

# Attic Antics

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BOB BLAKE

WASHINGTON PRAYING AT VALLEY FORGE



ATTIS ANTICS

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-The Cover-

Bob Blake our class artist this month has brought to us a seldom published picture of our first president George Washington kneeling in prayer at Valley Forge, during a rather critical period in our History. From the picture I believe we can gather the facts together that Washington was convinced that God our heavenly father is ever near us to hear our prayers and petitions and from the records available we see that Washington's prayers were answered inasmuch as he was able to rally his forces together and avert the defeat that was at all times near at hand, and achieve the victory that enabled our forefathers to declare our independence.

The writer of any article on prayer and its meaning has but to direct the readers attention to the prayer our saviour Jesus taught us which is called the Lords Prayer and may be found for ready reference in the eleventh chapter of Luke. Lets each of us duplicate our first presidents faith in God and kneel in prayer at each and every opportunity asking our heavenly father to help us to live a more Christian life and at our earthly journeys end accept our humble penitence and draw us to his heavenly throne.

R. W. FEHLER

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The new crew of Attic Antics takes over with this issue and we would like to say hello to all, It is our aim to bring you a good paper filled with as many items of general interest as we can gather, and also if possible to quicken our interest in christian living. We have started to work with vigor and will continue with your help (and you never know even you may be called on for an article) to supply you with as much news as we can publish. So heres a great big howdy (southern style) from each of us, Bob Blake, Mamie & Pete Hampton, Helen Higgins, Gil Mays, Bob Crumpler, Tobe Shaw, Mayton Betts, and Dick Fehler.

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TOO LITTLE . . . TO LATE - - - - - Bob Crumpler

One night in ancient times, three horsemen were riding across a desert. As they crossed the dry bed of a river, out of the darkness a voice called "Halt!" They Obeyed

The voice ordered them to dismount pick up four loaves of bread that were hidden behind a rock, put the bread in their saddle bags, and remount.

The voice then said. "you have done as I commanded. Tommorow at sun-up you will be both glad and sorry." Mystified, the horsement rode on. As the night fled by they started to nibble on the bread--just out of curiosity.

When the sun arose, they reached in their saddle bags and found that a miracle had happened. The bread has been transformed into gold.

They then remembered the warning given by the voice. They were both glad and sorry--glad they had saved some, and sorry they had not saved more.....use your own interpretation.....



The reporter for this section, Mrs. A.H. Hampton, has asked that I do another series of articles on this general subject, feeling that Presbyterians ought to know more about their history and their beliefs.

To begin with, we must remember that Presbyterians share a common Jewish-Christian tradition with others. Jesus was an Oriental, a Jew. His mother was a loyal Jew. Thousands of years back in Jewish history, God had made a covenant with Abraham that his descendants were to be God's chosen people to proclaim him to the world. When the nation failed in later years to do this because of sin, the prophets looked for a Messiah who would incorporate in himself the people and would fulfill himself their mission of salvation. Jesus looked upon himself as fulfilling the mission of the Jewish people. His followers called him the Messiah.

He appointed twelve men to proclaim his gospel. Twelve was the number of tribes in Israel, so the Church was to be the New People of God, the New Israel. As a Christian, you have a distinctly Jewish heritage behind you. The early Church met in homes for prayer, Bible study, a sermon, the observing of the Lord's Supper. They baptized new believers into this New Israel. The New Testament Church came from all classes. They often shared their wealth, always helped those who were unable to help themselves. They were loyal to God in Christ and they were loyal to one another.

During the next four centuries, the Church rose from a group severely persecuted by the Romans to the official religion of the Roman Empire under Constantine in 323. When the Empire weakened and the capitol was moved from Rome to Constantinople, the Church was divided. The bishop in Rome took the title of "pope" (father, or popa!), became wealthy and politically strong, and the Church became worldly. Right here in Durham, you can see the direct descendants of this split: the Roman Catholic Church from the pope and the Greek Orthodox Church (on Watts Street) from the patriarch in Constantinople.

Where then did the rest of us come from? The Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists, etc?? Well, the Roman Church carried on through the Dark Ages and the Middle Ages, and she preserved the light of the gospel through many difficult centuries. By 1517, however, many abuses had crept into the Church: that a man could get to God only through the priests, that Christ was re-created and slain and resurrected quite literally at each mass, that the saints had a large enough bank account in heaven to give some of their merit to poor sinners, that there was a place called purgatory where one went before going on to heaven, that the Bible could only be read and understood by the clergy, that a man is saved by his works and especially by his participation in the ritual of the Church, that the Church could sell for cash a number of pardons from one's sentence in purgatory, that masses said for the dead would assist them into heaven quicker...etc. It was against such abuses as these that Martin Luter protested, and along with many others started a movement in the Church later called the Protestant Reformation. They hoped to reform the old mother Church, but as she balked at reformation, Luther and others set out on their own.

