

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

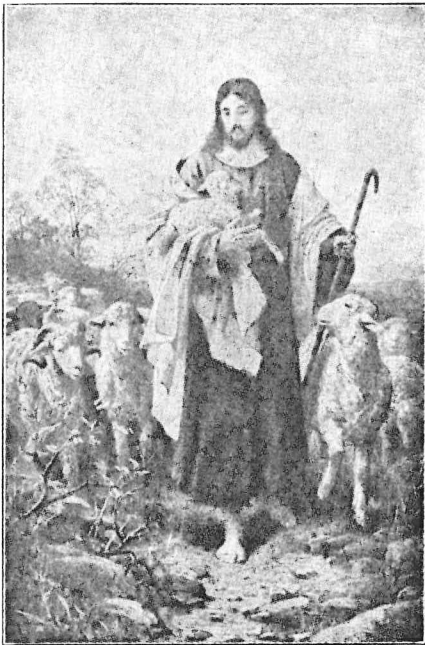
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No. 8



Is He Yours?

The love of God is full and free,
It reaches you and reaches me;
God gave His Son upon the tree
Dying for you in agony.
My friend, what will your answer be
For time and for eternity?
Jesus is calling thee today;
Come to Him now, while still you may.
The day of grace will soon be past,
The moments now are flying fast;
Before your chance of life grows less,
Take Christ, He is your Righteousness.
In Him be happy and secure;
Without Him you cannot endure.

C. J. HESS

Appreciation

There is a strange old legend of a world that grew colorless in a single night. The clouds became lifeless, the waves turned motionless, and the expanse of the sea reflected no blue heaven nor the stars nor the sun. The world had passed into the shadow of death.

This legend reminds us that the spiritual condition of the world would indeed be desperate if Jesus had not come down from heaven to save sinners. What a dark, dismal, hopeless world this would be without Christ! Job saw no hope for a sinner without the help of God. He asked many years ago: "How, then, can man be justified with God, or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?" Job 25, 4. Likewise the Apostle Paul told the Ephesian Christians that they were dead in trespasses and sins before Christ quickened them, Eph. 2, 1. Without Jesus and His precious work this would be a hopeless, selfish world, lost in sin and everlasting misery. It would be also a condemned world; for all are born in sin and cannot by their own power escape its results.

Christ, the Son of God, has changed all this. He declares: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly," John 10, 10. Again He tells us: "These things have I spoken unto you that My joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full," John 15, 11.

Do you thank God for the Gospel of Jesus, and do you yield yourself heartily and gladly to Him? Do you permit Him to be your Guide and Helper in all troubles of body, mind, and soul? Do you show your appreciation by

attending church services regularly, by giving of your time and money to His work, by leading others, sitting in darkness, to His cross? In this sin-cursed, lost world the Gospel of Jesus is your greatest treasure. Show your appreciation, then, by growing in holiness of life to His glory and by being active in His service.

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE CREED

"I believe in God"

"I believe in God," we confess in our Creed. Some one perhaps will ask, Is there really a God? And some people will answer that man does not and cannot know whether there is a God. They call themselves agnostics, or know-nothings. They walk in the dark. It will be a terrible awakening for them when they must go before God, who will judge them.

The Fool Says: "There Is No God"

Others will tell us, "There is no God." These are the atheists, the people without a God. They seem to look joyfully into the future; for there is no God, they say, who will punish sin. They live as they please, imagining that death will end all. But do they really know it? Are they sure of it? No, they are not. Said a farmer in Ohio who was an infidel, "I do not *believe* that there is a God, but I would give my best team of horses to *know* that there is none." The atheist is not a whit better off than the agnostic. Our Bible says of him: "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God," Ps. 14, 1.

Man's Conscience Says: "There Is a God"

There is a voice in man called conscience which tells him that there is a God to whom he is responsible. Go out among the heathen, and you will see them worshiping idols and bringing sacrifices to them. Who told them that there is a God whom they must worship? Who told them that there is a God who will reward the good and punish the evil? The voice of their conscience. Therefore Paul writes Rom. 1, 32: "Men know the judgment of God that they which commit such things are worthy of death."

This Wonderful World Says: "There Is a God."

David says: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork," Ps. 19, 1. One cannot think of this world without a maker. Every building has its builder, every piece of machinery has its maker, every article has its manufacturer, and so this wonderful world must have a Builder and Maker and Creator. Every blade of grass and every leaf, every worm and every insect, yes, everything in this world, proclaims from one end of the world to the other: There is a God. Therefore our Bible says: "The invisible things of God from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead," Rom. 1, 20. Yes, this wonderful world tells us that its Maker is mighty, almighty. Who but an almighty God could have made the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and all things therein? And in great wisdom He made it all. Who else than an all-wise God could have laid the plans and made this wonderful world?

