

# The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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## Our King and His Citizens

When Jesus, forty days after Easter, visibly ascended into heaven, He did this for several purposes. One purpose was to ascend as our King, to sit at the right hand of God, to rule all things in heaven and earth, especially to rule and guide the Church as its King and Head.

As a king usually lives and rules in the capital of his land, so Jesus ascended to His capital, the heavenly Jerusalem, to live and rule there in glory and majesty. Sitting upon His throne, He rules His citizens, the Christians. He is concerned about their spiritual welfare, which He shows by constantly interceding (praying) for them before the Father. As a true King, who graciously provides for His subjects, He is now preparing wonderful places for us in the mansions which He purchased for us with His holy precious blood. Eph. 1:20-23; John 12:26; 14:3; 1 John 2:1, 2.

Who are the subjects, or citizens, in the kingdom of Jesus Christ? The answer is: All who believe in Him. If you wish to be a citizen of the heavenly King, you must believe that He is the Son of God and the Savior from sin and eternal damnation. If your soul was made alive by the Gospel of Jesus, if you trust to reach heaven only through Christ, then you are a heavenly citizen, as Paul says: "Our citizenship is in heaven," Phil. 3:20 (Revised Version).

True citizens of any nation are loyal and faithful to their king and the laws of the land. If you want to be a true citizen in the kingdom of Jesus, you must be loyal and faithful to Him, hear and believe His Gospel, be a regular attendant at the services and at the Lord's Table, and obey His commandments. When Jesus

told Pilate that He is the King of Truth, He added: "Every one that is of the truth heareth My voice," John 18:37. If you believe that Jesus has saved you by His bitter suffering and death, you will love Him and gladly hear His Word and live a life pleasing to Him.

Let us be wise and prepare to meet our God and King. Let us read our King's holy Book every day, hear His Word diligently and with a believing heart, live unto Him who died for us and rose again, and have our faith strengthened by receiving the Sacrament frequently. Let it be our chief desire to live and die as true Christians. T. F.

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### THE CREED

*"Jesus Christ, our Lord"*

At the close of our last study we sang: "Your Brother is th' eternal God." You ask: Is that true? Have we not learned of two Christs, of one who is true God and of another who is true man? There is only one Christ, my friend. Therefore we confess in the Creed: "Jesus Christ, our Lord," not Lords. Paul writes 1 Cor. 8:6: "There is *one Lord Jesus Christ*." And in the Athanasian Creed, which we find in the book containing all the confessions of our Lutheran Church, we read: "Jesus Christ, who, although He be God and man, is yet *not two, but one Christ*."

### Jesus Christ, True God and True Man in One Person

The Bible rightly calls this a great mystery. In 1 Tim. 3:16 we read: "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh." In this Jesus, born of

the Virgin Mary, God manifests Himself, that is, makes Himself known. Therefore Jesus said to His disciples: "If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also"; and again: "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father," John 14:7, 9. Indeed, this Jesus who walked among men "is the Image of the invisible God, the Brightness of His glory," Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3. Look for God in Christ Jesus. If you know Him, you will also know the Father. He is God and man in one person; therefore Paul says: "The second man is the Lord from heaven," 1 Cor. 15:47. Yes, it is true, "Your Brother is th' eternal God."

### In Jesus God was Crucified and Shed His Blood

The Son of Man was nailed to the cross; but, now listen, men killed not only the son of Mary, but "*the Prince of Life*," Acts 3:15, and "*crucified the Lord of glory*," 1 Cor. 2:8. The blood shed on the cross was not only that of the man Jesus but also that of God's Son; for we read: "*The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin*," 1 John 1:7. And Paul charges the elders of Ephesus "to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with *His own blood*," Acts 20:28. The Prince of Life and Lord of Glory was killed on the cross for you and me; the Son of God, and therefore God Himself, purchased us with His own blood! Indeed, we are bought with a price! Read 1 Cor. 6:20.

### The Man Jesus Is the Eternal God

The man Jesus could say to His enemies: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am," John 8:58. And because He said this, they took up stones to cast at Him. It is foolishness unto natural man. See 1 Cor. 2:14. The Son of Man is true God; for He said: "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth," Matt. 28:18. In the man Jesus who walked this earth "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge," Col. 2:3. And therefore Peter could say to his Master: "Lord, Thou knowest all things," John 21:17. Therefore do not think it strange if we fall down and worship Him who lay in the manger and died on the cross. And do not think that our crucified Lord is no longer with us because He ascended into heaven; for before His ascension He promised: "Lo, I am with you

always, even unto the end of the world," Matt. 28:20. Therefore John could write: "He dwelt among us; and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father," John 1:14. My Jesus is the glorious God! As the Son of God He had this glory from everlasting; but now, when the Word was made flesh, this glory belongs also to the Son of Man.

Jesus reigns, adored by angels;  
Man with God is on the throne.  
Mighty Lord, in Thine ascension  
We by faith behold our own.

