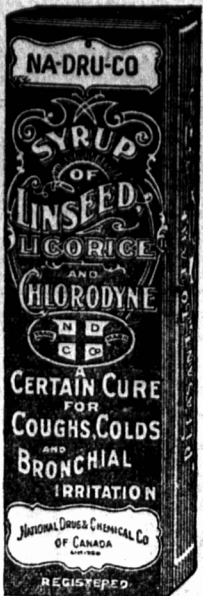


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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON V. FEBRUARY 2. THE FLOOD. Gen. 6: 9-22; 7: 11-24. GOLDEN TEXT.

"The wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 6: 23. POINTED SUGGESTIONS.

By Rev. D. W. Snider. "There seems to be no substantial reason for doubting that in the flood of Noah we have actual historical occurrence, of which traditions appear to have survived in most regions of the world. 'The flood was a historical fact, and the preservation of Noah and his family is one of the best and most widely attested of human traditions.'—Prof. James Orr, D. D.

"We believe that our first parents, being tempted, chose evil and so fell away from God and came under the power of sin, the penalty of which is eternal death."—Article V. of the Sin of Man, in the proposed Basis of Union. But man's sin is God's sorrow. What a picture the context gives of the grief of God! 'It repenteth the Lord, that He had made man upon the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.'

Do men ever get as far away from God nowadays as those who lived before the flood? Are there those who live contrary to moral rectitude, and to the divine will and to the image of God in which they were created? Are there those who live (do we?) contrary to justice, mercy and truth with every inclination, affection, passion, appetite; every temper, design, thought? twisted, distorted, corrupted by the fabrications of an evil imagination?

There is no such sticky filthiness upon the soul, clogging all its motions towards purity, righteousness and God than what the evil pictures of the imagination can paint and print upon the memory. This writer feels that dangerous ground is being trodden by those who, in the interest of purity and reform itself, do little more than merely recite the devilish forms which sin takes to murder man's soul.

But the teaching that a godly remnant—the just man and perfect—was spared is as glorious as that the teaching of the destruction of the wicked is emphatic. There is as much of the grace of God as of the wrath of God to be learned from the story of the flood and as much of the wrath to come as of the grace to come.

Think of the long period of faithful and reiterated warning the people had from God through Noah, whom Peter tells us, was a preacher of righteousness. He preached by word and deed, warning every man by the space of one hundred and twenty years.

It is evident through the whole narrative, with all its implications, how earnest the purpose of God is that holiness should prevail. Nothing is plainer than that, and the working out of that purpose is not to fail. It is to be wrought out both by destruction and by deliverance. Read the Golden Text.

Those in the ark were saved by water as truly as those outside its shelter perished by water. See what Paul says in 2 Cor. 2: 14-16 about the saving gospel which he preached, and upon which E. W. Robertson makes the comment: "An awful truth! The gospel preached in fidelity ruins human souls."

Be it known, therefore, that Noah's advantage over his fellows was simply one of attitude, one of disposition towards the truth. "By faith Noah, being warned of God concerning things not seen as yet, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark," etc. Heb. 11: 7.

It is the saddest of sad things that, as the builders of the ark perished through unbelief, there are so many whose skill is serviceable to the affairs of God's Kingdom on earth who all the time are outside of it and shall perish because of their unbelief.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FEB. 9.

GODS COVENANT WITH NOAH.

GOLDEN TEXT. I do set my bow in the clouds and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. Gen. ix., 13. God remembered Noah and his

(Continued on page three)

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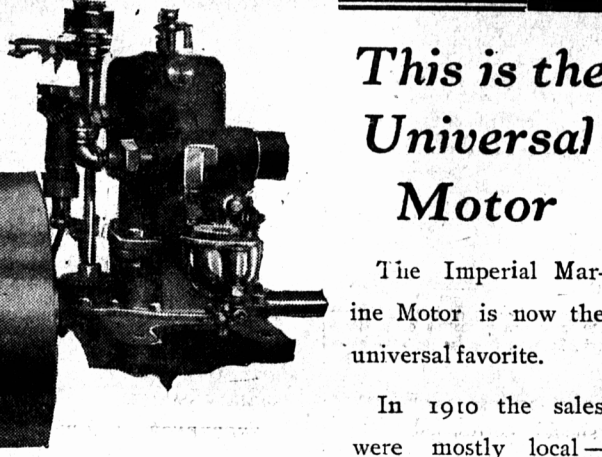
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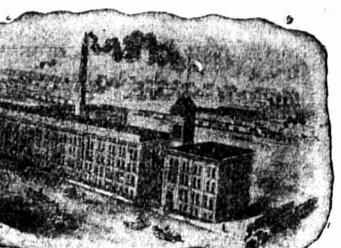
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