The True God is Found in the Bible

Sin has darkened man's understanding and blinded his mind. He cannot by his reason find the true God. Much less can he learn from the things that are made how to get forgiveness and peace with God. God must make Himself known. And this He has done in His holy Word, the Bible. If you would know the true God and the right way to God, you must search your Bible. Thank God that He has made Himself and His Son Jesus Christ, the only Savior of sinners, known unto us, then you will not walk in darkness like the agnostic nor in foolishness like the atheist, but you will always in true faith say: "I believe in God."

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for August

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me," Matt. 25, 40

Bible-Lesson: Mark 9, 38—41

"And John answered Him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in Thy name, and he followeth not us; and we forbade him because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not; for there is

no man which shall do a miracle in My name that can lightly speak evil of Me. For he that is not against us is on our part. For whosoever shall give a cup of water to drink in My name because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

When Jesus had taught His disciples that in the eyes of God only those are great in the kingdom of God who are humble in spirit and willing to serve their fellow-men, John told Him about a man who cast [drove] out devils in Jesus' name. In the name of Jesus he was performing miracles, just as the disciples were doing, but he did not belong to the group of disciples who followed Jesus. The disciples thought that this man was working against them because he did not follow Jesus with them and therefore told him not to perform miracles in the name of Jesus.

But Jesus said to them, "Forbid him not," for no man will perform miracles in the name of Jesus and then turn around and lightly [carelessly] speak evil of Him and work against His kingdom. And so it is in the kingdom of God today. Many persons who do not follow Jesus with us nevertheless believe in Him and pray in His name, and therefore we should not quickly say, They are no Christians. If they are not against Jesus, they are on Jesus' part [side], even if they are still very weak in faith. They also work for Jesus, their Lord, and therefore we should not forbid them.

A great reward awaits those people who work for Jesus; not only those who do great and wonderful works like the disciples, but also those who merely give a cup of water to drink in Jesus' name. Whatever we do we should do in Jesus' name, and in His great love and mercy He will reward us for it. How good and kind our Lord and Savior is to all His followers! He came into this world, suffered and died for us on the cross to save us from sin and death and the power of the devil; and if we believe in Him and with a thankful heart give drink to a thirsty person, He will give us a gracious reward and say to us on the Last Day, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink."

Let us with thankful hearts serve Him who suffered and died for us on the cross. E. EN.

IN THE MORNING MAIL

Minneapolis Mission.—The pastor baptized his grandchild Carolyn Ann, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Schweigert, in Immanuel Church on Sunday, June 13. "Baptism doth also now save us," 1 Pet. 3, 21. May our Lord Jesus keep her and us all in His grace now and forever!

Mr. Eugene C. Warne, a member of our oral group, and Miss Lucille Haggarty were united in holy marriage on May 29 in the parsonage. May the Lord Jesus be an abiding Guest in their home!

Another faithful member of Grace Church, Mrs. Mary Cooper, was suddenly called to eternal rest. In the morning of Sunday, June 6, she attended our services, as usual; in the afternoon she was in an auto accident; and in the evening she closed her eyes, trusting in Jesus, the only Savior, we may confidently hope. She was confirmed by the pastor in 1911 and ever since had been a faithful member. She loved the Word of God, which told her of her sin but also of the blood of Jesus Christ, which cleanses from all sin. Therefore she let nothing keep her from the house of God on a Sunday. The seat in the pew which she always occupied never was vacant except when she was sick. We shall therefore miss her in our services. She also showed her love to her Savior by contributing liberally towards the work of her Lord and Master. In the service of June 6 she dropped an envelope with \$1.50 on the collection plate for the Lord's soul-saving work. She knew Jesus and His salvation and trusted in Him for the forgiveness of all her sins. What a comfort to know this! We can trust that she is now with her crucified and risen Lord in glory. The funeral took place on June 10 from the church where she loved to go. We extend our sympathy to her three sisters and other relatives who mourn her death. She died at the age of 57 years, 5 months, and 6 days. Jesus says: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live," John 11, 25.

