

# *The Deaf Lutheran*



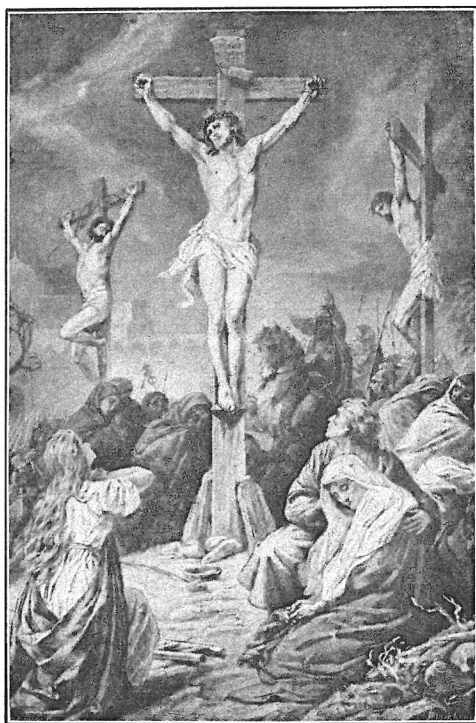
*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 50

MARCH 1958

Number 3



He was wounded for  
our transgressions, He  
was bruised for our  
iniquities; upon Him  
was the punishment  
that made us whole,  
and with His stripes  
we are healed.  
(Isaiah 53:5 RSV)

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 (Serving the Deaf and the Blind)

These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and 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.

## THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis 18, Mo. Subscription price, 50 cents per year. Second-class mail privileges authorized at St. Louis, Mo.

The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 3d Friday, two weeks before issue. Send all news, pictures, stories, articles, subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to Rev. N. P. Uhlig, Editor, 9607 Baltimore Ave., Overland 14, Mo., Tel. HARRISON 9-1443.

# The Sacrifice of Jesus

We are now in Lent. To many Lent is just a season of the year through which we must pass as we pass through summer or winter, just a matter of the calendar. It is a season when people are more subdued and quiet in their social life, so many feel, and then comes Easter and man can again let himself go.

Christians do not feel that way. They know that Lent means much more. Before them rise again the scenes of Old Jerusalem with the temple, Herod's court, the Way of Sorrows, Calvary. They see the solemn, sad features of the thorn-crowned Man. And they know that they themselves were involved there though they live almost two thousand years after that event on Calvary. They know that all men that ever lived or will live on earth were involved and were benefited; and they know that it is their duty to tell the living, that they may see they were benefited by the sacrifice of Jesus. "Go quickly and tell" was the order given early on Easter morning that followed Good Friday.

Why was Jesus' sacrifice given? Why was it necessary? What did it mean? And the answer can be given very simply. With Adam's sin all mankind fell and became tainted with sin. "There is not a just man upon earth that doeth good and sinneth not" (Ecclesiastes 7:20). "We are all as an unclean thing" (Isaiah 64:6). Sin is disobedience against God's Law, and man owes obedience to God's Law. So sin is a debt. Disobedience against God's Law brings punishment just as surely as driving your car at 50 miles an hour in a 25-mile zone makes you liable to a fine.

If you are caught, you must pay or go to jail. It's just as simple as that.

The penalty must be paid, or it must be forgiven by the party against which the offense was committed. God had stated the terms: "Death!" Separation from life and from God is the penalty of sin. So sin's penalty had to be paid. And when God's mercy resolved to lay upon One, His Son, the sin of all, this One had to die. And He did die, and He did suffer the tortures of hell when on the cross He cried, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

The unchangeable God did not change the terms of sin's penalty. Jesus suffered what any soul in hell would suffer, and because the whole world's sin lay upon Him, His suffering was immensely more torturing than that which any individual would suffer for his sins alone.

