



The Assistant Pastor

October, 1928

True Greatness Before God

When St. Paul stretches forth his right hand in a gesture to command attention, as he begins his defence before King Agrippa, our hearts swell with admiration of the great man of God.

He was great as he entered Athens, "the city of idols," to demolish the gods with the hammer of God's Word and to bring the Athenians instead knowledge of "the unknown god."

He was great as he shook the venomous viper fastened to his hand into the fire and, contrary to the certain expectation of the bystanders, "felt no harm."

Greatness is, indeed, written on every page of the history of that outstanding man and servant of God.

He is greatest, we think, when, bent in humility, he confesses: "The good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Rom. 7, 19 f.

Here, dear friends, is the secret of St. Paul's strength and greatness, "for," says Jesus, "my strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor. 12, 9. And on the strength of this assurance Paul declares: "When I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Cor. 12, 10.

Look up, dear dejected pilgrim, weakness is the key to strength, wretchedness is the latch-string to courage, to be nothing — 2 Cor. 12, 11 — is the gateway to greatness.

Saul of Tarsus, proud and haughty breathing out threatenings and slaughter, thinking himself strong in the might of authority and commission from the chief priests — Acts 26, 12 — soon lay prostrate in the dust on the road to Damascus.

Saul of Tarsus goes forth again but now as Paul, wretched, weak, nothing. Yet as a mountain of strength and courage he labors on in spite of all manner of obstacles and dangers confidently saying, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4, 13. And he was not deceived. His career closed in triumph. Verily: "When I am weak, then am I strong."

THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

Published by the pastor of the Jerico and Saude Lutheran churches affiliated with the Norwegian Synod of the Synodical Conference.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

H. M. TJERNAGEL, Pastor

SAUDE

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CHURCH SERVICES

Jerico—First and third Sundays, 10:45 a. m.; Saturday school every Saturday, 10 a. m.; confirmation class, 2 p. m., Fridays.

Saude—Second and fourth Sundays, 10:45 a. m.; Saturday school, 2 p. m.; confirmation class, 9:30 a. m., Fridays.

Fifth Sundays by special announcement.

BAPTISMS

To the roll of those who through baptism have gained right and access to the Kingdom of God, we add this month:

RUTH DOLORES, born August 2nd, baptized September 26th. Parents: Ole N. Anderson and wife Rachel. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Mark. Robinson, Thelma Hanson, Albert Philips.

CARLYLE BERNHARD, born April 29th, baptized June 10th. Parents: Severt Knutson and wife Ida. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Ole K. Olson, Pearl Thronson, Joseph Anderson.

ELAINE JOSEPHINE, born August 23rd, baptized September 23rd. Parents: L. H. Douglas and wife Josephine. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ronnei, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Anderson.

The monument reared in the Calmar cemetery at the graves of Rev. and Mrs. Bleken, in grateful remembrance by the Jerico and Saude congregations, was unveiled Sunday afternoon, September 30th. The ceremonies followed immediately upon the close of the mission festival that day celebrated by the Calmar congregation.

The Rev. G. A. Gullixson of Chicago spoke briefly especially to the assembled members of the Jerico and Saude churches, with Heb. 13, 7 as his text. He eulogized the Rev. Bleken for having, indeed, "spoken unto you the Word of God" in all its purity in spite of near-persecution for so doing. It was declared also that Bleken's was a faith worthy to be followed. The speaker paid a kind tribute also to the congregations when he stated that the Bible verse could rightly be translated into a eulogy of the congregations. They showed now by the rearing of a becoming monument that they remembered their former pastor. During the



WHERE THERE IS A WILL THERE IS A WAY

The Lutheran congregation of the Missouri Synod at Mackey, Iowa, is a scattered country congregation. The parsonage, church and school are eleven miles from the nearest railroad station. A Christian day-school has been conducted there for many years. Two teachers are employed. The above picture shows how the insurmountable (?) obstacle of long distances from school have been overcome. Some of the children have six miles to drive.

crisis shortly after their pastor's death, they arose "as a mighty forest" and by vote gave expression to their determination to follow his faith.

Rev. Harry Olson of Milwaukee, one of Rev. Bleken's confirmands while in charge of the Madison, Wis., congregation, spoke of Rev. Bleken's marked ability and faithfulness as an instructor of the young.

The large assembly then repaired to the graves where the Calmar choir sang Grieg's beautiful "Salig Ro." Thereupon the present pastor of the Saude and Jerico churches spoke as follows on behalf of his charge:

"Through the terrible years of a war and years of upheaval as well in the church, Rev. M. K. Bleken was at the rudder of the Jerico and Saude churches. Though reviled and maligned by fanatic patriots and by policy mongers from within his churches and from without, he held his course according to the divine chart.

"We rejoice that God in His love and mercy saw fit to give us such a captain during the stormy voyage of those years and the sincere 'Thank You' inscribed upon the hearts of all, we have caused to be chiseled in granite upon the monument here reared to the memory of Rev. and Mrs. M. K. Bleken and which is herewith unveiled."

The assembly then sang "Guds Ord det er vort Arvegods" whereupon the Rev. H. A. Preus made a few appropriate remarks on behalf of the Calmar congregation and also paid tribute to Rev. Bleken as professor at Luther College.

