

THE CLAIMS OF THE CROWD

The International Sunday School Lesson For March 4 is, "Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand."—John 6:1-14.

By William T. Ellis

As new as the latest diplomatic developments of the war, and as old as the Christian Scriptures, is the inescapable question "What are you going to do with the crowds?" For a good many millenniums the answer has been that of snobishness and aristocracy, so we scorned Jesus and his following of common people. "This multitude is accursed." The big crowds have been but a matter of kings and monarchs to work upon, throughout most of the long reach of history. Old philosophers spoke of the rabble with contempt, even as the modern superficial writers and speakers in our own day.

Not so Jesus the Great Democrat. He lived and worked with the common people. He gave the best of his teaching to the masses. The grime and sweat of the toilers were more familiar to him than the exquisite perfumes which burdened the air of the homes of the rich of his time. All that Jesus did and taught looked for its fulfillment to the new purposes that should be established in the hearts of the great mass of mankind. A key word, which unlocks the life and thought of Jesus, is this: "Seeing the multitudes he had compassion on them."

That is a true miniature portrait of the heart of Jesus Christ. He visualized the claims of the crowd. The common people had a right to his best. All that he could command of the resources of heaven and earth was at his disposal for the multitude, which had no standing with the aristocracy of his time. Although he touched the life at all levels, and numbered the rich and noble among his best, he touched the life of the lowly, and his spirit and his example which have established the common people upon their new basis of social consciousness of our time, all the triumphant emergence of democracy, are owing to the Workman of Nazareth, who is today acclaimed first of all the world's teachers and leaders.

The Struggle For Bread
Of the many economic questions in our own day, the high cost of living is the most absorbing. No other material issue so closely touches all the people. In all time this has been mankind's first concern. So the teaching in the fact that the one miracle of Jesus which is recorded by all four Gospels, and the one which was most determinative of the popular attitude toward him, is the raising of the loaves and the fishes. Next to the raising of Lazarus, this was the Master's greatest "sign." Written large upon the surface of this lesson is the truth that Jesus cared for the needs of the affairs of mankind. He who taught us to play for our daily bread is still solicitous for the material well-being of humanity. Dr. Matthew D. Babcock once wrote a "Daily Bread" poem that relates our everyday subsistence to the eternal purposes of God.

"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
Back of the mill the field and the shower,
The sun and our Father's will."
If God is interested in anything about man, it must necessarily be in those things which touch the life of the people most closely. Everybody has to lean on the staff of life, a degree of spiritual devotion can free us from the necessity to partake of daily food. Most of the problems that concern humanity are intimately related to the provision for the needs of the body. It is a real comfort to find that the Saviour took thought for this commonest of concerns of life. He not only cared for the crowds, but he also cared that they should not go hungry. If he were alive to-day, in the midst of our social unrest, he would not merely preach contentment with one's lot; he would seek to provide the needs of the people. We are following in the train of Jesus when we address ourselves to the problems of poverty.

the nearness and might of Christ himself.
A Boy—Plus.
A boy is always plus. Wise Andrew, he with a genius for finding folk, had discovered in the big crowd a boy, plus five barley loaves and two small fishes. It was only a boy's lunch and not a very big lunch at that. That it had lasted until eventide is the most eloquent of commentaries upon the absorbing character of the Lord's words and works. Imagine a boy forgetting to eat.

And the boy was willing to share, which is fine contrast to the disciples, who had wanted to send the people away. This story is crowded with a needed lesson for our time upon hospitality. Jesus, true orator that he was, wanted the company to be his guests. He never violated the unwritten law of the sharing of bread. Many persons report that the habit of hospitality is dying out in this busy western world. A friend told me the other day that she had been a member of a home for a year, and in all that time the family, cultivated persons, had not entertained guests more than three. What we miss when we fail to show hospitality is beyond imagination. Fewer formal dinner parties, and more sharing of our life and our home and our daily bread is surely one of the day's needs.

I have at times tried to imagine this entire scene from the standpoint of the boy—what he saw and heard and thought. An alert teacher presents this entire lesson as a story, told by the boy in the first person, as he related it afterwards to his mother. Imagine the wonder and pride that his little portion—five flat barley cakes, with two small salt fish for relish—had grown under the Saviour's blessing into a feast for five thousand. Thus does the Master take what he has, the little of our lives, and transform it into a feast for all. Nothing that we possess comes to its full power until it has been made over to Christ.