Christ's sacrifice was voluntarily given and not forced from Him. "No one taketh it [life] from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this commandment I have received of My Father" (John 10:18). He gave up His ghost when He was ready, and on the third day He took His life again and rose from the dead. Voluntarily He gave the sacrifice, and having paid the penalty, He assumed again the full use of His power forever. The Letter to the Hebrews quotes Psalm 40:7 and 8, where the Messiah says, "I delight to do Thy will." "By the which will," says the writer of Hebrews, "we are sanctified through the offering of the

body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Hebrews 10:10)

To the question how the sacrifice of the One, Jesus, can make up for the sins of all, Romans 5:18 replies: "Therefore as by the offense of one [Adam] judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of One [Jesus] the free gift [forgiveness] came upon all men unto justification of life."

And the blessing comes through faith in Him. May God grant us a blessed Lenten season!

## What's the Cure?

In the bulletin of Our Savior's in Chicago Rev. E. Scheibert reports that vandals smashed the glass of their bulletin board attached to the front of the church. Evidently that is some of the work of the young hoodlums that have caused so much damage to the property of the citizens and schools in the city, so that several hundred were expelled from school. In New York the authorities face a similar situation, and on a lesser scale the same ugly picture shows itself almost everywhere. Passengers in public buses on the streets are insulted and beaten because some bully in the gang of loud-mouthed ruffian boys and girls says, "Let's beat that guy up!" Then the senseless and thoughtless gang sets upon somebody and often seriously injures him. A school-teacher that has labored faithfully for over 20 years is dismissed by the school board because in final desperation to uphold her authority in the classroom, she takes the spoiled child of some wealthy "modern" household and soundly paddles the seat of that culprit. "You may

not apply corporal punishment, not to MY child."—What can be the cause of this youthful violence?

The cause lies deep. God has put upon the parents the right and the duty to "bring up your children in the nurture [training] and admonition [instruction] of the Lord." Parents are therefore responsible for the rearing of the children. This duty cannot be put on the shoulders of other agencies, though several agencies can be of great help. Such agencies are the church and the schools. But God's wisdom in putting the duty and responsibility upon the parents is supreme and better than man-made ideas of who can best raise the children to be good men and women. We are told that "modern science and advanced methods" make unnecessary the use of physical force and that any teacher that cannot, in every instance, achieve success without using force is just not a good teacher. And these same "wise" people tell us that "the church and the schools and the community have failed" and are responsible for this rash of violence. But not upon church and school and community has God placed the duty and responsibility of bringing up the children; He has placed it upon parents and the home.

Wrong ideas are held on this matter. But it is a fact that the home has the duty and responsibility of rearing the children, that with children the "rod," meaning physical punishment, is a good help, *properly used*, and that the Word of God and God's wisdom of the Bible are essential in training children to be good citizens in this world and at the same time well prepared for heaven. An education that over-



looks religion and either completely neglects it or is satisfied with some "moral" generalities about "being good and kind" is a dismal failure. To prepare a child to "make money" or to be a "social light" is not enough. There is a startling ignorance of the Bible and Biblical facts, which one cannot help noticing in the quiz programs now so popular on the TV programs. The contestants come up with astounding information about so many things; but when a question asks for some facts or persons or events recorded in the Bible, fear shows on the face of the contestant, and there follows a wild guess that often shows crass ignorance.

What is the cure? Back to the principles that God has given us in the Bible! Parents, yours is the duty and responsibility to bring up the children properly. In doing so be kind and wise; be reasonable, but be firm also. Realize that sometimes the rod must be used, for "foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction will drive it far from him" (Proverbs 22:15).

And do not overlook the importance of a good religious family atmosphere in the home. Read the Bible with the children. Know your Bible, and meet the problems of family life and its questions with Bible truths and verses. Once impressed upon the minds of the children, these will guide them through life. Choose a school that uses God's Word daily if you can find such a school in your neighborhood. Thank God, many of our Lutheran congregations maintain good parish and Sunday schools. And watch your TV programs, and put your foot down

**Ephphatha Conference** will, according to present plans, be held in St. Paul, Minn., August 29 through September 2.

**Dixie Lutheran Deaf Conference** will meet at Jacksonville, Ill., March 29 and 30.

**Eastern Seaboard Deaf Conference** will meet at Pocono Crest, Pa., June 6—8.

**Northwest Lutheran Laymen's Conference** will meet July 18 through 20 at Camp Lutherland, near Tacoma, Wash.

**Montana Lutheran Lay Conference** will meet August 9 and 10 at a church camp in Gallatin Canyon, about 20 miles north of Yellowstone Park not far from Bozeman, Mont.

