

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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The Way to Heaven

Dr. Martin Luther taught the truth from the Bible that we are saved alone by the mercy of God in Christ Jesus.

When Christians go to bed at night,
They pray in Jesus' name;
Through Him the Lord forgives their sins
And frees them from all blame.

That is the plain and simple truth,
Which God Himself has given
For all who wish to find the way
That surely leads to heaven.

Sel.

The Bible

The Bible, which was restored to the masses of people by Dr. Martin Luther, does not only contain the Word of God, but it is the Word of God. The Apostle Peter says: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost," 2 Pet. 1:21. The Holy Ghost used the gifts and the language of every writer. He speaks to us in the language of a shepherd and then in that of a well-educated Paul.

The Bible was written over a long period of years by numerous writers; yet it teaches only harmonious truths. It satisfies and elevates the human soul; its promises of a Savior were fulfilled in Jesus. Shrewd and powerful enemies failed to destroy it. In the Bible, God, the mouth of all wisdom and knowledge, speaks to us; therefore we ought to love, study, treasure, and accept its truth. The psalmist says: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet," Ps. 119:105. In the Bible, God shows us that faith in Jesus is the way to eternal life and happiness.

Jesus says: "Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of Me." The Bible tells

us how Christ's work benefits us. It says: "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sins," 1 John 1:7. And again: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," Acts 16:31.

The Bible, however, does more than this. It not only teaches about Christ, but is also the means through which the Holy Ghost works faith in our hearts; it gives salvation. St. Paul says: "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," Rom. 1:16. Let us, then, appreciate the Bible and study it daily for our own welfare and the glory of God. O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE THIRD ARTICLE

"I believe in the Holy Ghost"

The Holy Ghost is a person, the Third Person in the one true God. Therefore, as we say, "I believe in God the Father," and, "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son," so we also say, "I believe in the Holy Ghost."

Also the Holy Spirit Is True God

With the words "I believe in the Holy Ghost" we say that He is true God as well as the Father and the Son. The Bible calls Him God. When Ananias had lied to Peter, the latter said: "Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? . . . Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God," Acts 5:3, 4. To lie to the Holy Ghost is the same as to lie to God. And Jesus tells us to baptize "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." The Holy Ghost is true God, just as the Father and the Son.

He is Like unto the Father and the Son

As the Father and the Son know all things, so "the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God," 1 Cor. 2:10. And as the Father fills heaven and earth (Jer. 23:24), and as the Son is with us always (Matt. 28:20), even so the Holy Spirit is with us wherever we go. David says: "Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit, or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?" Ps. 139:7-10. Again, He is the *Holy Spirit*, holy as the Father and as the Son. Therefore the holy angels sing: "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts," Is. 6:3. Furthermore, as the Father is the "Maker of heaven and earth," as all things were made by the Son (John 1:3), so of the Holy Ghost David says: "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host by the breath (Spirit) of His mouth," Ps. 33:6. And the first chapter of our Bible, which speaks of the creation, tells us: "The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters," Gen. 1:2. Indeed, the Holy Ghost is true God as the Father and the Son.

His Work Is to Make People Holy

Our Catechism tells us that the Third Article speaks of sanctification. Sanctification means making people holy. And that is the work of the Holy Spirit. First, He cleanses us from all sin by bringing us to Christ and giving us the saving faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. And then He leads us upon the holy way unto the glory of our Savior's name. For this work in us we need the Holy Ghost. Therefore we say: "I believe in the Holy Ghost," and daily pray:

Holy Ghost, with power divine
Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;
In Thy mercy pity me,
From sin's bondage set me free. Amen.

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for October

"We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard," Acts 4:20

Bible-Lesson: Acts 1:1-5

"The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after that He through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the

apostles whom He had chosen; to whom also He showed Himself alive after His Passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God; and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith He, ye have heard of Me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

The Bible-studies which we are now beginning are based on the Book of Acts. This book of the Bible is also called the Acts of the Apostles. It was written by St. Luke, the "beloved physician," the writer of the third gospel, the Gospel of St. Luke. He was a friend and companion of the Apostle Paul and traveled with him on some of his missionary journeys and assisted him in his mission-work.