The Wonder Wrought.
John's pet word for such wonders as this increase of the lad's little portion of food into more than enough for five thousand men, is "signs." Our modern rendering might be "advertisements." These works told the character of the Worker. They were "signs" of the supernatural character of our Lord. Of course—and here is where many stumble—Jesus himself was a greater miracle than any of His works. Believe in Christ as God and there is no difficulty in the lesser miracles. "Admit the existence of a Deity and the possibility of a miracle is a natural consequence." The poet Young wrote: "Admit a God—that mystery supreme! That Cause uncaused! all other wonders cease: Deny Him—all is mystery besides."

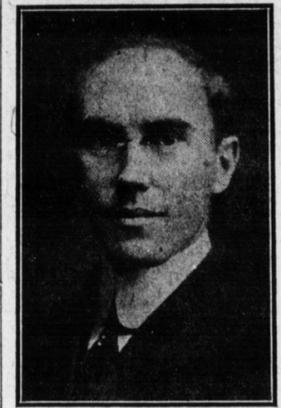
Nothing is marvelous for Him to do. Deny Him—all is mystery besides."
Many are the definitions of miracle; and we pause to recall a few of them in the presence of this one, done at a strategic time and place, in the presence of many and irrefutable witnesses, and which so impressed the people that they wanted to make the Miracle-Worker their king. Dr. McCosh wrote that a miracle is "a work wrought by a Divine power for a Divine purpose by means Beyond the reach of man." St. Augustine called it "What God performs out of the usual course of nature as it is known to us." A miracle is a new effect produced by a new cause, and that cause the will of God," says Dr. A. Smythe Palmer, who adds, "In the Divine economy a miracle is a summons to attention, a signal that He who all along has been acting unseen

in nature's laws is now about to speak. As the Psalmist long ago said, "that Thy Name is near Thy wondrous works declare." Or, to quote the supreme authority of our Lord himself, "The very works that I do bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me." The lesson concludes, "This is of the truth the prophet that cometh into the world," said the people.

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C. E. MEETING AT WILKES-BARRE

State Executive Committee to Hold Conference March 6 and 7



REV. WM. RALPH HALL.

State Endeavorers have completed arrangements for another big state meeting to be held at Wilkes-Barre, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 6 and 7. The state executive committee will meet in a joint business session and conference on plans and methods of conducting the campaigns and work now under way. The meeting will be one of unusual interest and importance, as it will be the last opportunity to develop plans for the completion of Pennsylvania's part in the Campaign for Millions, and under the leadership of the officers and department superintendents and other able conference leaders much work will be taken up for the new year.

Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, at 9 o'clock, will be devoted to regular business of the executive committee; Tuesday afternoon to conferences on the work of the Junior, Intermediate, Missionary, Citizenship, and the Evangelistic and Quiet Hour Departments; Wednesday afternoon to the work of Floatings, Introduction, Press and Prison Departments. Each afternoon the Rev. Wm. Ralph Hall, superintendent of education of the Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, will conduct a general conference from four to five. State Cheer Leader Brownell, of Pittsburgh, will be present to teach the Endeavorers the New York convention songs and yells.

The Boy Scouts will meet all trains and delegates are urged to go to the Y. M. C. A. building for directions. The Luzerne County Endeavorers will hold their county convention at this time. The Rev. C. H. Frick is the president. Dauphin county and all of the counties in the state will be represented.

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C. E. Notes

In Iron-Coal-Oil-Glass, Who can pass—Pennsylvania? In International Christian Endeavor Who can ever class with E. Union. Penn—Penn—Penn—Pennsylvania. The State C. E. Union is planning to introduce at the State executive meeting some new features for the coming year. Among them will be the advisability of electing a new Junior field secretary.

Paul A. March, superintendent of the Citizenship department of the Harrisburg C. E. Union, is doing an excellent work in interesting former members of the Endeavor society. The Harris Street K. L. C. E. will hold its monthly business session at the home of W. R. Donnoy, Muench street near Third, on Thursday evening, March 8.

Jameson Lewis, formerly of this city, who did excellent work for the State convention last July, is taking a theological course in the Wooster College, in Ohio. He is the new County Efficiency department superintendent of the Wayne County C. E. Union.

Dauphin county and city Endeavorers are considering a plan to open a C. E. cottage at one of the camps or suburban places during the coming summer. Sixty-three Junior societies in Dauphin county are becoming interested in new work for the coming year.

