

From Where We Stand . . .

The Strength Of The Pack Is The Wolf

And the farmer waited! Tobacco buyers hit the road with contracts in their pockets and the farmers looked forward to the offered price with a great deal of expectation. The first offers, while not high enough to make any over-night millionaires, were pretty attractive.

But the honeymoon was over before it got started, and most of the contracts stayed in the pockets of the buyers. As soon as a few crops were sold, buying activity slacked off and finally came to a virtual standstill, with over half the tobacco still in the hands of the grower.

With the purchase of a few crops, the companies began to drop prices slowly till now the offered bid is barely enough to pay the cost of producing the crop.

Now, almost three weeks after the buying season opened, nearly half of 31,000 acre crop is still in the hands of farmers, and many of them are beginning to wonder if they are even going to see a tobacco buyer.

With spring planting season approaching and farmers in need of cash, more and more of them will be anxious

to sell at whatever price is offered. Could this be the situation the tobacco companies are hoping will develop? Are farmers always going to have to take whatever price the buyer offers? Will farmers ever have any part in helping to establish the selling price of his produce or will he always be content to wait—and wait—and wait—and then take whatever he can get.

He will have to go on taking whatever is offered as long as the buying power is centered in the hands of a few, and the sellers remain a large group of scattered, unorganized individuals.

Rudyard Kipling, the great English poet once said, "The strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack."

So long as farmers are content to be lone wolves, the strength of the pack is vulnerable, and when the pack can not withstand attacks, the wolf dies. Unless farmers are willing to regulate their own production and stick together for mutual benefit, they will have a losing struggle in the market place.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

Seedsmen See Shortages Of Clover and Alfalfa

HAROLD MENGLE
Eastern States Farmers Exchange

Alfalfa and red clover will be in short supply this year. Many of the growers have found that they can make a little more profit on other crops, such as cotton.

Whether this will affect the future of the seed business is hard to tell. It looks like we will have to find a way to make it a little more profitable for the growers to produce this seed.

Several other factors entered into the picture this year. A shortage of water resulted in a shortage of irrigation, and a shortage of seed produced in

Some of the other seeds in short supply include Alsike and White Dutch clovers, Smooth Broome, and Timothy.

Alsike is in the shortest supply of record while the supply of white clover is down slightly from normal. Smooth Broome is in very short supply. Timothy is short, especially the later maturing varieties. Our Seed Service was canvassing our growers and just could not find good seed. They found some poor seed, particularly seed with a large amount of weed seed, but hardly any we could use.

It is becoming increasingly for farmers to pay attention to the Penn State Drill Box Surveys. Some of the reports they have brought out are shocking, but the situation is just about as bad as they indicate. Too many farmers are using poor quality seed because it is a low cost production item compared to some other things. Farmers just don't pay as much attention to the selection of good seed as they should.

I do not believe the farmers will gain a thing by waiting to order seed. In fact, if he waits till summer to order his seed for fall planting, the farmer could hurt, and hurt bad. Just this week we got a seed price list and several items have advanced.

The seed supply of the summer annuals (Sudan grass, sorghums and the Sudan-sorghum crosses) will be about like the alfalfas and grasses — the supply is somewhat short. We have had the greatest interest we have ever experienced in these lines, because of the drought last summer.

One of the most adaptable, most versatile, most drought-resistant grasses for Lancaster county is Reed's Canary Grass. It can be seeded alone or in mixtures with Ladino or alfalfa as it associates well with either. Reed's canary is a rank grower and will produce lots of feed, but it must be managed properly. It must be well fertilized, and I mean a balanced fertilizer program.

It should not be allowed to mature beyond the bud stage, it should be grazed hard and clipped close, but if you take care of it, it will produce lots of forage in this area.

Our supply of seed corn is very good. We are short of a few hybrids, but this is not unusual. It would compare favorably with other years.

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The situation has not changed much since I reported the situation to Lancaster Farming



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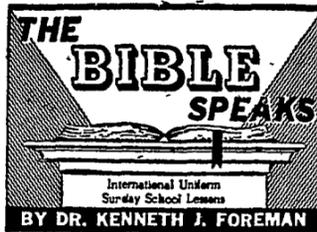
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Bible Material: Mark 4:35 through 5:43
Devotional Reading: John 14:12-20.