With a few fitting remarks and expressions of appreciation, Mr. G. Evanson, a brother of Mrs. Bleken, the memorable occasion ended.

Of the Bleken children it was possible for only one — Winnifred — to be present. Her presence added much to the occasion.

Donations to the Bleken monument are:

Elling Ellingson, Hans Hoffland, Oscar Natvig, Ole Holta, Ole Natvig, John Natvig, Geo. Natvig, G. G. Vaala, O. N. Anderson, John Leifson, A. G. Vaala, Mrs. Anna Natvig, Lars Vaala, each \$5.00.

H. O. Natvig, Henry Borlaug, Carl Miller, Mrs. Otto Hanson, Nels Ellingson, Chris Treider, Fred Steensland, Mrs. Offerdal, Henry Ellingson, Alf Vaala, B. J. Vigdal, each \$2.00.

T. G. Vaala, H. M. Tjernagel, each \$10.00.

Halvor Ronnei, Ole Øren, Henry Larson, each 50c.
R. Hagen, Geo. Miller, each \$3.00.

Enus Firkenstad, T. Borlaug, Henry Reinhart, Iver Ellingson, Muns Munson, Thos. Swennumson, J. C. Swennumson, Mrs. Anna Anderson, Lena Landsverk, Larson Bros., A. J. Johnson, Nels Paulson, John Sesboe, Mrs. J. Swennumson, Mrs. Ida Swenson, John Borlaug, each \$1.00.

Anna Vaala, Carrie Vaala, each \$2.50.

Oscar Borlaug, Martin Borlaug, Ole Borlaug, each \$1.50.

Saude Ladies' Aid, \$4.00.

Andrew Foss, Charley Johnson, Ole Iverson, S. S. Roberson, Erik Nystel, Nels Nelson, L. S. Roberson, Jim Anderson, John Roberson, Chris Roberson, A. N. Anderson, J. S. Knutson, Knute Knutson, M. A. Robinson, L. A. Robinson, J. A. Robinson, each \$5.00.

Jack Johnson, A. H. Braham, Carl Dahlen, Ole Ellingson, each \$4.00.

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son, Tom Thompson, T. O. Knutson, C. A. Vigdal, Severt Roberson, Geo. Anderson, C. A. Knutson, Alfred Knutson, Halvor Nelson, each \$2.00.

Knute Roberson, Nels Anderson, A. W. Oleson, Andrew Robinson, A. J. Knutson, each \$10.00.

Ole J. Laxdal, Ole Fossen, Alve O. Johnson, Joe Johnson, Carl Johnson, Ole Johnson, Jeff O. Knutson, Ole J. Anderson, Ole J. Teigen, Albert Haugen, T. W. Munson, Geo. Braham, Will Mettner, Severt O. Johnson, Otto Dahlen, Andrew Anderson, Alfred A. Anderson, H. A. Knutson, J. A. Knutson, Carl Landsverk, Oscar Anderson, Chris Christenson, Ole O. Anderson, Olaf Roberson, Peter Overboe, John O. Knutson, Clarence Cutsforth, Arthur Cutsforth, Louis Douglas, Ole K. Olson, Robert Knutson, Alfred Robinson, Henry Robinson, Lawrence Robinson, Lewie L. Johnson, Adolph Munson, Olaf Knutson, J. C. Johnson, H. J. M. Johnson, Henry Knutson, Alvie Robinson, Ole A. Anderson, each \$1.00.

Fred Amman, Hans Severson, Andrew Ellingson, H. Braham, L. Aasen, Rob. Robinson, Sever Fossen, each \$3.00.

Ole C. Johnson, O. N. Ferkenstad, each \$2.50.

Alfred N. Anderson, A. O. Knutson, Ole Overboe, each \$1.50.

Peter Ronnei, 50c.

If the collectors have made no mistake in writing their lists and if the editor has copied correctly and the printer has not made an error, the above is correct.

The attention of all readers is, herewith, directed to the appeal recently appearing in the SENTINEL, from Bethany College. The appeal is for donations to the commissary department or, in plainer words, for gifts to the kitchen cellar. Fruits, preserved and fresh, also vegetables in either form, are acceptable. The last week of October is designated as the time for delivery. At Jerico the gifts may be placed in the church basement, and at Saude they may be brought to the store. Together with gifts from Calmar, the donations will, presumably, be brought to their destination by a truck.

We sincerely hope every one will have something to donate so that a respectable load may go forward from this section not later than October 31st.

The fact that we are proud because one of the professors at Bethany College is a product of this charge is, we trust, pardonable. Prof. Alvin Natvig is a son of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Natvig and is, consequently, raised in the Saude community. He is a graduate of Luther College. For a number of years he was professor at Park Region Luther College. During his summer vacations he took special work at Ann Arbor, Mich. He comes to us, therefore, well equipped and experienced.

It so happened that two of the members of the Bethany Board of Regents were professors at Luther College while Prof. Natvig was a student there. This throws light on why he was sought out and prevailed upon to accept his present position.

Prof. Natvig's amiable wife is a native of Fergus Falls, Minn., a graduate of the McPhail School of Music. She is not only competent but always willing to make herself useful wherever she can. We wish Prof. and Mrs. Natvig many happy years of usefulness at our College.

But, alas, there is always something to take the joy out of life; there is not one single student at Bethany from these parts.

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