends of the boys and girls. Rev. J. Beyer interpreted those parts of the program which were spoken. In the Minneapolis School for the Deaf we have 23 children under instruction, which is given at the school every Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

May God bless the teaching of His Word in both schools unto His glory and the salvation of many souls!

J. L. S.

Cleveland Mission.—The Lord has opened another door for us in our missionary work. This time it is in Washington, Pa. We had our first Lutheran services there last November. We shall let Rev. A. Gross speak, who is the Lutheran pastor in Washington. In the *Bulletin of the Lutheran Church Extension Society of Pittsburgh* he writes as follows: "On November 8 we had our first services for the deaf. Seventeen had promised to come, but only fourteen could be present, including a hearing member of our mission who understands the sign-language and the father of one of the deaf-mutes.

"The beginning of mission-work among the deaf, who have never had the Gospel of Christ proclaimed to them here in Washington, is due to the efforts of one of our members who was received into our mission last year. Here is certainly a fine example of how the Christian Church operates and grows. The Gospel-message is received by one and told to others, and thus it spreads. Appreciation of this work is apparent from the fact that one deaf-mute walked ten miles, round trip, to be able to attend this service.



Lutheran Pupils at the Ohio State School for the Deaf, Columbus, O.

"Missionary N. E. Borchardt, who conducted the services, was very much pleased. He stated that the audience was the largest group of deaf to whom he had ever preached in an opening service in a new field. Several other names of deaf and their addresses were given to the missionary. Arrangements were immediately made to conduct regular services every second Sunday of the month."

Since that time we have conducted two more services in Washington, Pa. The attendance was equally good as the first time. We surely have reason for rejoicing. And this should inspire every one of us to greater efforts in behalf of the work of our Lord. Possibly you, dear reader, are in position to help bring the Gospel to some city where it is not now being preached. Think how wonderful it would be if the Lord, through your efforts, would bring one soul to the knowledge of its Savior and grant to it eternal life through faith in Christ. The angels in heaven would rejoice, and your Savior would say to you: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

We feel assured that every reader of the DEAF LUTHERAN is happy to hear this news and that he joins us in wishing the deaf of Washington, Pa., the Lord's richest blessings.

N. B.

Chicago, Ill.—The Rev. E. Scheibert of Detroit, Mich., was installed as pastor of Our Savior Deaf Congregation in Chicago on January 17 by Rev. A. C. Dahms, assisted by Pastor C. Gade of Milwaukee and the writer. We wish Pastor Scheibert the Savior's bounteous blessing in his new field of labor. We hope that he will find it possible to bring the light of the Gospel into the hearts of all unchurched deaf in his territory and that spiritual blessings will continue to flow from and upon the members of Our Savior Congregation of the Deaf.

O. C. S.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—The holiday services in our territory were well attended by the deaf. We wish to thank all our friends for their kind greetings and tokens of appreciation.

O. C. S.

Lutheran Missionaries to the Deaf

Rev. A. Boll, 192 Hewes St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Rev. N. Borchardt, 2132 W. 93d St., Cleveland, O.
 Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. F. C. Gade, 1717 a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Rev. A. E. Ferber, 2538 Quincy Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
 Rev. E. Mappes, 2331 N. 63d St., Omaha, Nebr.
 Rev. J. Beyer, 1162 Marshall Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
 Rev. J. Salvner, 1221 N. 22d Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Rev. W. Ferber, 116 Chester Parkway, Duluth, Minn.
 Rev. F. A. Hirschke, 5046 Aubert Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
 Rev. W. Westermann, 1101 15th Ave., Seattle, Wash.
 Rev. E. Eichmann, 4424 N. Kerby Ave., Portland, Oreg.
 Rev. G. W. Gaertner, 3233 62d Ave., Oakland, Cal.
 Rev. G. H. Ferber, 1424 E. 46th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
 Rev. W. Gielow, 4863 Ashland St., Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. M. E. A. Mueller, 2521 N. W. 17th, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Rev. R. F. Cordes, 431 Main St., Saskatoon, Sask., Can.

Missionaries to the Deaf and the Blind

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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The Deaf Lutheran

Official Organ of Lutheran Church Missions for the Deaf
 Published Monthly

Twenty-five Cents per Annum in Advance

Send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to **Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis Mo.**

The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 12th of the month preceding month of issue.

Send all articles for publication to Rev. O. C. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.