**The Midwest Deaf Conference** and the **Great Lakes Conference** have to date not announced the particulars about their 1958 meetings.

against such that are clearly harmful to Christian children. Many programs feature murder, killing, robbery, unfaithfulness on the part of husbands or wives, and it is wisdom then to stand firm and control the TV set.

The Deaf have particular difficulties if the children are hearing. Do not forget prayer. Use the Christian day school and Sunday school. Provide attractive Christian literature; there is much good literature on the market. Watch the comics; some are very bad. But good literature in cartoon style is also available.

"Honor thy father and thy mother that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth," is God's commandment. To achieve this result parents must do their duty. To tell this to people is part of the program of the church. This brings us to the missionary duty which Christians have. Let us do this our duty. In this way we must be the "salt of the earth."

Why not put the Bible into the public schools? This has been done in many of the European countries. There the government sets the program, and government control always has resulted in the establishment of one religion or denomination as the "official" religion of the nation. But this brings persecution for those who feel that they cannot accept the "official" religion. So here we have separation of church and state, and God be thanked for this arrangement. But we can maintain our public schools and can have them provide good secular education. The religious part does not belong into them; but God has put that into the home, and there we should help make people see this. We can also provide good parish and Sunday schools and can help that these are patronized.

## Milwaukee PTR Mission

The Lord provided beautiful weather when 49 congregations of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in the Greater Milwaukee area conducted a PTR mission February 2 to 6. Emmanuel Congregation of Deaf also participated in this crusade for souls by conducting evening services in the well-located

Parkside Lutheran Church (Wisconsin Synod), whose secondary auditorium is the temporary church home of our Congregation of Deaf. The preparatory work done prayerfully by the congregational committee resulted in good attendance at all six services. A total of 367 Deaf attended, of which 66 were non-Lutheran. On the average 45 per cent of the membership (113 communicants) were present at all services.

The guest missionary was the Rev. Alvin E. Ferber of Kansas City, Mo., who gave generously of his time from Saturday to Thursday evening, using his God-given talents by preaching six fine sermons; counseling and answering questions, all on the basis of God's Word in the Bible; addressing the student body of Concordia College; and together with the host pastor attending the evangelism school for ministers every morning from Monday to Thursday.

As always when the Word of God is used freely, this mission proved a wonderful blessing for the participants in stimulating and inspiring them with more courageous witnessing in the interest of Christ and His kingdom. The experience convinced many that church work, specifically mission work, can give joy and satisfaction not to be found in any other activity.

With the PTR mission as a springboard Emmanuel Congregation is launching out into 1958 with renewed confidence and vigor. The budget for the year totals \$6,400. A favorable outcome of a court action is anxiously and prayerfully awaited. It would clear the way to proceed with the construction of a chapel on the vacant corner lot of our property adjoining the parson-

age. An injunction against building a church there had been taken by some residents of the neighborhood.

On the last Sunday of 1957 the following were received into membership after instruction in the chief teachings of the Bible: Elizabeth Gilbert, Robert Lee Clark, Robert and Donald Peace, and John Morgan. May God bless and keep these new members and hold His hand graciously over all members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of the Deaf.

The newly elected officers — upon whom rests the responsibility of as-

sisting the pastor in directing the affairs of the congregation in 1958 — are the following elders: Albert Arneson, chairman; Harvey Boldt, vice-chairman; Robert Schneider, secretary; Floyd Baumann, treasurer; Werner Hoewisch, financial secretary; Donald Petersen, Edwin Dubratz, and Raymond Lager, trustees. M. E. A. MUELLER

ED. NOTE: With his letter to the Editor, Rev. Mueller sent a copy of the 1957 financial report of the church. We noted a \$100 gift for the new chapel — from Mr. and Mrs. John Fritz, in memory of the sainted Rev. and Mrs. T. M. Wangerin, who were the parents of Mrs. Ruth Fritz.



