

# Sunday-school Lesson.

**Romans i; 18-23.**

## THE STATE OF THE HEATHEN.

“Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.”

### HOME READINGS.

Monday—A Prophetic Vision—Daniel vii : 1-14.

Tuesday—The Great Commission—Acts i : 1-11.

Wednesday—The Unknown God—Acts xvii : 22-31.

Thursday—Who is my Neighbor?—Luke x : 25-37.

Friday—The State of the Heathen—Lesson.

Saturday—Their Great Need—Romans x ; 1-15.

Sunday—The Glorious Result—Revelations vii : 9-17.

### QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

V. 18. What is “the wrath of God?” On whom does it rest? (John iii: 36.) How has it been revealed? (Acts xvii: 31.)

Vs. 19-23. Have the heathen any means of knowing God? (Psalms xix: 1-4.) Do they worship him? What do they worship? (v. 23.) Why have they sunk so low? (v. 21, compare also v. 28.)

What can deliver them? (Romans i: 16.) Have they believed in Jesus? Romans x: 14-15.) Are they our neighbors? (See reading for Thursday.) What can we do for them?

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## The Catechism.

Rev. R. R. Acree, of Lynchburg, Va., some years ago prepared three catechisms for his infant class—one on Foreign, one on Home, and one on State Missions—and by the aid of large wall-maps and a good store of fresh information about the different fields, made them exceedingly interesting. It is but fair to add that while to him belongs the credit of the suggestion, he is not responsible for the execution of the work as now presented—his was specially prepared for a special class, and but little of it has been incorporated into the present attempt at something designed for wider use. The main objection we apprehend will be that the answers are too full.

Hastily gotten up for publication in the March number of the *Foreign Mission Journal*, it is reprinted in the present form, and mailed to any Sunday-school superintendent or teacher who will let us know how many he can use to advantage, and will further promise to take a collection for Foreign Missions in his school or class, and forward the money to our Corresponding Secretary. Address, DR. H. A. TUPPER, Richmond, Va.

## Hints to Teachers and Parents.

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This catechism, written for many different classes, is, of course, not exactly adapted to any one. To make it at all complete in the space at command, required the crowding of many facts into long answers. Its value will depend largely on the manner in which it is used. We therefore suggest:

1. It is too long for a single lesson. You might take for March 28th questions 1-19 and 62-66; for April 4th, questions 20-41, and for April 11th, questions 42-61. Or perhaps still better, divide into five or six lessons.

2. If possible have a large map of the world, and point out all the places mentioned, a common school map will do, if you have no better. Note the difference of time, and start questions as to what Dr. Yates, or brother David, or brother Powell is perhaps doing while you are in Sunday-school.

3. From your reading about foreign countries and mission work put flesh and blood on the dry bones of the catechism—the color, the customs, the civilization of the people, and interesting facts about the missionaries and their work.

4. For small children, run over with a pencil, strike out some questions altogether, and cut down the long answers, or enclose, by marks, such parts as ought to be committed to memory.

5. Above all, become really interested yourself, and you cannot fail to get hold of the minds and hearts of your class.

# Foreign Mission Catechism.

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(For Southern Baptist Sunday-Schools.)

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1. What is a Christian Missionary ?

One sent out to preach the gospel.

2. Who was the first great missionary ?

Our Lord Jesus, who came into this world to seek and save that which was lost.

3. What was his last command to his followers ?

“Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you.—Matthew xxviii: 19-20.

4. What encouragements go with this command ?

That he has all authority in heaven and on earth; and is with them always, to the end of the world.

5. Did the early Christians obey this command ?

They “went about preaching the word,” (Acts viii: 4,) and from them “sounded forth the word of the Lord.” (I Thessalonians, i: 8.

6. Name some of the most prominent among them?

Peter, (Acts x : 20,) Barnabas, (Acts xiii : 2,) and Paul, (Acts xvi : 9.)

7. Did this activity continue long?

Not more than two or three hundred years.

8. What made it cease?

Corruptions in doctrine and practice gradually crept in, church and State became allied, and papacy spread over almost all the Christian world.

9. Have Christians since been aroused to their duty?

In part they have, but many, very many, have not.

10. How long since the general revival of interest in missions began?

Less than one hundred years.

11. What causes helped to produce the result?

The Reformation led by Luther, (1517,) the labors of the Jesuits, (1622,) the Moravian and Danish Missions, (1722,) and the American Revolution, establishing religious freedom, (1776.)

