

When was the barley harvest?
What was Ruth's reward?

Prove from Scripture

That our lives influence others.

Topics for Brief Papers

(To be assigned the Sabbath previous.)

1. The story of Ruth's choice.
2. Why should I choose God's service?
3. God's care for heathen nations.

The Catechism

By The Associate Editor

[For Examination in Doctrine in the General Assembly's Teacher Training Course.]

QUES. 53, 54. *What the Third Commandment requires.* The First Commandment presents to us the solitary Object of worship, and teaches that supreme homage belongs to God alone. In the Second Commandment, the forms of worship are prescribed. These must be spiritual. The Third Commandment has to do with the true spirit of worship. In acceptable worship reverence and awe are essential. Three things are to be considered here:

1. What is meant by "name of God." In early Bible times names had a meaning, and marked something peculiar in birth, character, circumstances, fortunes or deeds. Examples of this are the names, Abraham,

Isaac, Jacob, etc. So "the name of God" signifies that which describes and reveals His nature and His relation to men. It includes, therefore, not only His personal names, but also His "titles, attributes, ordinances, word and works."

2. What is it to take the name of God "in vain"? Two meanings have been put upon these words: (a) They have been held to forbid the vain and irreverent use of the divine Name for any unworthy purpose. (b) They have been regarded as directed specially against false swearing. Both these meanings are found in the Scriptures. For the former see Lev. 24: 10-16; and for the latter, Lev. 19: 12. The children of Israel clearly took the Commandment to forbid, not only perjury, but also blasphemy in which no false witness was involved. Now the spirit common to the blasphemous and perjurer is irreverence. We are warranted, therefore, in concluding that the sin of irreverence is condemned in this commandment.

3. How should the name of God be treated? The Catechism answers that this name should be used reverently. "Reverent" is derived from a Latin meaning to "fear" or stand "in awe of." Both in the old Testament (Ps. 34: 11; 19: 9) and in the New (2 Cor. 7: 1; 1 Pet. 1: 17) this feeling towards God is enjoined as becoming in us.

FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

By Mrs. Jessie Munro Johnston, North Bay, Ont.

Links—All stand. Make motions of lapping water from the hand, blowing trumpet, breaking pitcher, waving torch. Recall lesson, asking about the leader, his plans, his soldiers, the battle which was

fought and the great victory.

Lesson Thought—I should love everybody.

Introduction—An old lady once said, "My dear grand-daughter is hands, feet and eyes to me." "How so?" "Why, she runs about so nimbly to do the work of the house; she brings me whatever I want, and when she has done, reads to me a chapter in the Bible."

Lesson—Our lesson is about one of the mothers in Israel and her kind daughter-in-law.