A chorus choir of 2,000 voices is now being trained to lead the singing at the Harrisburg C. E. Union. The convention to be held at New York in July. The Harrisburg C. E. Choral Union had charge of the singing at the Bethesda Mission meeting held in the Technical High School last evening.

The Pennsylvania C. E. Union is recognized as being the largest in the entire world, and the executives are working hard in an effort to enroll the largest delegation to the convention at New York and have set their goal around the 1,000 mark.

Ellis Murray will conduct the services on Sunday evening at the Zion Lutheran Church, Enola.

At the Park Street K. L. C. E. Mrs. Charles R. Bartley and Mrs. Chas. Ulrich will have charge of the consecration service on Sunday evening.

The Harrisburg C. E. Choral Union will hold the first rehearsal for the rendition of the oratorio, "Elijah," at the Fourth Street Church of God, on Monday evening, March 5th.

At the Market Square Presbyterian Society Lawrence Meyer will conduct the services on Sunday evening.

Endeavorers are urged to watch for the cheer songs that appear in this column and clip them for future use.

The Lehigh County Endeavorers are planning to send a large delegation to the New York convention in July.

California is striving for 300 more new societies and 15,000 new Endeavorers in a single month. She already reports 418 new societies during the Million Campaign.

"Service" will be the topic for discussion by the Endeavorers on Sunday evening.

The Dixie Endeavorers have "arrived." They have already passed their goal of 1,000 new societies, and have 38 toward a new thousand.

The Rev. F. E. Clark, D. D., of Boston, president of the United Society of C. E. says: "British Endeavorers have raised more money than ever before for their work, and in spite of the war they are preparing for a great national convention in May."

The Park Street Keystone League of Christian Endeavor will hold its business meeting and election of officers on next Tuesday evening, March 6, at the home of W. E. Rickert, 1613 Market street.

Prof. John F. Koh, president of the Dauphin County C. E. Union, spoke to the Second Reformed Society last Sunday. He will address the Olivet Presbyterian Society on next Sunday.

Miss Madeline Stoner, chairman of the Missionary Committee, met with the committee and planned new work for the coming term—the study of home and foreign missions.

HEARING AND SERVING

Terse Comments on the Uniform Prayer Meeting Topic of the Young People's Societies—Christian Endeavor, Etc.—For March 4: "Service."—James 1:19-27.

By William T. Ellis

There is one thing I fear— Not death, nor sharp disease, Nor loss of friends I hold most dear, Nor pain, nor want— not these

But the life of which men say: "The world has given him bread; And what gives he to the world as pay For the crust on which he fed?"

I would pour out strength, and then When I have no strength to give, No use, no share in the lives of men Who toil, and fight, and live—

Then let the end come fast, Whatever my past success; That I may notumber the ground at last Nor linger in uselessness.

—Anna Louise Strong. Given a master motive, a man simply must serve. He cannot help himself, any more than the spring can help flowing or the light keep from shining. The ideal Christian cannot help from doing the Lord's work. He may know nothing about modern methods, but the love for the Master will naturally overflow from his life in ministry. He will help people because it is his new nature so to do.

"Get busy" and "Do it now" are the two popular mottoes that we see in shops and offices. There is one that precedes it is "Get right." Proper relationship with the springs of service should precede forms of service. And the conviction seems to be growing among men of our time that the real need of Christianity is not more work or more money, but more of the sense of utter dependence upon God, and more of personal communion with

God. Sometimes the most practical service is to go apart a while and listen.

The colloquial name of Christian Endeavor is "The Endeavor Society." This organization has accented practical doing. And in this school of real service multitudes of young people have learned the mind of the Master. Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding your own selves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a mirror: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth away, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.—James 1:22-24.

ACHES AND PAINS

Don't neglect a pain anywhere, but find out what causes it and conquer the cause. A pain in the kidney region may put you on your back to-morrow. Don't blame the weather for swollen feet. It may be an advanced warning of Bright's disease. A pain in the stomach may be the first symptom of appendicitis. A cramp in a joint may be the forerunner of rheumatism. Chronic headaches more than likely warn you of serious stomach trouble. The best way is to keep in good condition day in and day out by regularly taking GOLD MEDAL Catarrh Remedy, 75c. Sold by reliable druggists. Money refunded if they do not help you. Beware of substitutes. The only pure imported Haarlem Oil Capsules are the GOLD MEDAL—Advertisement.