Power

Lesson for February 3, 1963

POWER is always fascinating. A champion boxer or swimmer, a Palmer or Niklaus driving down a long fairway, Niagara Falls seen from below, a severe electrical storm, a hurricane,—or the



power of influence, of ambition, of fear . . . No kind of power is dull. Those who have it, or control it, seem awed by it themselves; and those of us who have little power are afraid lest

Dr. Foreman power of storm or brute force of brutal men be turned against us. But whenever that word Power strikes the ear or eye, one of three words—or all of them—come to the mind at once, as a kind of question: Power—**we think; power for—? power over—? power by—?**

Power over . . .

The four pictures of Jesus in the four Gospels are each one different from the others. Mark's picture is one of the Divine Man of Power. Christ's ideas interested Mark less than His mighty deeds. For Mark, Jesus spoke by action quite as much as by words. Mark's Gospel gives an amazing answer to the question: What did Jesus have power over? Everything, Mark says in effect. Even storms; even death. Things out of this world, like demons, or things in this world, like fever,—Jesus controlled them all. This is so astounding that there have always been persons who boggle at it. There must be some exaggeration here, they think, or some imagination running wild. However, let us take it for granted that Mark was telling the truth, wild as it seemed to be then and now. What he affirms is miracle, no less. Men today have some power over fever, storms, madness and death, but they do not claim miracles. The miraculous feature of Jesus' miracles was that He didn't do anything, He didn't use anything, He just willed

(with or without words) that something happen, or cease to happen,—and on the instant, so it was. The whole point of a miracle is not that it is unique or astonishing. The point is, it is not what would happen if nature were left to itself. The doctor giving antibiotics for infection may be using "miracle drugs" but the drugs are not really miraculous, they are as much a part of nature as the germs are. Jesus' will is superior to nature. Jesus commands nature to be un-natural; and it is done.

Power for . . .

There is more to be said. The power of nature seems at times to have no purpose. We talk about an "angry sea," a "bitter wind," but the sea is not angry, and the bitterness of the wind is nothing compared to bitterness in the heart. The sea just smashes and passes on, the wind would as soon freeze a baby as an escaped convict. Nature has no purposes, or if she does she is not aware of them. But all Jesus did—whether we call it miracle or not—was purposeful. Now the purposes of ordinary men may be strong, but they are not always good and they are never completely wise. The purpose of Jesus in nearly every act of power He performed was clear.

Power by . . .

During Jesus' lifetime, we are told, people asked one another: Who then is this? Mark has already introduced Jesus to his readers: this is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. This is power exerted by one who is so Godlike that He can be called the Son of God. And this is why (as Christians believe) only a few persons in the long history of the world, and then only for a few moments in all their lifetime, have been permitted to share the divine power that Jesus had. H. G. Wells wrote a story called "The Man Who Could Work Miracles," and any one who reads that charming and funny-tragic story will see why it is that it is a very good thing for the world that miracles (mostly) don't happen. Miracles are rare only when the power that wills them is wielded by one who shares the knowledge and the wisdom and the love of the infinite God. It may become terribly clear to a few survivors, if any, of a nuclear war, that ultimate power, used by angry or ambitious men or nations, may turn miracle into murder.

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HAROLD MENGLE

some areas there is a shortage of good pollinating bees. This seems peculiar, but I understand it is a problem in some areas. This, along with increased population of injurious insects adds to the problem.

Only about half the normal acreage was planted to Pennscoot clover seed last year. Part of this is due to competition from other varieties, especially Chesapeake. I don't expect too much of a problem with Pennscoot in spite of the shortage—the demand has gone down. However, our supply of Chesapeake is exhausted.

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Order Legume Seeds

Broadcast seedings of clover or alfalfa should be made during late February or early March; this is only a month away. Reports indicate some scarcity of quality legume seeds. If needs are not already on hand, we suggest prompt attention to this important seed purchase.

To Kill Lice On Livestock

Lice infestation seems rather heavy this winter in many herds of cattle and hogs; cold weather has grown a very heavy hair coat which makes it more difficult to do a thorough job of treatment. Dusts containing



MAX M. SMITH

either lindane or rotenone may be used on cattle and DDT or Lindane on hogs. Treat at least 30 days prior to slaughter. Repeat treatment in 12 to 14 days.

To Use Hay Racks

The feeding of hay on the ground or on the floor of pens is a poor practice because much of the forage is wasted; also, parasite eggs may be consumed from this material. With the high cost of hay and forage this winter growers are urged to obtain all possible

waste through poor feeding methods and equipment.

To Use Farm Crop Records

In order to properly keep account of the needs and treatment for each field on the farm system of field accounts is recommended. These crop record sheets are available from our Extension office (one for each field or strip) in which case an accurate record may be kept. This is especially true where soil tests are being made regularly.