J. L. S.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible-Study for May

"Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come," Matt. 24:42

Bible-Lesson: Mark 13:1-8

"And as He went out of the Temple, one of His disciples saith unto Him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here! And Jesus, answering, said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? There shall not be left one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down. And as He sat upon the Mount of Olives over against the Temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked Him privately, Tell us, when shall these things be, and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled? And Jesus, answering them, began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you; for many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ, and shall deceive many. And when ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, be ye not troubled, for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet. For nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles. These are the beginnings of sorrows."

As Jesus left the Temple for the last time, never to return to it, one of the disciples called His attention to its great beauty, saying, "Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" This was the beautiful Temple which Herod had built for the Jews, a building constructed of large white stones and richly adorned with gold, the sight of which filled the hearts of the people with joy and delight.

But Jesus, looking at this beautiful Temple, answered, The time is coming when "there shall not be left one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down." This large Temple with all its buildings would be completely destroyed; nothing would remain of it but a

heap of ruins. Jesus, the Son of God, who knows all things, tells the disciples that God's judgment and punishment will come upon the city of Jerusalem with its great Temple and finally also upon the whole world, for rejecting the Savior whom God had sent.

The disciples now ask Jesus, "When shall these things be, and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?"

In answering their question, Jesus speaks not only of the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple but also of the end of the world. There will be many signs to show that these things will surely come to pass. False teachers will come, claiming to be Christ, the Savior, and with their false teaching will deceive many people and lead them away from the true Savior. There shall be wars and rumors (talk) of wars; one nation shall war with another and one kingdom with another. There shall be earthquakes and famines and troubles.

The words which Jesus spoke about Jerusalem and the Temple have been fulfilled. The city and the beautiful Temple were utterly destroyed; not one stone remained upon the other. And as God's judgment came upon Jerusalem, just so surely it will also come upon the whole world on the Day of Judgment. The signs of the Lord's coming to Judgment have been repeated many times, and we see them today in increasing numbers: false teachers who would lead us away from Jesus; earthquakes, wars, famines, and all manner of troubles. Surely the Day of Judgment is near.

And how can you and I escape this terrible judgment of God? Only by trusting in the Savior whom He has sent. Trusting in Him, we need not fear. To the Christians the Lord's coming and the end of the world will be the day of salvation.

E. EN.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Seattle, Wash.*—Again the Church of Our Redeemer has lost one of its good, faithful members. On February 16 Jesus sent His angels to bring home the soul of Sidney Geo. Raison after a lingering illness and much suffering.

Mr. Raison was stricken with dropsy on the 8th of August last. From the first it became evident that he could not hope to recover. When his pastor informed him of this fact, he did not complain and murmur, but calmly said: "As Jesus wills; I'm ready. Surely my Jesus will not leave me but help me all the

way." When his nurse entered the room, he told her: "I'll soon go away to heaven." This certainly was a fine confession of faith, and it made our heart glad.

During the weary seven months of illness Mr. Raison was always delighted to hear the Word of God and repeatedly asked for, and received, the Holy Supper, always stating that his only hope was Jesus, who would never leave or forsake him. His calm and fearlessness never left him. We therefore feel certain we did not really lose a member but know another of our friends at home with the Lord forever. Funeral services were held on February 20, at 8 P. M. His pastor spoke to a very large congregation on Heb. 13:5b, 6a.

Four friends from Trinity Church sang: "There Is an Hour of Peaceful Rest," which was interpreted by the pastor. Mrs. C. Reeves rendered "Nearer, My God, to Thee" in a most beautiful manner. Teacher W. R. Kamprath was at the organ.

Mr. Raison gave testimony of his love for his Savior and church in that he made the church heir to a sum of money large enough to make repairs so badly needed for our chapel and parsonage.

May his memory remain a blessed one among us. Mr. Raison reached the age of 51 years, 7 months, and 2 days. He was born in Devonport, England, and attended Exeter School there. As a child he came to this country. Seattle was his home city for about thirty years.

W. A. WESTERMANN

*Billings, Mont.*—The attendance at Billings has been fine ever since the mission there was begun. Our deaf friends do love to hear the Word of God. This is evidenced by the distances they come for services. Mr. Revelle, in coming to church, makes a round trip of 300 miles, rain or shine or snow. Others come 50 to 100 miles one way. We hope to have a baptism service here in the near future. The attention at service is good, and interest during Bible class after service is very fine. May God keep it so and keep all our hearers with Christ!

All the other stations of the Queen City field are slowly but surely growing under God's rich blessing.

W. A. WESTERMANN

*Minneapolis Mission.*—Patricia Jean, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Haugley, was baptized in the name of our crucified and risen Savior in our Faribault service on March 19. May He graciously keep her in His kingdom unto her end! J. L. S.