**Spokane, Wash.** — There was never a dull moment at the Spokane parsonage lately. On January 8 **Frederick Paul** arrived, the seventh child and third son of **Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Hauptman**. He was baptized on February 2. — Sickness in the form of mumps and **Miss Ida Hauptman's** trip to the hospital for pneumonia further complicated matters; and Pastor Hauptman's schedule of Montana services was interrupted, but everything is again in running order. — As elsewhere, as we see from the bulletins coming from various stations to the Editor, illness struck Spokane and Montana, and we hope all are well again. Our reporter from Billings, Mrs. Beulah McFarland, sent us a sick list, along with other news, telling us that Rev. Hauptman on November 30 offi-

ciated at the marriage of **Miss Ramona Jensen** and **Mr. Robert Breshers** at Billings and that Mr. Victor Lyon, chairman of the camp committee, has reported that he was successful in obtaining a church camp for the Montana Deaf Conference for August 9—10 in Gallatin Canyon, near Bozeman. The camp is only about 20 miles north of Yellowstone Park, and this year for the first time the conference will be a two-day meeting.

**Burlington, Iowa.** — **Marilyn Janice Fleenor**, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fleenor of Burlington, and **Robert Cousins**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cousins, Burlington, were baptized into the Christian Church on January 20. May the Lord keep these lambs safe until they are perfectly safe in heaven.



House Opposite Texas School for Deaf at Austin Being Converted into Chapel

**Austin, Tex.**—We are happy to be able to report definite progress from Austin. A house has been bought to be used as a chapel for the Deaf. It faces the Texas School for the Deaf and is located about a block from the main entrance to the institution on Newton St., the street on which the front of the large campus borders. A gift of \$2,000 from the Texas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League and a \$10,000 grant from Synod's budget supplied the funds. The house cost \$7,000, and the remaining \$5,000 will be used for remodeling and necessary equipment. The house has five rooms. Its front will be remodeled to give it a churchly appearance. By removing the partition between the present living and dining rooms a large room is provided to serve as the chapel. The two bedrooms will serve as Sunday school rooms. The large back porch will be walled in and divided. One room is to serve as the church office, the other as a workroom and Sunday school room. We bring two pictures with this ar-

ticle, one showing the house as it appears now from the street, and the other showing workers at work on the remodeling job. The ceiling of the chapel area will be changed to form an inverted V. Almost all of the work is being donated by hearing Lutherans assisted by the Deaf. In the picture of the remodeling the two men in the front on the right are two of our Deaf, the others are members of the Lutheran Gamma Delta Society of Texas University who gave two Saturdays to this work. Until the work is completed, the Deaf will continue to use the parish house of Christ Lutheran Church for divine worship. The Sunday school classes, taught by two members of the congregation, are taught weekly for the time being on the campus of the School for the Deaf. Rev. Ervin Oermann conducts two services at Austin every month. He lives in Austin, and his work takes him to San Antonio, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Jackson, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., besides Austin and Houston, with occasional



Members of Lutheran Gamma Delta Society with Deaf Remodeling Interior

services at other cities. Since the distances between the cities of Southern Dixie are so great, much time is lost in travel, and the work naturally taxes the physical strength of the worker and is expensive; but our Christians gladly carry on the work, since it brings the Gospel to the Deaf.

**Sacramento, Calif.** — Three staff members of the newspaper the *Sacramento Bee* sat through the Christmas service of our Sacramento Deaf Mission on December 26. They were very much impressed, and the next day a fine illustrated account appeared in the paper. They had never witnessed anything like that service before. — The work of our Lutheran Church among the Deaf on the West Coast, which has been going on for about 40 years now in this area, has been blessed abundantly by God, and (we say this with a deep sense of humility) it is being recognized generally as outstanding

among all the denominations that serve the Deaf and among the educators of the Deaf.