In the Book of Acts, St. Luke tells us how the apostles and disciples of Jesus carried out the Lord's command to preach the Gospel to every nation, how they brought the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to Jews and Gentiles, how Christianity spread from Jerusalem to Rome. Read and study this book of the Bible carefully and diligently. You will find it a source of strength and encouragement in serving your Lord and Savior in His kingdom.

The Gospel of St. Luke and the Book of Acts were written to a man named Theophilus. He was very probably a Roman official or a man of great prominence who had become a disciple of Jesus. "In the former treatise," that means in his gospel, Luke had given an account to Theophilus of the things that Jesus did and taught, of His gracious miracles, His preaching, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension into heaven. In the opening verses of Acts he reminds Theophilus again of the certainty of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. That fact was all important. After His passion, that is, after His suffering and death on the cross, He appeared to His disciples many times. He showed Himself alive by many infallible (certain) proofs over a period of forty days, until the day in which He was taken up into heaven. The disciples were firmly convinced that He was risen from the dead. Their faith in Him was not in vain.

This glorious message of Jesus, the Savior, the disciples were to preach to all the world.

For this great task they were to receive special powers and gifts from the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus had promised to send upon them. Therefore He now commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who would descend upon them not many days later.

Thus the Lord assured His disciples that He would be with them and bless them with special gifts and powers for the task they were to perform.

E. EN.

Redemption

A minister went to see a dying woman of wealth, education, and refinement. He soon discovered that she was ignorant of the essential facts of the Christian faith. To her mind Jesus was simply a teacher of morals, a good man, even a great man, but after all a man much like other great religious teachers. She had no knowledge at all of Christianity as a religion of redemption from the power and guilt of sin. Her life had been a rather sad one, a life stained by both sin and sorrow. This poor dying soul found no comfort at all in the type of religion she had been practicing. As she lay there, she sighed, "Oh, that it were possible for some one to take my guilty conscience as though it were his own, that I might find a little peace!" The minister who was standing at her bedside said that he learned more about the mystery of our redemption in that moment than he had ever known. Here was a dying soul who realized and stated the need of just such a salvation as we are invited to accept in the Bible. The only relief from sin and its punishment can come through faith in our redeeming Savior. For our Lord took our burden of guilt as though it were His own, and He bore it in our stead. That is the faith that saves!

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

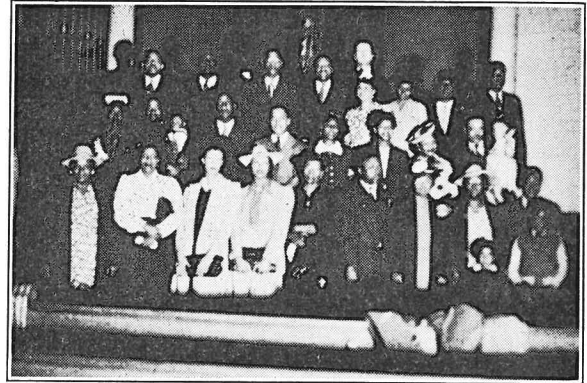
Cleveland, O.—On June 8, in the presence of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church at Pittsburgh, Pa., the following pledged faithfulness to the Triune God and became full members: Albert Froehlich, John Haldie, Irene Jesse, Dolores Leicher, Dolores Forwark, and Marion Traugh, the latter having been baptized in this service.

On June 29 another group was taken into membership before St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Washington,

Pa., namely: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strong, Merwin and Donald Mowl, and Le Vaughn Moore. After confessing the Christian faith, the last three named were baptized in the name of the Triune God. At this service we were glad to have in our midst the Rev. H. A. Gamber, who preached the sermon.—May all of these new members keep their promise to God and remain faithful unto death!

It should here be added that Pastor H. Gamber of St. Paul, Minn., chairman of our Board for Deaf Missions, having attended the convention of Synod at Fort Wayne, Ind., made a visitation tour to the East and gave inspiring addresses to our groups in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, and Washington, Pa.

On Saturday noon, July 5, Miss Margaret Baker of Toledo, O., was married to Mr. Russel Escover of Cleveland, the pastor performing the ceremony in the home of the groom, while John Bender and Ann Jeanette Coughlin acted as witnesses, the latter being the sister



Cleveland Colored Deaf Congregation
Theo. Frederking, Pastor

of Mr. Escover. We wish the newly married couple God's blessings and happiness.