*Omaha Mission.*—A very faithful member of our Lincoln, Nebr., group, Mrs. Henrietta Beegle (Ems-hoff), who passed away on her forty-fourth birthday, March 16, was laid to rest on March 18. Rev. F. Worthmann and the undersigned preached the funeral sermons, and Mrs. Mappes signed the hymn "Abide with Me." Mrs. Beegle was known for her pleasing personality and her intense interest in all church affairs, and she willingly lent a helping hand when that service could be rendered for her church. She was a regular attendant at our monthly services. Above all she had faith and trust in her blessed Redeemer, through whom alone she hoped to be saved. We can confidently say she is now at rest and her soul is in the bosom of her Savior. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Donations from friends and members of our Lincoln and Omaha deaf congregations were given as a memorial wreath, and the money will be used for an evergreen tree to be planted near the new church for the deaf in Omaha since it was the desire of Mrs. Beegle, had she lived, to donate one of these trees. We extend, through these lines, in behalf of their many friends, sincere sympathy to the bereaved.

An increased attendance gladdened our hearts at Sioux City on March 26 when 27 deaf were present at the services. Several adults from this group are being instructed preparatory to confirmation.

Nine pupils from the Council Bluffs School for the Deaf will be confirmed in the church in Omaha on May 21.

The Omaha deaf are again busy this spring beautifying their church property.

Easter services held at Fort Dodge and Boone, Iowa, were attended by large groups from the surrounding territory, many of whom drove many miles to the church.

We want to say a word of thanks and appreciation for the kindness and wonderful cooperation of the various pastors in our field whose churches we use for our services. In each instance the custodian of the church is on hand to help our deaf friends feel as much at home and as comfortable as possible. The Lord bless them for their efforts on our behalf! E. M.

*Chicago, Ill.*—Suddenly and unexpectedly on Friday, March 17, Mr. Wm. Schoknecht, aged sixty-six years, one of the charter members of Immanuel Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Milwaukee, Wis., fell asleep in his Savior as the result of a heart attack. The deceased was given Christian burial on the following Monday, with the undersigned officiating. The funeral service took place in Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, J. C. Mueller, pastor. In the school of this church Mr. Schoknecht had received his early training. In the church of this congregation he had also been confirmed. At the funeral the children of the school sang several hymns, which were interpreted in the sign-language.

During the vacancy in Milwaukee we were privileged to preach to our congregation in that city at various times and were always pleased to see large attendances. We rejoice with the members of Immanuel Church that they will soon have a pastor of their own in their midst again.

As to those that have been on our sick-list in Chicago, I can report that Mrs. J. Ellmann is well enough again to attend our services. Mr. Philip Hoehn has been confined to the Cook County Hospital for a number of weeks but is showing some improvement. Mrs. E. Reinecke has again been troubled with asthma and is confined to her bed. Mr. Wm. Sauerborn, too, has been unable to get about because of an infected leg. Our oldest member in Chicago, Mrs. A. Neely, was able to be present at our Easter service. Our robed ladies' choir helps considerably in beautifying our services. The congregation appreciates the efforts of our kind ladies in this respect. ERNEST J. SCHEIBERT

*Kansas City Mission.*—The officers of Pilgrim Congregation of Kansas City for 1939 are: President, Louis Meyer; Vice-President, Kenneth Vantrees; Secretary, Virgil Tate; Treasurer, Herman Wood; Financial Secretary, Leonard Meyer; Trustees, Lewis Butcher and Norman Steele.

Pilgrim Congregation and its Athletic Committee offered an attractive trophy to the individual adjudged the most valuable player in the recent Interschool (deaf) Basketball Tournament held at Olathe, Kans. The prize was awarded to Mr. Robert Dietrich of the Kansas School. We add our congratulations. Pilgrim Basketball Team was a member of the Lutheran Division in the local Recreation League in the past season.

Mr. Virgil E. Tate of our Kansas City congregation and Miss Bernice A. Rodekopf of St. Louis were united in holy marriage on March 11 in Kansas City.

After making a public confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus and promising faithfulness, the following persons have been accepted into membership of the Lutheran Church: Springfield, Mo.: Miss Dorothy Bain and Lawrence Saunders; Manhattan, Kans.: Miss Bertha Seng; Kansas City (on Easter Sunday): William Dickinson, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Miller, Mr. Neval Spencer, and Miss Jean Pickens. The last-named is in the oral group. On the same date Mrs. Ruth Robertson and her infant daughter Karen were received into Christ's kingdom by Holy Baptism. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit, graciously perform in the souls of these new members the good work which He has begun in them!

The Wichita, Kans., Lutheran Silent Sunday-school is flourishing under the able leadership of our members Mr. and Mrs. Archier Grier and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wimp. A. E. FERBER

*Mission for Blind and Deaf.*—In spite of the fact that most of our deaf members at this time are unemployed, the attendance at the services is increasing. In a meeting recently held at one of our smaller stations 29 deaf were present. Since January 1 nine new members have been received into the Church.

The president of an association for the blind in New York City recently wrote to us as follows: "On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself I wish to acknowledge with the deepest pleasure the Lutheran magazine for the blind in Moon type. The blind of our association certainly enjoy the book and hope for your continued interest."

Mrs. Mary Kirchner of Oakland, Calif., an aunt of Mrs. Schroeder, last month sent us a generous donation for our work. Many thanks! May God bless the gift and the giver! O. C. S.

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