

# Two Poems

by [Gale Acuff](#) (January 2023)



*Classroom Scene*, William Henry Johnson, 1946

## **Nobody goes to Hell at the church a**

-cross the street, they all go to Heaven be  
-cause when Jesus was crucified He died  
once and for all for all their sins but here  
at our church, and Sunday School, too, atone  
-ment, vicarious atonement, isn't  
enough, we've got to get saved all over  
and born again and promise under pen  
-alty of Perdition to pray and read  
our Bible and do good deeds and love our  
enemies whether they're our neighbors or

nix so after Sunday School this morning  
I asked my teacher if I quit and start  
attending church and Sunday School over  
there will she join me and she said *Hell, yes.*

### **I fell asleep in Sunday School today**

like Pharaoh did, Jacob's Pharaoh I think  
it was, and like him dreamt of kine and *kine*  
is a fancy word for *cattle* but be-  
-fore I could dream of them completely through  
our teacher woke me up to my classmates'  
laughter and when I opened my eyes asked  
did I have a pleasant nap, that she, too,  
would like to sleep on Sunday mornings but  
God requires that we worship Him so I  
apologized and said *I won't eat ham*  
*-burgers anymore, ma'am, and I advise*  
*you to do the same, or is that not do*  
*the same,* and my classmates laughed again but  
not as loud as before. Is that *loudly?*

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**Gale Acuff** has had hundreds of poems published in a dozen  
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*Birmingham Poetry Review, Florida Review, South Carolina*  
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