

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.**

Lesson in the International Series for January 13, 1901—The Triumphant Entry.

**THE LESSON TEXT.**

(Matthew 21:1-17.)  
 When they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the olive of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples.

1. Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her; loose them, and bring them unto me.  
 2. And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.  
 3. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet.

4. Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.  
 5. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them.

6. And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set Him thereon.

7. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees and strawed them in the way.

8. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

9. And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?

10. And the multitude said, This is Jesus, the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

11. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves.

12. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

13. And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple; and He healed them.

14. And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David, they were sore displeased.

15. And said unto Him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Ye have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

16. And He left them, and went out of the temple into Bethany; and He lodged there.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Mat. 21:9.

The incident of the lesson occurred Sunday, April 2 and 3, A. D. 30. It is one of those great facts in the life of our Saviour which are recorded by four of the Gospel writers. The following is an analysis of the text:

Two of the Disciples Bring to Jesus an Ass and Her Colt.—Ver. 1-7.  
 The Multitudes Give Him Honor.—Ver. 8-10.

He Cleanses the Temple.—Ver. 12-14.  
 Children Sing Hosannas.—Ver. 15-17.

Bethphage was a little village west of Bethany. While the messengers were doing their errand, the visitors in the city of Jerusalem were talking to Jesus and wondering whether He would come. Some early pilgrims reported that He was at Bethany. So a crowd started out to meet Him. On their way they broke off branches of olive trees as a sign of victory. In the meanwhile other pilgrims, who had gathered over the Sabbath on their way to the city, joined the group around Jesus. The company from the city and the others and, turning, went back to the city. One pilgrim would sing the song in verse 9, and the others would shout the chorus Hosanna, which means: "Save our King," This was part of the Hallel, or the Psalms, which was often chanted as pilgrims came into Jerusalem.

In Luke 19:41 whether the King Himself felt joyous as He caught sight of the city. At night He returned to Bethany. It was the next day, Monday, that He drove the traders from the courts of the temple.