The South Dakota Association of the Deaf met in convention June 3—6. Pastor Mappes had been asked to preach on the convention Sunday, but he was unable to come, and therefore the writer was asked to conduct services in the morning and evening. And we were glad to go, for Sioux Falls and Mitchell used to be on our schedule. We arrived there on Saturday morning and spent the day with the deaf. On Sunday morning the pastor preached, from John 15, 1—8, on "Jesus, the True Vine." And in the evening he spoke on the "Holy Spirit's Work in the Hearts of Men," from John 6, 60—71. The morning service was attended by about eighty deaf and the evening service by fifty. The offerings for our mission amounted to \$8.27 in the morning and to \$4.15 in the evening. One of our friends from Mitchell, Mrs. J. H. Noble, was not able to attend, and she longed to get a message from the Word of God. Her sister offered to pay for the gas and oil, and Mr. D. Nellis volunteered to bring the pastor from Sioux Falls to Mitchell, a distance of 77 miles, and back. She rejoiced to see us and eagerly listened to the message from the Word of God and thankfully handed the pastor a dollar for the mission, although they have had crop

failures for the past six years. Pastor Mappes has not been able to serve the Mitchell deaf for almost a year. They told us that the last service they had was in August, 1936, and that they were longing for regular services and the Lord's Supper. Indeed, the words of Jesus, Matt. 9, 37, 38, are still to be borne in mind. There we read these words: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." Let us daily pray: "Lord send forth laborers into Thy harvest among the deaf." J. L. S.

St. Louis Mission. — On May 2 the students of Concordia Seminary who have studied the sign-language in the course of this year again conducted their own service for the deaf. All were pleased at the interest which these young men who are preparing themselves for the ministry showed in our work among deaf people.

On May 16, 8 P. M. Rev. H. Peckman, missionary from Travancore, South India, spoke to our congregation here about his work among the people of India. It was a very interesting lecture, and we are sure that all who attended will remember it for a long time.

On Sunday, May 30, we confirmed five of our young people from the State school at Jacksonville, Ill. They were Wayne Otten, Marian Otten, Vera Winter, Dorothy Guhl, and Taletta Backer. In this service Rev. H. Koppelman confirmed two of the children from the school for the blind. May the kind and gracious Lord, who has called these young people unto Himself, also keep them faithful to their confirmation vows and ever mindful of the Savior who gave His life that they might live in everlasting life.

On Wednesday, May 19, we had our first meeting of the young people. We are planning to organize a young people's society. Eight young people attended this meeting. A temporary president was chosen, and plans were made for the summer. We hope in the course of time to get all our young people interested and in this way to keep them together. May God grant His blessings also for this venture!

On June 2 the St. Louis missionary to the deaf baptized Mr. Jesse Williams of De Soto, Mo. Mr. Williams came to St. Louis to have one of his eyes removed, and while here, he was brought to our attention through the kind cooperation of one of our pastors who was instructing Mr. Williams's sister. Mr. Williams expressed his desire to be baptized after we had told him of his Lord and Savior. It was through him that our station in De Soto was begun.

Raymond Rodekopf, one of our Fulton pupils, was baptized on June 6.

We confirmed two additional members of our class from Jacksonville, Ill., Mary Gremmel and Clarence Triefenbach, in Sparta, Ill., on June 16. May the good and gracious Lord, who has taken these people unto Himself in Baptism and confirmation, grant them that peace which passes all understanding and keep them in true faith unto life everlasting!

On June 27 the St. Louis congregation again had its annual picnic on the beautiful grounds of our Lutheran Orphans' Home in Des Peres, Mo. About 250

attended the picnic, and we are quite sure that all enjoyed the day very much. Open-air services were held at 2 P. M. We cannot but speak a word of praise for the ladies' aid because of the dinner which they served and the efficient way in which it was done.

F. A. HISCHKE

Mission for Blind and Deaf. — During the summer months we always make a special effort to visit our deaf in their homes. A personal visit shows a personal interest. Pastors and missionaries are deeply and genuinely interested in the eternal welfare of every soul under their care. May our calls this summer, made in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, bring glory to His holy name and spiritual blessings to the souls of our members!

Whenever we return from a preaching trip to the deaf into our territory, we find many letters from the blind on our desk, such as the following: "I have just read my copy of the *Lutheran Herald for the Blind* in Moon type, and I am very much pleased with it. Many thanks! I am totally blind and praise God for the light of His Word." May all Christians appreciate more fully the Gospel of Jesus and the infinite value of His precious blood! O. C. S.

NEVER does the human soul appear so strong as when it foregoes revenge and forgives an injury.
E. H. Chapin

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.
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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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