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The New Store of Wm. Strouse
Those Beautiful Hats You See Are From the New Store
Mallory and Schoble Hats that are the handsomest and most stylish you have ever seen—Beautiful shades of green, brown and Gray — You'll be sure to find your "Ideal Hat" among this choice selection. Flat brims are the "proper thing" this season, and The New Store of Wm. Strouse is well supplied to give you an unlimited assortment.
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20c Spirits of Turpentine. 10c
1 lb. Epsom Salts. 5c
1 lb. Sulphur. 5c
1 lb. Moth Fluke. 5c
1 pt. Beef, Wine and Iron (Best). 15c
15c Chloride of Lime. 9c
100 Calomel Soda Tabs. 19c
1 pt. Pure Cod Liver Oil. 60c
35c Rhinitis Tablets (1/2 strength). 19c
50c Rhinitis Tablets (full strength). 35c
25c Arom. Spices. Ammonia. 15c
25c F. E. Caspars. Arom. 15c
Incomparable Prices On Patent Medicines
\$1.00 Pinkham's Female Comp. 62c
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35c Drake's Croup Remedy. 19c
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50c Sage and Sulphur. 29c
LINEN WRITING PAPER; SPECIAL, 25c
\$1.00 S. S. S. (Swift's Specific), 65c
\$1.00 Pepsin Milk Powder, 63c
35c Eff. Phosphate of Soda. 25c
50c Platt's Chlorides. 33c
50c A. Wood's Bitters. 14c
50c E. O. O's Liniment. 29c
35c Castoria for Infants. 19c
25c Sassafora. 15c
50c Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, 29c
Clark's Drug Club Coffee
We have made a host of friends with this delicious coffee—regular customers who come back again and again, and bring their friends with them. We couldn't do it with inferior coffee, pound 19c
LIMIT—5 POUNDS.
FACE POWDERS
\$1.00 Azura Face Powder. 75c
\$1.00 Floramyne Face Powder. 75c
50c Djer Kiss Face Powder. 35c
50c Java Rice Powder. 27c

Saturday Specials at Clark's
Cut-Rate Medicine Stores
300 MARKET ST.—306 BROAD ST.
Sick Room Needs
\$1.75 Invalid Rings \$1.14
35c Feeding Cups 18c
35c Breast Pumps 17c
25c Ear and Ulcer Syringe 13c
\$2.50 Elastic Leather Covered Trusses \$1.19
\$2.25 Combination Hot Water Bottle and Fountain Syringe \$1.49
\$1.75 Fountain Syringe; 2-quart; Red Rubber; three pipes. \$1.15
9-inch Ice Bags 59c
3-oz. Infant Syringe 39c
98c Red Rubber Fountain Syringe, 48c
25c Infant Syringe 13c
50c Bulb Syringe 29c
\$2.00 Fountain Syringe; Rapid Flow Tubing; Red Rubber, two-quart; Best Quality; three pipes \$1.35
\$1.50 Fountain Syringe; Red Rubber; three pipes. 98c
PATENT MEDICINES
50c St. Jacobs Oil. 29c
50c Bisurated Magnesia. 27c
50c Glover's Mange. 29c
DORIN'S ROUGE 1249. 39c
25c Carter's Liver Pills. 15c
10c James' Headache Powders. 5c
15c Mennen's Talcum. 11c
50c Williams' Pink Pills. 30c
25c Lysol. 15c
25c Mustierine. 14c
35c Pluto Water. 23c
\$1.50 Bellows Hypophosphites, 93c
\$1.00 Bromo Seltzer. 59c
\$1.00 Hood's Sarsaparilla. 59c
\$1.00 Father John's Med. 71c
50c Father John's Med. 38c