**Chicago, Ill.** — Some teen-age vandals broke the bulletin board of Our Savior's Church. This board is attached to the front of our building. The destruction caused by some of the irresponsible young people is a source of grave concern to the police in our city. — In December the father of **Miss Minnie Rehberg** and **Mrs. Henry Hansen** of McHenry passed away at the age of 95 years, and **Mrs. Robert Brown** mourns the sudden death of her aunt, who died of a heart attack. May God comfort the mourners. — **Mr. Ernest Subkowski**, who was injured in an accident last April, is still in the hospital. May the Lord help him to recover soon. — On January 11 **Mrs. Griswold** of Muskegon, Mich., experienced the gracious protection of God's angels when her car was hit

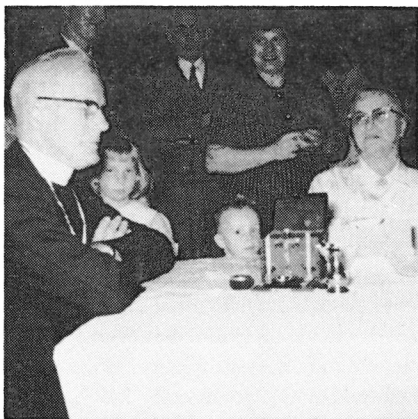
broadside by another and demolished, rolling over several times. Though shocked, she was not injured.

**Baltimore, Md. — Rev. W. A. Westermann** was pleasantly surprised



**Baltimore Deaf Honoring Rev. Westermann**

after the service on October 26, when Mrs. Louise Price, the president of the ladies' guild, on behalf of the guild, presented a beautiful private Communion set to him in recognition of the fine services which he has given the Deaf in the many years that he has served them. The presentation was in connection



**Rev. Westermann Admiring Gift of Private Communion Set**

with a supper that the ladies of the guild gave in the parish hall after the church service. Mr. Henry Schleibaum, who has been bedfast for over two years, was the first person communed with this set. — **Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schleibaum's** 40th wedding anniversary was observed November 28. They received some fine gifts and beautiful flowers.

**New York.** — St. Matthew's with sorrow saw the passing of **Mr. Erich Berg**, who went to his eternal home January 11. His body was laid to rest in Pine Lawn Cemetery on Long Island, Rev. Simon conducting the funeral service. Mr. Berg was one of the first and oldest members of St. Matthew's, a member of the first class that Rev. A. Boll instructed and confirmed in New York. He was a regular attendant at services and very active in the church, participating in the ground breaking for our church and the laying of the cornerstone 10 years ago. He was looking forward to the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the church on January 26, but the Lord took him a few days before that date. He has gone to his award of grace, to heaven, which is the highest award anyone can receive and which God alone can award. May he rest in peace. — The 10th anniversary of St. Matthew's was commemorated by a service and dinner on January 26. — The report of Saint Matthew's for 1957 shows that 2,203 people attended the services, 882 receiving Holy Communion, and the contributions for the year amounted to \$6,812.82. In the various schools served by Pastor Simon in this area, 103 children attend his instruction classes and services.



**St. Louis, Mo.** — On Dec. 22 Pastor W. F. Reinking again had the opportunity to preach and sign a service on a local TV station. Student Herman Graef conducted the service at Holy Cross for the Deaf for him on that day. — On January 12 **Gloriana Therese Marshall**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Marshall, was laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism by Rev. Reinking, who on that day also baptized **Vanice Langston**, the daughter of the Van Langstons. — When Rev. Reinking went to Omaha on February 16 for the 20th anniversary of Bethlehem Deaf Church there, Pastor Uhlig meanwhile conducted Bible class and the service at St. Louis.

**Oklahoma City, Okla.** — "I think maybe I will die. But I am not afraid, because I know Jesus." These were the words of **Mrs. Ernest Brown** of Oklahoma City. She spoke them to Pastor Sampson when she went to the hospital on January 1. On January 2 she fell asleep in Jesus. Rev. Martin Sampson's letter to the members in his parish was still in the mails. He had spoken of the possibility of unexpected death. Two weeks later, on January 20, as the pastor was returning from his work at the Taft, Okla., School for the Deaf, his car struck snow on the road, and he lost control. It went through the guard rail and rolled over twice down an embankment, but except for a sore hip and stiff shoulder he was unhurt. The protection of the Lord was evident again. — **Don McBride** is a blind young man attending the University of Oklahoma. He is not deaf, but he attends Rev. Sampson's services in order to put into Braille the service for a deaf-blind man,

**Mr. Earl Baker**, and he faithfully sets aside 10 cents from every dollar for the Lord. He shares not only his money but his time and talents too. He need never fear; the Lord takes care of those who trust in Him and love Him. He is a fine example for others.