John Haldie, who on June 8 became a full member in Pittsburgh, has moved to Cleveland, where he has found regular employment. We welcome him in our midst.

T. F.

Kansas City Mission.—Mr. Francis Stowell of Gerald, Mo., and Miss Christine Standridge of Jefferson City, Mo., were united in holy matrimony on August 13, in Kansas City. The ceremony took place before the altar of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

A faithful aged lady, Mrs. Clara Laughlin of Liberty, Mo., peacefully fell asleep in Jesus on September 4. Mrs. Laughlin used to pride herself on the fact that it was her privilege in early youth to shake hands with President Lincoln. However, through the Gospel she also realized that it would be a far greater privilege to see the Savior face to face.

After twelve years of prayerful planning Pilgrim Congregation of Kansas City, under God's blessing, on September 7, celebrated the corner-stone laying for its future house of worship. The Rev. Hugo A. Gamber, chairman of the Board of Missions for the Deaf, conducted the solemn service. A very large audience of deaf friends and members and other friends attended.



Devils Lake Confirmation and Baptism Class, May 25, 1941
Left to right: Edna Surber, confirmed; Maxine Hayward, baptized; Maxine Linson, baptized; Richard Scofield, baptized; Rev. W. Ferber

Building operations are continuing as materials are available. Much difficult work is yet before us. It is our prayer that under God's guidance the project will be completed successfully in a few months.

It is the privilege of the missionary again to conduct the chapel services at the Kansas School for the Deaf on the first Sunday of the month. A. E. F.

Minneapolis Mission.—Sunday, July 13, we held a service in Hutchinson, Minn., where deaf had gathered for a picnic. We went there after our morning service in Minneapolis, and we were glad to see about 35 deaf who had come for the picnic. Especially did we rejoice to see and meet again deaf whom we formerly served in Dawson and who now are ministered to by our Sioux Falls missionary. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, they halted with their picnic for a service. They gathered the park benches, and the pastor stood upon a rock which served as a pulpit. However, we had no lectern, and therefore Pastor Nachtsheim, also a friend of the deaf, read the Scripture-passage and the text aloud, and we signed them to the deaf. It was a regular service out in the open. Prayers were offered, hymns were signed, and a sermon was preached. Surely, it was pleasing to God that these deaf on their picnic day had time for the Word of God. May our good Lord richly bless it in their hearts! J. L. S.

Omaha, Nebr.—On June 11 Marvin Ray, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rippe of Brock, Nebr., was baptized at the parsonage. God keep this child in His grace!

At the opening of school in September a group of 94 pupils greeted the pastor at the Council Bluffs, Iowa, school and 41 at the Omaha school. We hope that all these children will show the same interest in God's Word as in other years and attend classes regularly. May the Lord bless their studies in school as well as the study of His saving Word!

The annual mission-festival will be observed together with hearing friends on October 19 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Omaha. Pastor A. Jonas

of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., has been asked to preach in the morning, and Rev. L. Acker of Omaha will speak in the afternoon. E. M.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—During our visit to the deaf in the territory around Escanaba, Mich., we found seven Lutheran deaf. They have never been instructed in the Lutheran doctrines. We hope to supplement our visits with mail instructions.

A British reader of the *Braille Messenger* in September sent us this message: "Please send my magazine to my new address. I have been bombed out of my Liverpool home." Let us be thankful for the blessings of peace which we still enjoy. O. C. S.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. A. Boll, 192 Hewes St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
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Rev. A. T. Jonas, 1401 E. 10th St., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
Rev. N. P. Uhlig, 4517 W. Pine Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.
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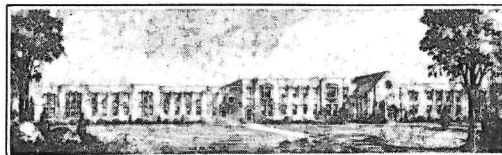
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.

These ministers preach in more than 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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Mr. J. P. Miller, 11 S. 12th St., Apt. 15, Minneapolis, Minn.



Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Mich.
Mr. John A. Klein, Director
6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

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