Specials on Cough, Cold and Grippe Remedies
50c Pinex. 29c
25c Hill's Quinine. 15c
25c Lax. Bromo Quinine Tabs. 15c
\$1.00 Wampole's Ext. of Cod Liver Oil. 57c
60c Scott's Emulsion. 29c
\$1.00 Father John's Medicine. 75c
25c Alexander's Lung Healer. 12c
25c Kemp's Balsam. 15c
25c Pisco's Cough Remedy. 15c
25c Jayne's Expectorant. 15c
50c Jayne's Expectorant. 30c
50c Chamberlain's Cough Rem. 30c
50c King's New Discovery. 29c
25c Mentholatum. 13c
50c Mentholatum. 27c
10c Malena Salve. 8c
25c Kondon's Catarrh Jelly. 15c
60c Musterole. 29c
30c Musterole. 20c
50c Analgesique Baume Bengue. 34c
60c Antiphlogestine. 38c
30c Antiphlogestine. 19c
\$1.00 Cadomene Tablets. 59c
HAIR PREPARATIONS
25c Danderine. 15c
\$1.00 Liquid Arvon. 59c
\$1.00 Danderine. 57c
50c Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur. 29c
\$1 Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur, 57c
50c Palmolive Shampoo. 29c
50c Cantrox. 29c
TOILET SOAPS
25c Woodbury's Facial Soap. 16c
10c Williams' Shaving Soap. 15c
10c Sanyam's Soap, 6c; 3 for. 18c
25c Resinol Soap. 14c
25c Cuticura Skin Soap. 18c
25c 4711 Rose Glycerine Soap. 15c
25c Packer's Tar Soap. 15c
25c Pear's Glycerine Soap. 12c
15c Pear's Unscented Soap. 10c
25c Colgate's Cashmere Bouquet Soap, 3 cakes. 69c
25c Glenn's Sulphur Soap. 15c
\$1.50 Eskay's Neurophosphates. \$1.05
50c Lyon's Tooth Powder. 15c
50c Liquid Dyspepsia Remedy. 29c
25c Allen's Footcase. 15c
20c Alcock's Porous Plasters. 10c
25c Colorite, all colors. 17c
50c Nature's Remedy. 29c
\$1.00 Oil Korein Capsules. 69c
25c Haarlem Oil Capsules. 15c
75c Bell-ans. 45c
\$1.00 Stuart's Dyspepsia. 59c
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\$1.00 Santal Midy. 79c
25c Tonsilline. 15c
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50c Ely's Cream Balm. 29c
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50c Doan's Kidney Pills. 33c
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50c Chase's Nerve Pills. 29c
50c Hood's Liver Pills. 15c
25c Hooper's Female Pills. 13c
25c Jayne's Sanative Pills. 13c
McNeil's Cold Tabs, 2 for. 10c
25c Beecham's Liver Pills. 13c
10c Beecham's Liver Pills. 7c
25c Doan's Regulates. 15c
25c Ex Lax. 15c
10c Ex Lax. 8c
10c Phenyo Caffeine. 8c
25c Schenck's Liver Pills. 15c
25c King's New Life Pills. 15c
50c Dr. Witt's Kidney Pills. 29c
25c Ayer's Cathartic Pills. 14c
25c Malena Pills. 15c
\$1.00 Hooper's Green Seal Pills, 59c
25c Kilmer's Parilla Pills. 15c
50c Williams' Pink Pills. 30c
100 Hinkel's Cascara Pills. 19c
24c Aspirin Tablets. 27c
25c Aspirin Tablets (1 doz.). 12c
25c Blaud's Iron Pills (100). 14c
Specials on Cigars
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7 Even Steven Cigars. 25c
7 King Oscar Cigars. 25c
7 Sweet Girl Cigars. 25c
7 General Hartranft Cigars. 25c
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4 Moja Cigars. 25c
7 La Tafton Cigars. 25c
7 Counselor Cigars. 25c
10 Cincos Cigars. 25c
Henrietta (Admiral) 10c straight 3 for. 25c
\$2.00 Eckman's Alternative. \$1.19
35c Horlick's Malted Milk. 19c
25c Barker's Horse and Cattle Powder. 12 1/2c
50c Mulsified Coconut Oil. 29c
\$1.00 Nuxated Iron Tablets. 59c
50c Formant Tablets. 29c
50c Swamp-Root (Kilmer's). 30c
\$1.00 Swamp-Root (Kilmer's), 59c
\$1.00 Bliss Native Herb. 57c
50c Ussoline Oil. 27c
1 pt. Pompano Olive Oil. 37c
10c Fish Food. 5c
25c Rubifoam. 15c
25c Dr. Lyon's Tooth Powder. 15c
75c Kulol. 49c
\$1.00 Keller's Catarrh Remedy. 75c
\$2.50 Nestle's Food. \$1.75
50c Electric Bitters. 32c
75c 1 pt. Bottle White Mineral Oil. 49c
\$1.00 Caldwell's Syrup of Peppermint. 75c