**Memphis, Tenn.** — Grace Deaf church in Memphis began the year 1958 with four new members. They are: **Charles Greer**, baptized on Oct. 6; **Mr. and Mrs. James Wardell**, confirmed Dec. 1; **Mrs. Frances Bradbury**, received by transfer from Boston, Mass., in December. In Peace Deaf congregation **John Beamon** was laid into Jesus' arms in Holy Baptism on February 2. May the Lord bless and keep all these new members. — The Lutheran churches of Memphis organized a planning council to further the work of the Lutheran churches in spreading the Kingdom work in this area. Both churches of the Deaf, Grace and Peace, have a representative on this council, and it gives the Deaf an opportunity to work in closer co-operation with the hearing Lutheran brethren.

## Rev. W. C. Neisch Leaves

We regret to report that our Mission loses the services of Rev. Walter O. Neisch, who has been doing good work in the North Florida field. He has been called to Salem Lutheran Church in the southwestern part of St. Louis as assistant in that large congregation. May the Lord bless him in his new field of labor and give our Mission new workers to man again the spots that should be filled.





# *Our Synod*

## Officers of Synod and the Board of Directors

The Rev. J. W. Behnken, D.D., St. Louis, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, is assisted by four Vice-Presidents. Their rank and order of possible succession to the presidency in case of death or incapacitation of the President is determined by special vote at the time of the election. At present our Vice-Presidents are the Rev. A. H. Grumm, D.D., St. Louis, First Vice-President; the Rev. H. A. Harms, D.D., St. Louis, Second Vice-President; the Rev. W. F. Lichtsinn, D.D., Hammond, Ind., Third Vice-President; the Rev. O. R. Harms, D.D., Houston, Tex., Fourth Vice-President. Other officers are the Rev. W. C. Birkner, D.D., Fort Wayne, Ind., Secretary; Mr. W. H. Schlueter, LL.D., Saint Louis, Treasurer.

The supreme governing body of Synod is the Board of Directors, composed of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of Synod and three pastors and five laymen: Pastors E. T. Bernthal, D.D., Detroit, M. F. Kretzmann, D.D., Danville, Ind., A. H. Oswald, Milwaukee; Messrs. Clarence Amling, Santa Ana, Calif., John W. Boehne, Jr., Washington, D. C., Henry Buck, Kansas City, Mo., Wm. A. Fenske, Grosse Pointe, Mich., and Theo. H. Schlake, Chicago, Ill.

Naturally there are other officials and boards in such a large organiza-

tion as Synod is, but the Board of Directors is the legal representative of Synod and the custodian (the controlling keeper and watchman) of Synod's property. To it is given the general management and supervision of Synod's business affairs.

The body acts collectively on all matters; but since there are very many things to do and these can be classified as belonging to particular areas, several members of the body form special committees which deal with a matter, do preliminary investigation, and prepare the data so that the whole body can easily act on each matter. These committees are for Missions, Parish Education, Synodical Services (finances and property), and Higher Education.

The Committee for the Division of Missions in the term of 1956—1959 is composed of the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, Mr. Clarence Amling, and First Vice-President A. H. Grumm.

The Committee for the Division of Parish Education is the Rev. A. H. Oswald, Mr. Wm. A. Fenske, and Second Vice-President Herman Harms.

The Committee for the Division of Synodical Services is the Hon. John W. Boehne, Jr., Mr. Henry Buck, and Third Vice-President Walter Lichtsinn.

The Committee for the Division of Higher Education, dealing with

matters concerning colleges and seminaries and secondary education in general, is Mr. Theo. Schlake, Dr. Martin F. Kretzmann, and Fourth Vice-President Oliver Harms.

All these men have grave respon-

sibilities and often have to make far-reaching decisions. Let us never forget to remember them in prayer. May God guide and strengthen them in the weighty task to which they have been called in Kingdom work.