From his efforts, came the Lutheran Church. From those of John Calvin, the Reformed or Presbyterian Church.

And now, as the magazines all say: "To be continued."



DURHAM PRESBYTERIAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

TIME: March 1-5 (Monday-Friday), 1954

PLACE: Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

FOR: Teachers, Prospective Teachers, Parents, Lay Men and Lay Women, Church School Officers, Ministers.

COURSES:

1. The Creed of the Presbyterian Church  
Dr. Thomas A. Schafer, Divinity School, Duke University.
2. The Use of the Bible with Children  
Mrs. Royster Lyle, Dr. nville, Virginia
3. The Use of the Bible with Youth  
Rev. John Spragens, Director of Youth Work, Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church, U. S.
4. Eclectic Bible Study  
Dr. James H. Phillips, Dept. of Religion, Duke Univ.

CLASS PERIODS: 7:30-8:20 PM - First class period  
8:20-8:40 PM - Worship period  
8:40-9:30 PM - Second Class period

DEAN: E. K. KRAYBILL

REGISTRAR: J. C. PETREA

God has given to each of us, on the average, more than one-half a million hours of life on this Earth. We can spend them as we will. I am inviting you to invest just 10 hours of your half-million in an enterprise that should yield untold returns to both God and you. I am inviting you to equip yourself to be amore capable and effective worker for Christ's Kingdom than you have ever been before - - or, perhaps, had ever thought you could be. I am enviting you to attend the forthcoming Standard Leadership School described above.

If you already teach or hold office in the Church School, you realize the importance of improving your effectiveness. If you have held back from such activities because of a feeling of inadequacy you will welcome this opportunity to equip yourself for participation in this work. If you plan to attend please notify the Registrar, Mr. Petrea. The opportunity is here: Will you use it?

-Charles R. Vail, Chairman  
Religions Education Committee



THE YOUNG ADULTS' CLASS by Charlie Vail, continued:

THE COMPLETE LIST OF OFFICERS FOR 1954 FOLLOWS:

THE PRESIDENCY: JOHN AND SALLY McBRIDE  
VICE PRESIDENT: JANET KIRKLAND  
THE SECRETARIAT: FRANK AND NANCY ANDERSON,  
assisted by DON AND MARIAN WILLIAMS  
TREASURER: PEGGY MAHAFFEE  
TEACHER: CHARLES R. VAIL

During the past year our class was under the capable leadership of JAMES LLOYD, JACK WILSON, BETTY PARKS, AND JANET KIRKLAND, who filled the above offices respectively. We hereby gratefully acknowledge their services. In addition to two highly enjoyable social events, our "extra-curricular" activities included a substantial contribution to the Durham Empty Stocking Fund during the recent Christmas season. We have been following the International Sunday School Lessons, and our classes have frequently developed into lively group discussions.

During the year ahead, we anticipate an expanded program of activities and service in which we invite anyone between the ages of 18 and 30 to join.

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JUNIOR DEPARTMENT - - - Mrs. Blake

Under the unit the Church at Work and Worship around the world, the Juniors have learned that as Christians around the world grow in love and the knowledge of God they sing, learn, pray, give, and help others. An african song, a Brazilian Song, the Lords Prayer in the language of Switzerland, and stories of Christians of other countries have been used in the worship service. The Juniors plan to send 40 Gospels of Luke in Portuguese to Brazil.

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WOMEN OF THE CHURCH - - - Helen Kraybill

The February General Meeting of the Women of the Church will be held at the Church Feb. 8 at 8:00 P.M. The speaker will be Dr. ROBERT M. WILSON, the father of DR. JAMES WILSON. He will share with us some of his experiences as a Medical Missionary in Korea. Dr. Wilsons' main interest at that time was in the establishment of a Leprosy Hospital. The meeting will be held in the George Watts Class Room to facilitate the showing of Dr. Wilsons' colored slides. Anyone, man or woman, interested in hearing Dr. Wilsons' talk will be more than welcolm to attend.



THE CHURCH SCHOOL - Preston P. Phillips, General Supt.

In chapter VIII of the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church is the following paragraph:

"340. The membership of the Church School is composed of the whole constituency of the local church".

In other words - if you are a member of the church - you are a member of the church school, and are supposed to attend the Church School in order to prepare yourself to be a better member of the church.

In speaking of the church school - the Book of Church order further says:

"341. The aim of the Church School is, under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, to bring about a growing understanding of and trust in God as revealed in Jesus Christ; a personal acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord; a definite personal commitment to and growth in the Christian Life; a loyalty to the Church and an intelligent and wholehearted participation in its program; a knowledge and use of the Bible."