12. When and how did the revival begin?

In a concert of prayer for the extending of Christ's kingdom, and a sermon by Wm. Carey, at Kettering, England, in May, 1792.

13. What were **Dr. Carey's** text and divisions?

Isaiah liv: 2 and 3. (1.) *Expect* great things *from* God. (2.) *Attempt* great things *for* God.

14. What were the results of this sermon?

The Baptist Missionary Society was formed and the next year sent out Dr. Carey and others to India; and soon other similar societies began to be formed.

15. How many such organizations are now at work?

Over one hundred in England, Germany and America.

16. With what success have they met?

The societies have all together over \$10,000,000 of annual income, which supports 3,000 ordained missionaries, and about as many other workers, most of whom are either ladies or physicians, the number of native converts now living, is over 700,000.

17. What is the number of people who are living and dying without the pure gospel?

Over twelve hundred millions, in Asia, Africa and in Mahommedan and Papal lands.

18. How many is this for each ordained missionary?

Four hundred thousand.

19. How many preachers, at this rate, would your State have?

20. Is the mission work stationary or progressive?

New fields are opening every year, the number of laborers is constantly increasing, and the work is growing rapidly.

21. How are Southern Baptists organized for missions?

Through their Convention with its two Boards, one for Home Missions, to supply destitute places in the United States, located at Atlanta, Ga., and one for Foreign Missions, at Richmond, Va., to send the gospel abroad.

22. What is the work of these Boards?

To find out the most needy and promising fields, select suitable persons to occupy them, gather money from churches and friends, where the gospel is already preached, and send it on to the missionaries.

23. What do the Boards ask us to do?

To pray constantly for divine guidance in their difficulties, and divine blessings on their work, and to give regularly and liberally for its support.

24. In what countries are the missionaries of the Foreign Board at work?

In China, Africa, Italy, Brazil and Mexico.

25. Where is China? (Point it out on the map.)

In the far east. Their time is about twelve hours ahead of ours. Our Sunday morning is Sunday night with them.



26. What is the population of China?

Over four hundred millions, or nearly eight times as large as that of the United States.

27. What is their religion?

It is mainly a superstitious worship of their dead ancestors.

28. What principal stations have we in China?

Three—at Canton, established in 1837; at Shanghai, in 1847, and in Shan-Tung, in 1860.

29. Where is Canton? (Point it out on the map.)

On a broad river, 100 hundred miles from the south coast of China—in situation, more nearly like New Orleans than any other of our cities, but farther south.

30. How many people can be reached from Canton?

In the city live one and a half millions; in the province, and not far from navigable waters, are over twenty millions.

31. Who are our missionaries there?

Dr. R. H. Graves, who went from Baltimore, in 1856, and Mrs. Graves, from the same city, in 1872; Rev. E. Z. Simmons, from Mississippi, and Mrs. Simmons, from Alabama, went out in 1870; Miss Lula Whilden, of South Carolina, (now tempo-

rarily in America,) sailed in 1872; Miss Sallie Stein, from Tennessee, in 1880; Miss Emma Young, from Missouri, in 1883; Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Hickson, from South Carolina, in 1884.

32. With what success have they and their predecessors met?

There are six native churches, with nearly 400 members, and many other preaching places. The members gave last year over \$350, and besides building chapels in China and supporting native preachers there, have sent pastors to their kinsmen in Demerara and in Portland.

33. Where is Shanghai? (Point it out on the map.)

Near the mouth of the Yang Tsz river, on the eastern coast of China, somewhat like Savannah, Ga.

34. What is the population of this Province?

About forty millions—nearly as many people as in all the United States.

35. Who are our missionaries there?

Dr. and Mrs. M. T. Yates, who went out from North Carolina, in 1847; Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Herring, from the same State, and Miss Ruth McCown, M. D., from Virginia, all of whom sailed last year, are at Shanghai; Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Hunnex, who went out

from England, in 1879, and Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Bryan, from North Carolina, in 1885, are at Chin-kiang.

36. What are some of the fruits of their labors?

Four native churches, with 168 members, who gave last year \$214 to mission work.

37. Where is the Province of Shan-Tung? (Point it out on the map.)

On the Northern coast of China, 500 miles from Shanghai, about the latitude and size of Virginia and West Virginia.

38. What is its population?

Ten or fifteen millions.