## Stewardship of Time

"It's time to get up." "It's time for work." "It's time for school." "It's time for church." "It's time for your favorite TV program." "It's time for that committee meeting."

The clock keeps telling us what time it is. All through the day it reminds us that it is time for one thing or another.

It is important that we do these things at the *right* time. It does no good for you to go to work at midnight if you are supposed to go to work at 8 o'clock in the morning. This means that we should plan to do joint work at the same time as those who are working together with us. When you work at a mill, factory, or newspaper, you know that it takes many people working together at the *same* time to get the job done. We usually go along with this idea when it comes to our daily work; if we don't, we know that we will be fired. But when it comes to social duties and church activities, we tend to balk. The Christian Church has set aside Sunday as the day of worship, not because God

has commanded that day—for He has not—but in order for *all* to have time and opportunity for public worship. Everyone in the country knows years ahead that Sunday is the time for joint public worship. Even though you may prefer another day or another time, you should go along with the majority out of love for Christ and your brother. Then the public preaching of God's holy Word and the administration of the Sacraments will not be hindered. The same idea applies also to business meetings of the church: voters' assembly, women's societies, youth groups, and the like. The time for these meetings is set months ahead so that all may arrange to spend their time accordingly. If without good reason we absent ourselves from these public meetings, we are not good stewards of the time that God has kindly allowed us in this world. And we show a selfish and inconsiderate spirit in refusing to co-operate with our brethren in Christ.

There is another important thing

to remember in our management of time for our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and this is choosing to do the most important thing first. Sometimes we have a choice of doing two or three good things at the same time. For example: It is Saturday. You have some bills to pay. Your friend has asked you to go fishing, and you can't wait to feel the tug of a four-pound trout on your line. But you are a trustee at the church, and a window has been broken, which should be repaired before Sunday's services. To add to your problem, your wife has a few odd jobs around the house that can't wait another week. All of these

things are good and may be done by the Christian for God's glory and with thanks to the Savior, Jesus Christ. But some of the things mentioned are more important than others. The Christian steward loves His Lord and Savior and so will choose to do the most important thing first.

"Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days." (Ephesians 5:15 and 16, J. B. Phillips Translation)

AUGUST L. HAUPTMAN



## *Know Your Bible*

### The Book of the Prophet Amos

God uses persons from all stations in life as His messengers. We see this when we study the history of the men that wrote the books of the Bible, and the church history also tells us this. For men and women coming from famous as well as from unknown and common families have done outstanding service in God's kingdom.

The prophet Amos was a herdsman of Tekoa and a picker of sycamore fruit, a poor kind of figs, a cross between a fig and mulberry. It was the fruit of poor people. He lived about the time of Hosea, about 760 B.C. We know very little of him. While he was a native of the Kingdom of Judah, he spoke partic-

ularly against the wickedness of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, whose wicked King Jeroboam II had in Bethel established the golden-calf worship. In the seventh chapter of the book he tells us something about himself and his call.

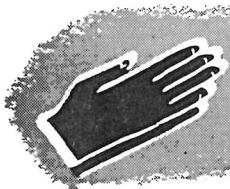
The book of only nine chapters is a very remarkable book. The language of this prophet is strong and simple. He does not mince words, but without fear and favor he attacks the sins of the nations of the heathen around Israel and then the wrongs of the Israelites themselves and tells them that the punishment of the Lord is near and sure. And it came about 30 or 40 years later, when the Northern Kingdom of Is-

rael was destroyed and led into captivity by the Assyrians. Under Jeroboam II this Northern Kingdom had become very prosperous, having defeated Syria, but this was a time of moral rottenness. Stealing, social injustice, oppression, murder, and adultery made the land a land of blood and wickedness. God's prophets warned; not only Amos but Hosea and Jonah and Isaiah, who lived about that time. Jeroboam's successors on the throne between 749 and 721 B. C. were six, some ruling only a few months before being assassinated. It was no wonder that God's hand would put an end to this kingdom.

Still God is merciful, and Amos spoke also of this, that there would

be a remnant and that the church would be preserved. "The tabernacle of David that is fallen" will be raised up, and the faithful will be preserved.

