

would gladly have agreed to do what he asked, but he was afraid the king would be angry. "If my master sees your faces growing thin", he said, "after he has sent you this rich food, he may punish me for not giving it to you, by cutting off my head."

But Daniel knew they would only grow taller and rosier if they ate simple food and went without wine, so he said, "Try us, I pray thee, for ten days, and give us only pulse, that is, vegetables of various kinds, to eat and water to drink; then look at our faces, and at the faces of the other young men who eat always of the king's food, and if we do not look as well as they, then afterwards give us whatever you think best."

So the ten days passed and the king's servant looked at the four boys, and behold, they were rosier and plumper in face, and they looked stronger and healthier than any of the boys who had been living on rich food and drinking wine. So for the rest of the time that these four boys stayed in the king's palace, they ate only their simple food and drank nothing but water.

And God helped them to gain great knowledge and wisdom, so that when, at the end of three years, they were brought before the king, he found that among all the great and wise men of his kingdom there were none who were so wise as Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, and, besides they were all strong and handsome. And especially He made Daniel able to understand visions and dreams.

So the king made Daniel a prince over his province of Babylon, and his three friends he also made rulers; and, although they were in a heathen country, these four Hebrews continued to worship and serve the God of Israel.

Questions on the Lesson

1. What order did Nebuchadnezzar give to his officers? 2. What were the names of the Jewish boys chosen? 3. What food and drink were provided for them? 4. Why did they not wish to use the king's food and wine? 5. What did Daniel ask of the officer in charge of them? 6. Why did the officer object? 7. What did Daniel then ask?

8. What did the man find at the end of ten days? 9. How long were the boys fed on simple food, with water to drink? 10. What did the king find when they were brought before him? 11. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

Standing by a purpose true,
Heeding God's command,
Honor them, the faithful few!
All hail to Daniel's band! Amen.
—Hymn 533, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—45. How did Jesus die for us? Jesus was nailed on the cross by wicked men.

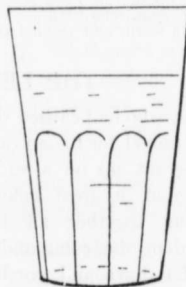
SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 1-20.

The Question on Missions

11. How does Rome exercise its influence in civil affairs? In the Province of Quebec it largely controls the French newspapers; keeps a strong hold on the government by dictating to Roman Catholics how they should vote at elections; and practically controls the education in the public schools.

SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

Strong drink keeps people from being strong and well and happy. We should



never use it, but the pure, clear water which God has given to us. Copy the drawing.

I Have Learned To-day That

I SHOULD NEVER USE STRONG DRINK