39. Who are our missionaries there?

Dr. T. P. Crawford, (now in America,) who went from Tennessee, and Mrs. Crawford, from Alabama, in 1851; Mrs. S. J. Holmes, (also now in America,) from Virginia, went out in 1858; Miss Lottie Moon, from Virginia, in 1873; Rev. N. W. Halcomb, from Missonri, 1881; Rev. C. W. Pruitt, from Georgia, 1882; Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Joiner, from Louisiana, and Rev. and Mrs. E. E. Davault, from Tennessee, in 1884.

40. What towns do they occupy?

Tung Chow on the coast and Whang Hien in the interior, besides preaching in many others.

41. What results are seen of labors here?

The church membership has grown in twenty years to 103, and much good seed has been sown. •

42. Where is our African mission?

In Yoruba, on the western coast of Africa, just north of the Equator, and about six hours east of us. When it is morning here it is afternoon of the same day there.

43. Is this a pleasant place to live?

It is very hot, damp and sickly. Many missionaries have died there, though lately by having better houses and coming home oftener, they have better health.

44. What is the religion of the people?

They worship little images, and live in great dread of evil spirits and conjurers.

45. When and by whom was the mission opened?

In 1853, by Messrs. Bowen, Dennard and Lacy, with their wives.

46. Who are our missionaries there now?

Rev. W. J. David, who went from Mississippi, in 1875, Mrs. David, of the same State, who went this year; Rev. and Mrs. P. A. Eubank, he from Kentucky, she from Missouri, went out in 1882; Rev. and Mrs. Harvey, of Indiana, Rev. S. M. Cook, of

Kentucky, and Rev. C. E. Smith, of Arkansas, who went out in 1884; and Miss Morris, of Missouri, last January.

47. What results appear from labors there?

The work in the interior was broken up by wars twenty years ago. The total membership is now about 125, their contributions last year were \$190.

48. What is the apparent prospect?

A good foundation has been laid in Lagos, on the coast, and we have strong hopes of being able to push steadily and surely into the interior.

49. Where is Italy? (Point it out on the map.)

In the southern part of Europe, and on nearly the same meridian as Yoruba.

50. Where is Brazil? (Point it out on the map.)

It is the eastern part of South America—the sun rises there about two hours before it does in the United States.

51. Where is Mexico? (Point it out on the map.)

It is just across the Rio Grande, south and west of Texas—the time there is an hour behind ours in Virginia.

52. What is the religion of these countries?

Romanism or papacy—the people are taught not to read the Bible, but to pray to

the Virgin Mary, and to trust to their priests for remission of sins.

53. Do they really believe in these mockeries?

Some of them seem very devout, many others turn from such vanities, only to become infidels.

54. Who are our missionaries to Italy?

Dr. George B. Taylor, of Virginia, (now at home for two years,) who went out in 1873; Rev. John H. Eager, from Mississippi, and Mrs. Eager, of Virginia, who went out in 1880; and twelve preachers who are Europeans.

55. What churches have they founded?

Ten or twelve in all parts of Italy, with a membership of about 250.

56. Who are our missionaries to Brazil?

Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Bagby, went out in January, 1881; Rev. and Mrs. Z. C. Taylor, in 1882; Rev. and Mrs. C. D. Daniel, Rev. and Mrs. E. A. Puthuff, and Miss Mina Everett sailed last December.

57. From what States are these missionaries?

Mrs. Bagby is from Missouri, Mrs. Puthuff, from Tennessee, the rest are all from Texas.

58. What churches have we in Brazil ?

Four, one composed mostly of American settlers at Santa Barbara, the others of Brazilians at Rio, Bahia and Maceio, the whole membership is about 150.

59. Who are our missionaries in Mexico ?

Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Powell and Miss Annie Maberry, since 1882 ; Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Flournoy, since 1881 ; Misses Addie Barton and M. C. Tupper, Mrs. M. E. Graves, and Rev. F. M. Myers, (now in the United States,) since 1884.

60. From what States did they come ?

Mr. Myers from Kentucky, Miss Tupper from Virginia, the rest from Texas.

61. With what success have they met ?

The Lord has blessed them wonderfully, over 250 have been converted, they are sending out missionaries to their brethren, and a flourishing school for young ladies has been established.

62. How many missionaries are there in all these fields? (Count up and see.)

63. How much money is needed to support them and rent or build houses for them to preach in ?

Not less than \$100,000 for this year.

64. Do they need reinforcement?

All are begging for more men, the need is very urgent in Mexico and in Central China.

65. How much money will be required next year?

Perhaps \$120,000, if we move on as Providence leads.

66. How much of this will you give?