When we read the nine chapters of Amos, it will not be hard for us to find that the evil of the nations of old was not worse than the sins of the present generation and nations. And let us not forget that the same Lord who at that time ruled is still the Lord of the universe today. It still is true what He spoke through Amos: "The eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth, saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord."



## Devotions

### "Light for Your Way"

#### Readings for March 1958

March 1 — Judges 7:1-23	March 15 — 2 Samuel 2:1-11
March 2 — Judges 20:12-36	March 16 — 2 Samuel 3:6-21
March 3 — 1 Samuel 1:1-20	March 17 — 2 Samuel 5:1-12
March 4 — 1 Samuel 3:1-18	March 18 — 2 Samuel 6:1-19
March 5 — 1 Samuel 7:3-17	March 19 — 2 Samuel 7:1-17
March 6 — 1 Samuel 8:1-22	March 20 — 2 Samuel 12:1-23
March 7 — 1 Samuel 10:17-27	March 21 — 1 Kings 1:22-40
March 8 — 1 Samuel 13:1-15	March 22 — 1 Kings 3:3-14
March 9 — 1 Samuel 16:1-13	March 23 — 1 Kings 8:1-21
March 10 — 1 Samuel 16:14-23	March 24 — 1 Kings 8:22-53
March 11 — 1 Samuel 18:1-16	March 25 — 1 Kings 11:41-12:20
March 12 — 1 Samuel 19:1-18	March 26 — 1 Kings 12:21-33
March 13 — 1 Samuel 26:6-25	March 27 — 1 Kings 18:17-40
March 14 — 1 Samuel 31:1-13	March 28 — 1 Kings 19:1-18
	March 29 — 2 Kings 2:1-14
	March 30 — 2 Kings 17:1-23
	March 31 — 2 Kings 19:15-31

*"Thus saith the Lord: Seek ye Me, and ye shall live." (Amos 5:4)*



## *Bible Quiz*

What does God speak to His people as we hear it if we listen to His Word? Psalm 85:8

Why was the Lord angry with the Edomites, living in the region of Mount Seir, and had Ezekiel prophesy their destruction? Ezekiel 35:5

How many witnesses saw the prophet Elijah strike the waters of the River Jordan with his mantle and part them? 2 Kings 2:7

We know that the unbelievers despise the Gospel, which is the wisdom of God; but what does God think of the things that the unbelieving world calls wisdom? 1 Corinthians 3:19

What unpleasant discovery will those people make someday who like to hear a preacher say pleasant things and want to be entertained by him but who do not take his message seriously? Ezekiel 33:32, 33

When the tired and old prophet Elijah was with the younger Elisha, the sons of the prophets, or students, of Jericho knew that something would happen that day and told Elisha about it. What did they know? 2 Kings 2:5

With what was the woman clothed who represented God's church and whose child the devil would destroy? Revelation 12:1

The Edomites, descendants of Esau, were always unfriendly toward Israel; but they would be destroyed even if they, like an eagle, would make their nest or place of safety as high as what? Obadiah 4

There is a big difference between real action and just talk, and this is true about the kingdom of God also; for what is the kingdom of God not, and what is it? 1 Corinthians 4:20

Was Moses older than his brother Aaron? Exodus 7:7

What does Christ wish us to do in His stead and for Him? 2 Corinthians 5:20

What did the Jews in their wanderings to Canaan try to buy from the people in the neighborhood of Mount Seir? Deuteronomy 2:6

What must we tell people who say that God will never condemn anyone because He is Love? 2 Peter 2:4

What is sweet to the soul and health to the bones? Proverbs 16:24

What position in the household of King Herod did Chuza hold, the husband of Joanna, who served Jesus by giving Him contributions from her possessions? Luke 8:3.

How can people become altogether different and new? 2 Corinthians 5:17

What were the Zamzum-mims that were also called Emims and Anakims and lived in the land of Moab? Deuteronomy 2:11, 20

Why were the Jews told to be friendly to strangers? Exodus 22:21

In the beginning God created light, but where and when does another creation of light happen? 2 Corinthians 4:6