A knowledge of the Holy Bible and how to use it is absolutely essential to any Christian growth. This book was given to us by God to be the rule and guide of our lives-, and this means business and personal lives as well as our lives as a Christian. How can you trust God if you do not know God - and how can you know God except as he is revealed to you by the Holy Spirit through study of God's word.

Have you personally accepted Christ as Savior and Lord? Are you able to witness to others about the joy of a life surrendered to Christ?

Why not try regular study of the Bible - and prayer - and regular attendance at both Sunday School and Church this year - I believe it will bring a happiness to your life and the lives of those you love-such as you have never known before.

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THE YOUNG ADULTS' CLASS - - - Charlie Vail

Despite the arrival of infants who must be cared for on Sunday mornings as much as on other mornings, despite weddings, despite graduations from the University or from Nursing School, and despite transfers to out-of-town jobs, the Young Adults' Class continues to flourish. Our membership remains practically constant at about 25, most of whom attend as regularly as baby-sitting and other responsibilities permit.

The start of the new church year on January 1, brought the election of a new set of class officers. Not to be outdone by the three other adult classes, we now have two presidents and two secretaries, in the form of husband-and-wife teams. This arrangement solves the baby-sitting problem very neatly, but does raise a question: Should we refer to them as the "presidents" and the "secretaries", or as "the presidency" and "the secretariat"? (Fortunately, the vice president and the treasurer are still "singular" and not "plural")



News is not quite as scarce as the proverbial hen's teeth but almost. The snow cancelled our class meeting in January, hence no gossip to report. The icy streets prevented many from the regular attendance at Sunday school also even the teacher for that day was not able to get in, that's the penalty for his having moved to the other side of the tracks. The George Watts Class was kind enough to invite us to share their Teacher, however, so the few who were present were not cheated entirely.

Our new Officers have assumed their responsibility, and under their leadership, we hope to continue spiritual growth.

- Pres. Mrs Lee Kirkland
- V.Pres. Mrs George White
- Sec. Mrs Clarid Goswick
- Treas. Mrs Mac Tunstall

The 54 members enrolled are divided into four groups with captains as follows

- Group No. 1 Mrs Charles Knott
- 2 Mrs B. W. Harris Jr.
- 3 Mrs L. E. Crabtree
- 4 Mrs H. C. Carr

Several members are regular teachers, a few are entirely inactive, most are enthusiastic and regular in attendance. Mrs Estelle Sherwood #12 Bickett Apt. is our newest member.

As One of our Daily Columnists says " THATS OIL"

Mary Lou Carr

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BEGINNERS

During the month of January the kindergarten children have become acquainted with a family in Africa. The work of Christian Missionaries came into the story of the family, but the main purpose of this unit was to help our children understand that God'S Love includes all children everywhere. A little African hut was made to hold the love gifts. The Children enjoyed singing a song the African children sing and playing an African game called " Kasha Mee Bukondi" which means " Antelope in the Net ".

Mrs. Barbour sang " Jesus Loves Me" in the African language given here.

Too-dee too san-kah lay-loo  
 Bwah twah-koon-vwah dee day-bay  
 Nay Ye-su oo-dee moo-sway,  
 Tway-too bah-nah bah-kay-say.

Ey, twah-koo-san-kah  
 Ey, twah-koo-san-kah  
 Ey, twah-koo-san-kah  
 Bwah loo-say lwah Ye-su

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PRIMARY DEPARTMENT - - - - -

The Primary Department is studying their favorite subject this month- "Children Around the World." We are trying to find out how children in other lands worship God---what kind of teachers they have, what kind of Churches they have, and in what ways foreign children are like ourselves. Children feel a nearness to others, no matter the race or nationality, as long as they know that all Christians worship the same Christ.

We are especially proud of three of our first graders. CYNTHIA BATTERFIELD, MARY LYNNE MORTON, and OPIE LEE HAMPTON, who have recited all of the pages from the Catechism that have been assigned to the first grade. There are others who will complete the assignment before promotion in October. Mrs. SARA MALONEY is teacher of this group.

We are happy to have MRS. GEORGE HAYES and MRS. JACK CRUMPACKER back as regular teachers in our department.

We invite parents of children in our department to visit with us any Sunday for all or part of our Sunday School Hour.

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MAN TO MINISTER: Can you prove to me than Jonah was actually swallowed by a whale and remained within for 3 days?  
MINISTER TO MAN: I cant,--but I promise when I get to Heaven I will ask him!  
MAN TO MINISTER: Suppose Jonal is not in Heaven?  
MINISTER TO MAN: T en I suggest that you ask him!!!!

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We want to thank each and every one concerned with this issue of the paper for the articles that were turned in , we owe thanks to one or two for articles that do not carry a by line and we will endeavor to give them the praper consideration in the next issue.

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How many times were you in Sunday School, and Church during the month of January???

Lets all try to do better.

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