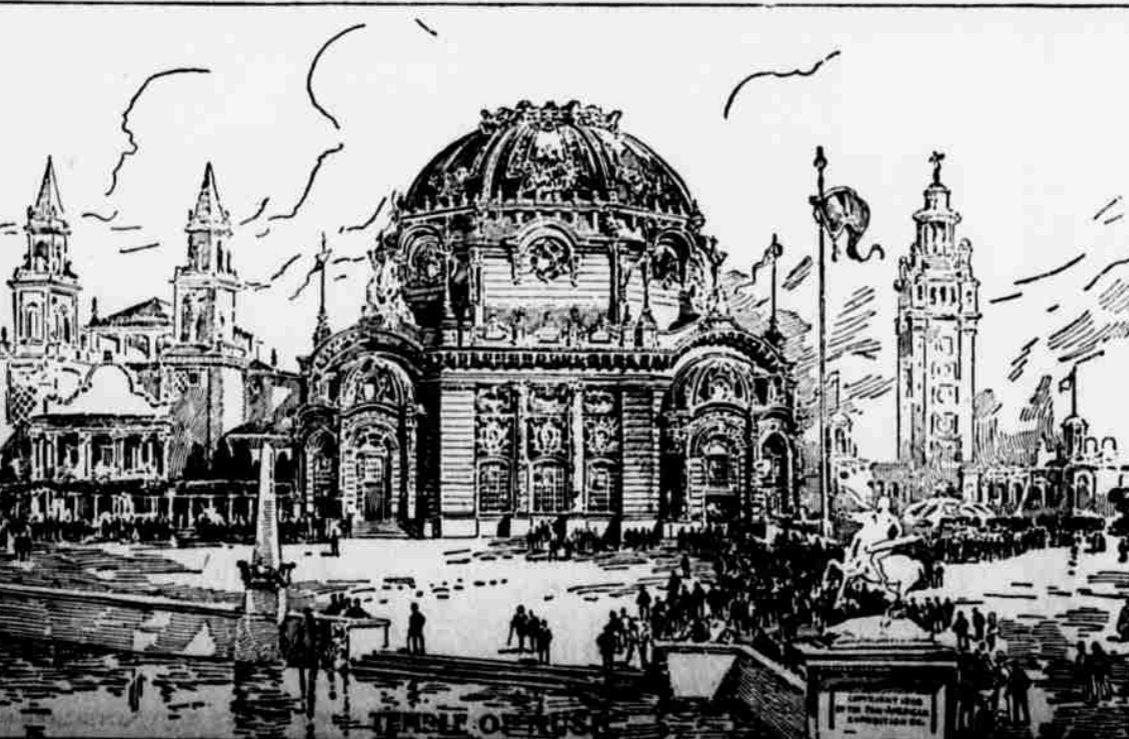
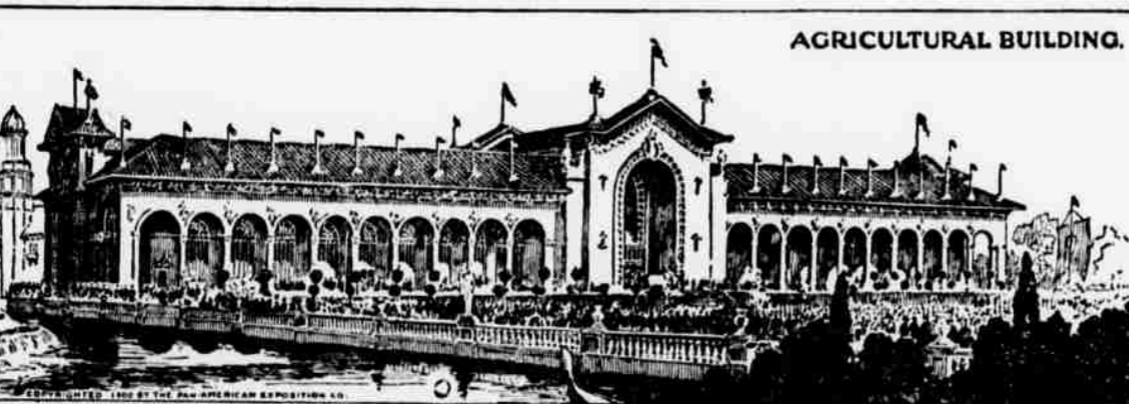
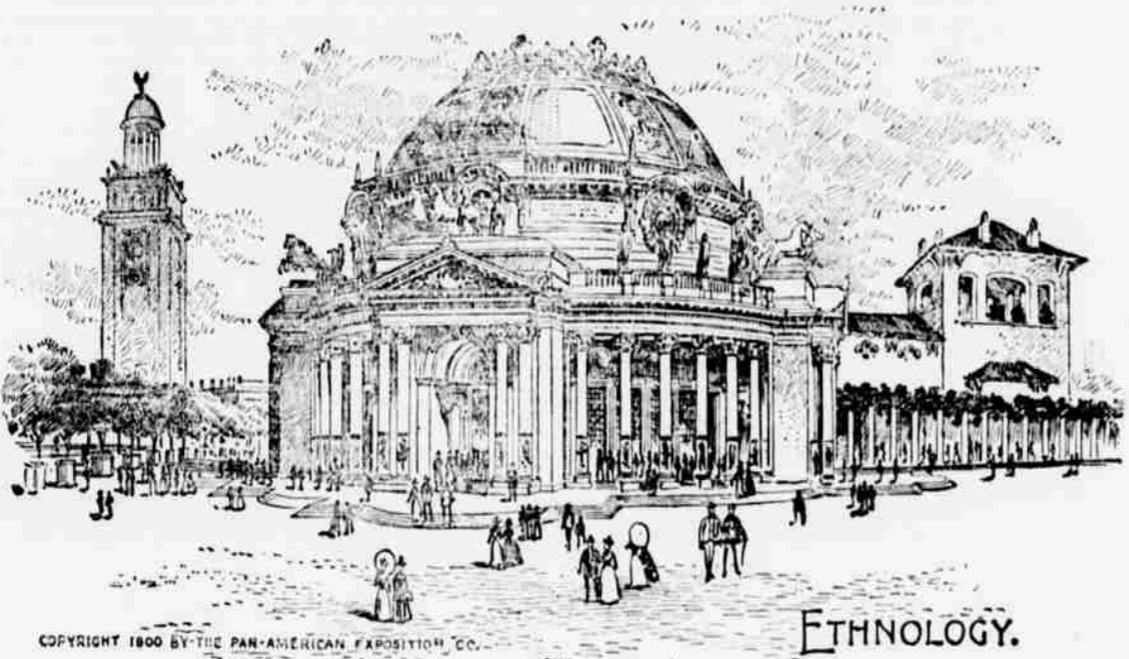
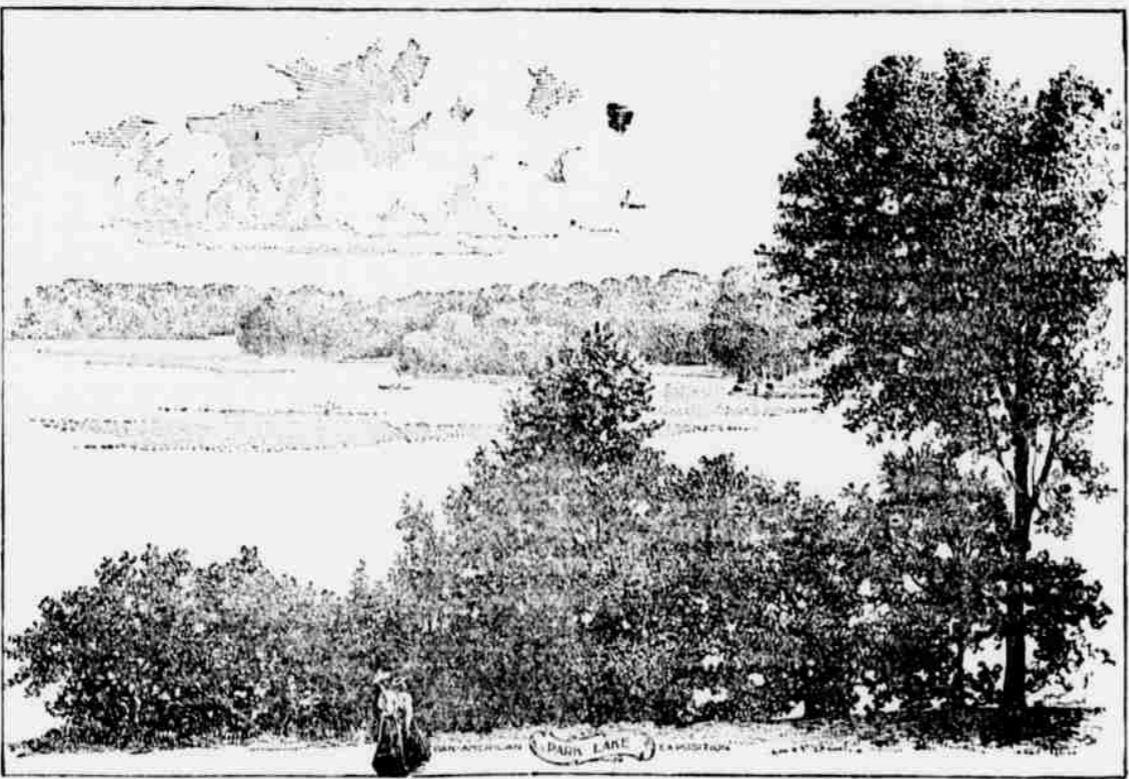
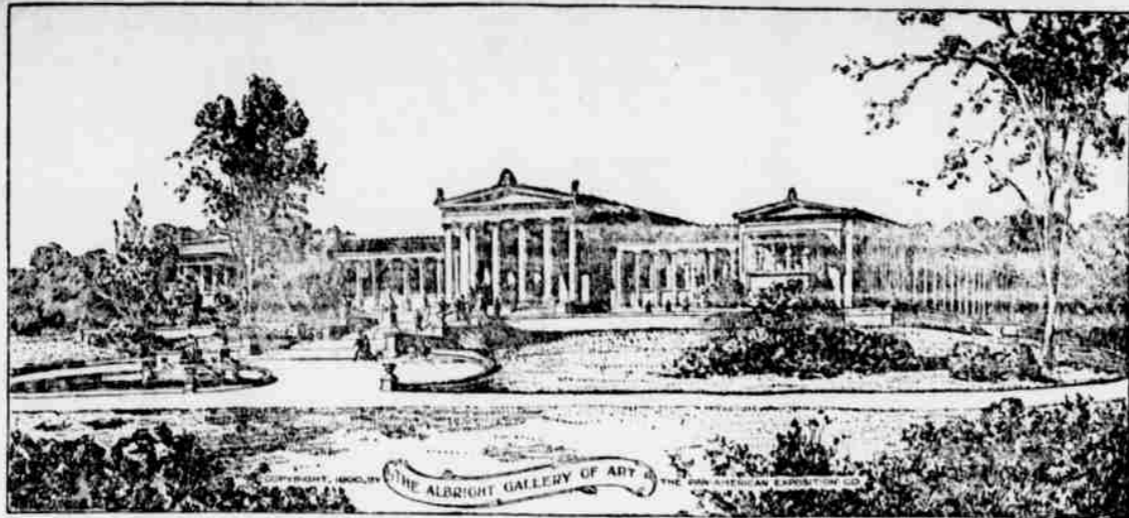
The tendency nowadays is to forget the severity of Jesus and to relate all that to Joshua and Moses and so forth. And yet the most terrible things in all the Bible are to be found in the teachings of Jesus. And there are times when He looked around Him in anger. And here He drove a scourge of cords, possibly not of men, but on the cattle that He had put out, but He did overturn the tables of the money-changers and went out in righteous indignation against their sacrilege. And yet how fitting it is in connection with this story of dealing with the traffic of the temple to read: "And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple and He healed them." "Behold the goodness and the severity of our Lord."

The children cried "Hosanna" and the scribes and chief priests cried "shame!" The jubilant children are a symbolic incident stand for all in every age, who with docile hearts accept the truth as it is revealed in Christ. And the haughty scribes and chief priests, who though they saw the wonderful things that He did, "instead of being convinced only "moved with indignation" they heard His praises sounded by the children—these stand for the hardened and proud-hearted in our day who determinedly set themselves against anything which does not fall in with their conceived preconceptions, and which they themselves are not ready to receive.

The present lesson includes the first two days of this week of Jesus' life. On Sunday He triumphantly entered and returned to Bethany. On Monday occurred the cleansing of the temple, the healing of the blind and lame at Bethany.

**Figs and Thistles.**  
 The man who wears a thistle on his head and a fig on his back, and who says, "I will see me hold up the world," is a man whose mind is in vain. His victory may be ignorance, but his defeat is certain. He who seeks to warm his hands at the fire of the world, his hands of lust will burn his whole body.

It is always easier to fight the devil of a past sin than to face a sin of the present. A prescription for salvation must be applied as well as an unguent before healing is found.



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